Quality Rated Provider Webinar 2024 Updates

October 12, 2023
12:30-1:30 PM

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Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
BRIGHT FROM THE START

Meeting Purpose

- Discuss changes to portfolio scoring and evidence needed to support meeting the standards
- Share updates to ERS observations
- Highlight QR application and scoring updates
- Reminder of 2024 Cohort selection process

Update #1

Changes to the Quality Rated
Portfolio Requirements

Portfolio Policy Changes

Overview of Updates and Changes to Standard Three Family Engagement

Standard 3.2

- **Family Engagement Self-Assessment Goals**

Standard 3.3

- **Family Engagement Written Evidence**
  - 3.3.1: Confidentiality Policy
  - 3.3.2: Family Conferences
  - 3.3.3: Family Connections and Ongoing Family Input

What's New for Cohort 2024 Portfolios – Standard 3

3.2 Self Assessment
Action steps for goals; cannot just restate indicator, goals must be specific.

3.3.1 Confidentiality Policy
Children's information is kept confidential

3.3.2 Family Conference Policy
Home visits count for family conferences

3.3.3 Family Connection Opportunities to Promote Engagement and Input
Physical evidence of the activity or item, not just written policy

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Examples of 3.2

Indicator: The program invites fathers to visit the program and works to engage them in activities.

Action Steps: To achieve this goal, our program will host a "Dad and Me" event during the fall and invite them to participate in a Thanksgiving activity with their child.

Examples of 3.3.1

Sample policy:
"Information regarding children in our program will remain confidential and shall not be shared unless with required regulatory agencies."

Examples of 3.3.2

Sample policies:
"Our program will hold family conferences twice per year."

"Our program will conduct family home visits twice per year."

Examples of 3.3.3

Family Connection physical evidence examples (1 needed): Copy of school/class newsletter, fliers or photos of family events hosted at the program, screenshot of program website.

Ongoing Family Input physical evidence examples (1 needed): photo of program's suggestion box, completed family survey, Parental Advisory Board meeting sign-in sheet/agenda.

Portfolio Policy Changes

Overview of Updates and Changes to Standard Four

Intentional Teaching Practices

Standard 4.2

- ***Lesson Plans***
  - 4.2.1: Adaptations to lesson plans as needed to meet individual children's learning needs during activities

What's New for Cohort 2024 Portfolios – Standard 4

4.2.1 Adaptations

Relate directly with an actual learning activity or lesson plan

Examples of 4.2.1

- Provide different sized crayons.

- Use multiple sized balls to roll to accommodate the 1-year-olds in the classroom.

- Provide paint brushes during fingerpainting activity.

Update #2

What to Expected for the ERS Observations

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ERS Observations

Overview of updates and changes to the number and type of ERS observations that will be conducted, and the number of children present to be eligible for observation

Observe all age groups 0-5 years
- **Observation in centers will include infants, toddlers, and preschoolers**

Resume observation of 1/3 of scale groups
- **Number of observations in centers will return to 1/3 minimum of each scale**

Minimum Enrollment
- **Reduction in number of children required to be enrolled and present on day of observation**

What's New for Cohort 2024 ERS – Age Group Observations

- Centers with infant, toddler, and preschool rooms - all three age groups will be observed
  - For observation purposes toddler rooms will be counted as any room with children aged 13 months to 35 months in any age combination
  - For observation purposes infant rooms will be counted as any room with a child enrolled under the age of 13 months, in any age combination

- Centers with 6 or more classrooms of any scale (ITERS and ECERS) - 1/3 of the classrooms assessed with that scale will be observed
  - Programs with 6 ITERS classroom (any age combination) = 2 ITERS rooms observed, 1 will automatically be an infant room if the program enrolls infants
  - Programs with 6 ECERS classrooms (any age combinations) = 2 ECERS rooms observed

- Minimum children required for observation
  - 2 children enrolled for ITERS or ECERS classrooms
  - 1 child present for ITERS classrooms

Examples of Number of Rooms Observed

EXAMPLE 1

Room	Age Group	ERS Scale	Selected for Observation	Total Rooms Assessed
1	Infant	ITERS	Yes	**2 ITERS**
2	Ones	ITERS	1 of these rooms	
3	Twos	ITERS		
4	Threes	ECERS	1 of these rooms	**1 ECERS**
5	Fours	ECERS		

EXAMPLE 2

Room	Age Group	ERS Scale	Selected for Observation	Total Rooms Assessed
1	Ones	ITERS	1 of these rooms	**1 ITERS**
2	Ones	ITERS		
3	Twos	ITERS		
4	Threes	ECERS	1 of these rooms	**1 ECERS**
5	Fours	ECERS		

EXAMPLE 3

Room	Age Group	ERS Scale	Selected for Observation	Total Rooms Assessed
1	Infant	ITERS	1 of these rooms	**2 ITERS**
2	Infant	ITERS		
3	Ones	ITERS	1 of these rooms	
4	Ones	ITERS		
5	Twos	ITERS		
6	Threes	ECERS	1 of these rooms	**1 ECERS**
7	Fours	ECERS		

EXAMPLE 4

Room	Age Group	ERS Scale	Selected for Observation	Total Rooms Assessed
1	Infant	ITERS	1 of these rooms	**2 ITERS**
2	Infant	ITERS		
3	Ones	ITERS	1 of these rooms	
4	Ones	ITERS		
5	Twos	ITERS		
6	Twos	ITERS		
7	Fours	ECERS	1 of these rooms	**1 ECERS**
8	GA Pre-K	ECERS		

