



QRIS State Profile: Virginia

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
INTRODUCTION	
<p>The Virginia Star Quality Initiative (VSQI) was created to provide a consistent way to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early care and education settings that families consider for their children. Participating child care and preschool programs are assessed every two years on a five-star scale of increasing quality using four performance standards. VSQI is administered statewide through a public-private partnership between the Virginia Department of Social Services' Office of Early Childhood Development and the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation. Local early childhood organizations work with the state administrative hub through eight regions to coordinate the rating process and quality improvement supports.</p>	
CONTACTS	
QRIS Name	Virginia Star Quality Initiative (VSQI)
Organization	VSQI is a partnership between the Office of Early Childhood Development (a division of the Virginia Department of Social Services) and the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation.
Web Site	http://www.smartbeginnings.org/qrisc
RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS	
Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Rising Star ■ Star Level 1 ■ Star Level 2 ■ Star Level 3 ■ Star Level 4 ■ Star Level 5

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Rating Assignment Method	<p>Combination: Providers must be in good standing with all regulations (e.g., licensing, Head Start Performance Standards). Providers are awarded points in four performance standards, the sum of which determines the star rating. Within the four performance standards, each Star level builds upon the previous level. Assessments consist of a review of documentation and on-site observation(s) by trained raters.</p>
Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments	<p>In classroom-based programs (i.e. centers, public preschools), Pre-K and Toddler CLASS scores are used to determine star ratings in the Interactions standard, while ECERS-R or ITERS-R scores are used to determine star ratings in the Environment and Instruction standard.</p> <p>In family child care homes, FCCERS-R scores are used to determine star ratings in the Environment and Interactions standards. No star levels are assigned as part of the family child care home rating.</p>
Program Assessments Included in QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pre-K and Toddler Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) ■ Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ECERS-R) ■ Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ITERS-R) ■ Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale-Revised (FCCERS-R)

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QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS	
QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site	<p>Standards categories for classroom-based programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Education, qualifications, and training ■ Interactions ■ Structure ■ Environment and instruction <p>Standards categories for FCC homes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Education, qualifications, and training ■ Environment and interactions ■ Structure ■ Parent partnerships and transition practices <p><i>Standards for Classroom-based Programs</i> http://www.smartbeginnings.org/Portals/5/PDFs/VSQI/QRISStandard11_4_11.pdf</p> <p><i>Standards for Family Child Care Homes</i> http://www.smartbeginnings.org/Portals/5/PDFs/VSQI/FCC_QRIS_Standards.pdf</p>
Programs Eligible to Participate in QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Licensed child care centers ■ Family child care homes (regulated via VDSS Licensing, Local Ordinance or Family Day System) ■ License-exempt child care centers ■ Head Start programs ■ Public preschool programs
Use of Accreditation	Accreditation is not included in the QRIS.
Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS	
FINANCIAL INCENTIVES	
Financial Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No financial incentives available