



ATTACHMENT A

2016 - 2017 Quality Matters: Contra Costa QRIS Program

CSPP QRIS BLOCK GRANT OBJECTIVES AND EXPENDITURE GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Block Grant is to allocate and distribute funds to local consortia operating a quality rating and improvement system for California State Preschool Programs (CSPP) to support local early learning that increases the number of low-income children in high-quality preschool programs and prepares those children for success in school and life. Block Grant awards are available only to sites that have been rated at a Tier 4 or Tier 5 of the Hybrid Rating Matrix.

The intent is for CSPPs who receive a local QRIS Block Grant to use their award funds to maintain their high QRIS rating (e.g., keeping ratios low, paying for qualified staff, supporting strong teacher-child interactions, and maintaining a quality program). It is the state's intent that over time all CSPPs will receive local QRIS block grants. The consortium grant amount may also vary from year to year based on the number of CSPP slots and approved applicants.

Each year's grant award will depend on the availability of CSPP QRIS Block Grant Prop 98 funds allocated in the state budget. The CSPP Block Grant funding will be distributed to eligible QRIS counties or regions. The expectation is that the number eligible would increase over time, and therefore the county/region allocations would likely decrease as more counties have an operational QRIS.

Participants in the CSPP QRIS BG must follow the Quality Continuum Framework Rating Matrix.

FUNDING LEVELS

"The Superintendent shall allocate CSPP QRIS block grant funds to local Consortia that satisfy the requirements of Education Code Section 8203.1(e) based on the number of CSPP slots within the county or region" (CDE, Funding Terms and Conditions). **Annual CSPP QRIS block grant funding levels will be determined based on the October 2015 CSPP enrollment of the eligible programs as reported in the CDE Personnel Roster report.** The CDE approved classroom-based CSPP Block Grant allocation is described in the table below.

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Contra Costa CSPP QRIS Block Grant Approved Allocation Formula

Tier Level	Classroom Type	Base Amount
Tier 4	CSPP Part-Day	\$5,000
Tier 4	CSPP Full-Day	\$8,000
Tier 5	CSPP Part-Day	\$6,000
Tier 5	CSPP Full-Day	\$10,000

- CSPP contractors are expected to report the block grant allocation as supplemental income on the CDFS 8501 form. **It is the responsibility of the CSPP contractor to continue to report expenditures of block grant funds through form CDFS 8501 to the CDE until funds are fully spent.**
 - CSPP contractors are only required to report supplemental income on the CDFS 8501 when they have expenditures paid out of the supplemental income account.
 - CSPP Sub-contractors eligible for a BG must also submit page 4 of Form CDFS 8501 with the 4th Quarterly Expenditure Report.
- CSPP contractors may refer to the expenditure categories listed on the Budget Template form provided by the California Department of Education. Categories listed on the Budget Template Form include:
 - Release Time/Substitutes
 - Paid, Pre-Service Day(s)
 - Professional Development/Coursework reimbursement
 - Additional staff to reduce adult child ratios
 - Additional staff to cover time for PLC/completing ASQs or other assessments
 - Other (may include additional staff to implement family engagement strategies such as A Road Map to Kindergarten)
 - Travel – workshop conference registration fees
 - Supplies/Equipment
 - Incentives/Teacher stipends
 - Contracted/Purchased Professional Development Services

The County Superintendent will inform the CSPP contractor of the reporting requirements and any additional guidance provided by the CDE concerning the use of and reporting requirements for local QRIS block grants.