Update #3

QR Application and Scoring Updates

QR Application and Scoring Updates

Overview and updates to QR applications and scoring requirements to receive a star rating

3 Application Types

- **Initial**
- **Reapplication**
- **Reassessment**

Minimum ERS Scores

- **Adding additional cut scores for ERS averages to receive a star rating**

What's New for Cohort 2024 QR Applications – New Type

Initial Application

- New to Quality Rated
- Never been rated before
- Will only ever have 1 initial application per license number

Reapplication

- Next application created after a rating has been allowed to expire
- Next application created after failing to score high enough on a rating attempt to earn a rating
- Could have multiple reapplications

Reassessment Application

- New application type created for all rerating attempts
- Can be created any time after receiving a rating
- Must be created for the expiration year if program intends to attempt a rerating to remain a rated program
- Will have multiple reassessment applications as long as program wants to remain quality rated

Pay close attention to Rating Expiration Date, create a reassessment application, select a Cohort, and submit a portfolio on time to prevent a rating expiration
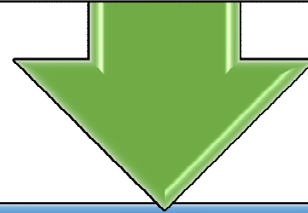
What's New for Cohort 2024 QR ERS Scoring Requirements

Current ERS Scoring Requirements

1 Star Awarded	Less than 3.0 average in any	3 Star Awarded
No ERS Program Average Required	classroom = program cannot be	ERS Program Average Required = 5.0
	rated higher than 1 star	

New ERS Scoring Requirements

1 Star Awarded	Less than 3.0 average in any	3 Star Awarded
ERS Program Average = 3.0	classroom = program cannot be	ERS Program Average Required = 5.0
	rated higher than a 1 star	

Update #4

Selecting a 2024 Cohort

What's New for Cohort 2024

- Providers due to expire in 2024 have priority to select a cohort slot from September 25, 2023 – October 22, 2023.

- Any remaining slots not accounted for by October 22, 2023, will be made available to other providers who wish to be rated in 2024.

- 634 slots available for child care learning centers (CCLC)

- 190 slots available for family child care learning homes (FCC)

- Three cohorts will be selectable in 2024.

Dedicated numbers of cohort slots each cohort for family child care learning homes and centers

Each cohort will have a two-week portfolio submission window that closes at noon

Ratings announced within 8 weeks following the last ERS observation.

824 slots available for programs to rate in 2024

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2024 Cohort Dates

2024 Cohort	Slot Availability	Submission Window Start Date	Submission Window End Date	Observation Window Start Date	Observation Window End Date	Rating Announcement Window
1	Closed cohort, no slots published for provider selection	11/3/2023 Midnight	11/17/2023 Noon	1/2/2024	3/28/2024	A provider's rating will be announced within 8 weeks following the last ERS observation.
2	Center Slots – 209 Family Slots – 50	2/16/2024 Midnight	3/1/2024 Noon	4/1/2024	6/28/2024	A provider's rating will be announced within 8 weeks following the last ERS observation.
3	Center Slots – 204 Family Slots – 50	5/17/2024 Midnight	5/31/2024 Noon	7/1/2024	9/30/2024	A provider's rating will be announced within 8 weeks following the last ERS observation.
4	Center Slots – 219 Family Slots – 40	8/16/2024 Midnight	8/30/2024 Noon	10/1/2024	12/31/2024	A provider's rating will be announced within 8 weeks following the last ERS observation.

Sample 2024 Cohort Group Selection Grid

Program slots are based on availability and will fill up quickly. Certain cohorts may be more popular, be among the first to register for your preferred cohort group!

Select Cohort in Your QR Account

Select One	Cohort Group	Program Slots Available		Portfolio Submission Window	2024 Observation Window	2024 Rating Announcement Window
		CCLC	FR			
	1	Closed cohort, no slots published for provider selection		From: 11/3/23 To: 11/17/23	January 2 - March 28, 2024	8 weeks following the last ERS observation
☐	2	65	33	From: 02/16/24 To: 03/1/24	April 1 - June 28, 2024	8 weeks following the last ERS observation
☐	3	120	23	From: 05/17/24 To: 05/31/24	July 1 - September 30, 2024	8 weeks following the last ERS observation
☐	4	0	7	From: 8/16/24 To: 08/30/24	October 1 - December 31 2024	8 weeks following the last ERS observation
Total Slots		**634**	**190**			

IMPORTANT TO NOTE

- Cohort Slots Released to Providers with a 2024 Expiration Date: **September 25, 2023**

- Cohort Slots Released to All Other Providers: **October 23, 2023**

- A provider must have an approved application before access to the 2024 Cohort screen will be available

- Providers who were moved from 2023 cohorts to 2024 Cohort 1 will not need to select a cohort

    - These providers will see the green box containing the 2024 Cohort 1 enrollment information on their home page when they log into Quality Rated after 9/25/2023.

What Questions Do You Have for Us?

Quality Rated child care programs maintain higher standards of learning, nutrition, and safety!

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Photo taken before COVID rules imposed

Contact Us

QR Help Desk: 1-855-800-7747

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