

Quality Rating & Improvement System



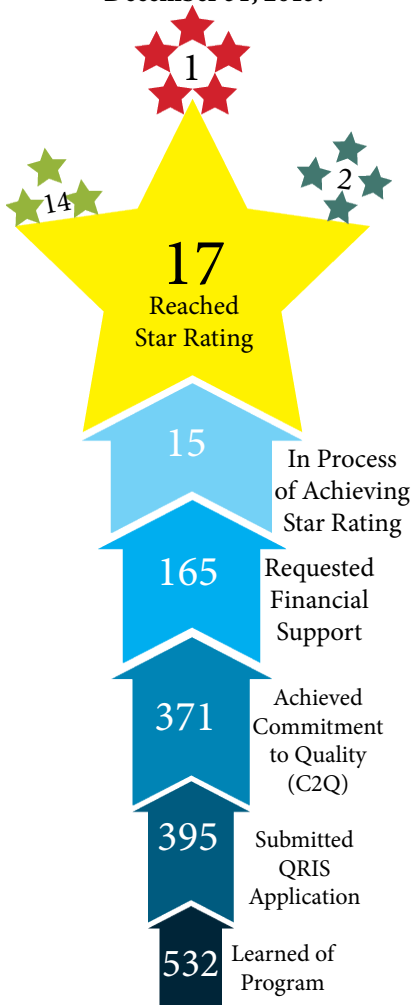
Data Facts

www.wou.edu/tri/QRIS

December 2013

Oregon's QRIS

Participation numbers as of December 31, 2013:



Oregon's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) is a system designed to raise the quality and consistency of child care and early learning programs across the state. Oregon's QRIS aligns with the national trend of QRISs that recognizes, rewards, and builds on the current quality of early learning and development programs (ELDPs). The QRIS provides a framework for quality improvement for ELDPs while providing a tool that helps parents looking for quality early learning and care options.

Oregon's QRIS is currently being field tested in four regions covering eight of Oregon's counties. It is scheduled to go statewide in March 2014. The goal of the QRIS Data Facts is to provide updates on the QRIS process evaluation being conducted at the Teaching Research Institute.

How an ELDP progresses

- Be a licensed ELDP and have been in business for two years.
- Attend an Increasing Quality Training (IQT).
- Submit an application and a self-assessment to become a Commitment to Quality (C2Q) program.
- Request financial support to improve child care facility by completing a Quality Improvement Plan.
- Complete a portfolio documenting attainment of quality standards in children's learning and development, health and safety, collaborative family partnerships, personnel qualifications, and administration and business practices in order to receive a 3, 4 or 5 star rating.
- Submit annual reports to maintain star rating or a portfolio documenting attainment of increased quality standards.

Time and effort required to move through the QRIS

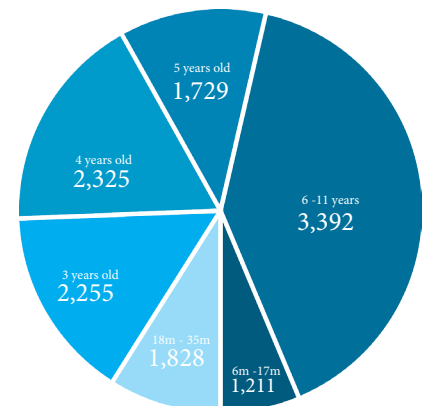
Based on the 32 programs that have submitted portfolios for review, on average it takes an ELDP approximately 74 days to move from attending an Increasing Quality Training session to submitting their QRIS portfolio.

Stage	Range (days)	Average (days)
IQT to C2Q	0-257	47
C2Q to request for financial assistance	16-234	79
C2Q to portfolio submittal	12-231	74
C2Q to star rating	39-187	139

Quality Improvement Specialists (QIS) provide extensive technical assistance to ELDPs as they move through the QRIS. The amount of time a QIS is in contact with an ELDP ranges from 5 minutes to 240 minutes depending upon the type of assistance needed. On average, a QIS spends almost 2 1/2 hours with ELDPs in one-to-one assistance and 4 hours in small group settings.

Children impacted by the QRIS

Currently, 12,740 children are in Early Learning & Development Programs (ELDPs) that have attained a Commitment to Quality (C2Q) rating. Four in five (81%) of those children are in child care centers, 13% are in certified family child care, and 6% are in registered family child care. ELDPs that have attained a 3, 4 or 5 star rating provide service to 555 children. The age distribution of children in C2Q or star rated programs is highlighted in the figure.



Total Children Enrolled in C2Q and Above
12,740

What we are learning

- 74% of ELDPs indicate a desire to pursue a 3, 4 or 5 star designation within six months of attending an Increasing Quality Training.

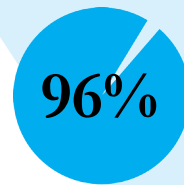
Quality Improvement Specialists' (QISs) assistance is invaluable in helping ELDPs move through the QRIS. Programs report that a QIS:

- 52% - Helped to develop their Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)
- 50% - Directed them toward professional development
- 50% - Helped them complete the self-assessment report
- 41% - Provided additional resources for improvement

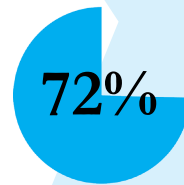
Completing the portfolio for a 3, 4, or 5 Star rating helps ELDPs:

- 74% - Improves their assessment of appropriate screening tools for determining a child's special learning needs
- 74% - Identifies their own or staff's professional development needs
- 72% - Reviews their program's philosophy
- 70% - Increases family feedback and participation
- 69% - Improves their learning curriculum to maximize children's learning and development
- Almost all (96%) ELDPs that complete a QRIS portfolio will encourage other providers to do so.

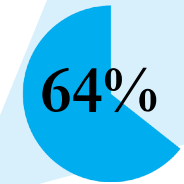
ELDPs find the steps needed in QRIS to be helpful in improving their facilities:



Self-assessment identifies areas of strength in their programs.



QIP aids in review of their learning program and how it meets children's learning needs



QIP supports the review of their program's inclusion of family feedback and participation

ELDPs note the work it takes to complete the QRIS process:

“I need to finish review of the standards and work on the curriculum piece. We do not have a canned curriculum so this will be a great deal of work. I also need to get Oregon Registry Certificates back for my staff that were just sent in and attempt to find time to assess 80 plus children with no additional staffing monies.”

And, the benefit of doing so:

“The website info has been great for portions I needed support for. This process has helped me strengthen areas I was needing guidance. I do hope to complete it but I also know we are better because of what has been accomplished thus far.”

“It is a valuable process for us, but takes a great deal of time - a challenge for a busy program.”

Where the data come from

The purpose of the QRIS Process Evaluation is to provide information to guide the development and implementation of the QRIS process. A variety of information is gathered from the groups involved to ensure the final process is reliable, valid and leads to improvement in participating ELDPs. Data about the QRIS process come from child care provider surveys, focus groups and interviews; Quality Improvement Specialists activity logs, focus groups and interviews; and observations conducted within ELDPs.

This report reflects information gathered as of December 31, 2013.
For additional information please contact:

<http://www.wou.edu/tri/QRIS/>
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The TEACHING RESEARCH INSTITUTE
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