

Fast Facts About Quality Start Riverside County for Early Educators

Quality early learning is important to our children and our community. Here are some things to know about Quality Start Riverside County and how it helps early educators achieve excellence.

Early educators are champions of quality

- Nearly 25% of children in Riverside County live in poverty—and poverty is too often a predictor of poor performance and behavior in school.
- High quality early learning can give kids the tools they need to succeed in school and a fair chance at reaching their full potential.
- Quality Start Riverside County is helping to make high quality early learning accessible to all children in Riverside County.

Quality Start Riverside County supports early educators to improve program quality

- Quality Start Riverside County helps early learning programs—including child care homes, public and private centers, and preschool programs—improve their quality. It does this by:
 - o Giving providers the support they need to increase their level of quality
 - o Helping families enroll their children in quality programs
 - Engaging policymakers to champion and invest in early learning

Quality Start Riverside County offers two tracks for participation

- When enrolling in Quality Start Riverside County, you will choose to participate in the Quality Improvement System (QIS) or the Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS). QIS participants are not rated. QRIS participants are rated.
- If choosing the QRIS track, Quality Start Riverside County assessors will use evidence-based, statewide standards to rate your early learning program.
- Quality Start Riverside County Coaches will assist in developing an individualized quality improvement plan.

Participating in Quality Start Riverside County is beneficial for program improvement

- Quality Start Riverside County staff are passionate about early learning and have the knowledge and tools to support your goals.
- Participation in Quality Start Riverside County provides access to trainings, professional development, networking opportunities, stipends for coursework, community resources, and a lot more.
- Quality Start Riverside County offers incentive for participation and a sense of accomplishment when increasing the quality of services for children.

Quality Start Riverside County advocates for early learning

• Quality Start Riverside County works to ensure that communities recognize your efforts and that funding for early learning is a top priority for policymakers.