

**QUALITY MATTERS: CONTRA COSTA COUNTY QRIS PROGRAM
CSPP PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT
2016 - 2017**

Contra Costa Community Services Bureau Sites:

**Ambrose, Balboa, Bayo Vista, CC College EHS, Crescent Park, George Miller Concord,
George Miller III, Las Deltas, Lavonia Allen, Los Arboles, Los Nogales, Marsh Creek,
Brookside, Riverview, and Verde**

I. BACKGROUND AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Contra Costa County is one of 45 counties participating in the California Quality Rating and Improvement System Consortium (CA-QRIS). CA-QRIS carries on the work done through California's Federal Race to the Top—Early Learning Challenge (RTT—ELC) grant. The RTT—ELC grant commissioned regional consortia to implement a locally driven quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) to improve the quality of early learning programs across the state. In 2016-2017, California's RTT—ELC transitions into the CA—QRIS Consortium which includes representatives from all counties and regions implementing a QRIS.

Quality Matters: Contra Costa QRIS program builds upon existing professional development and quality improvement efforts established over the course of several years in Contra Costa County. Quality Matters is implemented with multiple funding sources including: California State Preschool Program QRIS Block Grant (CSSPP QRIS BG), the Infant/Toddler QRIS Block Grant and First 5 IMPACT funds.

California state legislature and governor passed Senate Bill 858 which provides \$50 million of State General Funds Prop 98 for the purposes of acknowledging California State Preschool Programs committed to achieving high levels of quality. CSPP QRIS BG also provides resources to support those CSPP programs that have not reached high quality of a Tier 4 or higher of the Quality Continuum Framework Rating Matrix.

CSPP programs who participated in the RTT-ELC QRIS program for the past three years have the opportunity to continue program quality improvement efforts with funds from the CSPP QRIS BG. **CSPPs who receive a Block Grant must use their award funds to maintain high quality (e.g., keeping ratios low, paying for qualified staff, supporting strong teacher-child interactions, and maintaining a quality program).**

Participation in Quality Matters includes a variety of supports:

- A knowledgeable QRIS coach to work collaboratively with early childhood educators to support program quality improvement
- Financial incentives through participation grants and quality block grants for Tier 4 & Tier 5 sites disbursed twice a year to support the program's quality improvement efforts (Refer to Quality Matters Benefits Chart included in this packet).


- E. Report to Quality Matters Monitor within 10 calendar days any Community Care Licensing Division citations and actions.
- F. Inform Quality Matters Monitor within 10 calendar days any substantive change in program operation, including change in leadership, location, licensing category.
- G. Submit electronic copy of your agency's CDE Personnel Roster and report changes on a quarterly basis. (Applicable for State Funded programs ONLY)
- H. Support coordination and dissemination of ongoing professional development activities with program staff.

If a Quality Matters participating program does not comply or chooses not to participate in any one of the above listed activities, QRIS services may be terminated by the Contra Costa County Office of Education which could result in termination of QRIS status. Program/site will have the option to reapply for future QRIS participation.

Participating programs must review the Quality Matters Participation Milestones, Grant Disbursement and Reporting Timelines are included in pages 5-7 of this document. **Signing this document acknowledges commitment to complete the outlined milestones within the defined timeline. Grant eligibility is based on successful and timely completion of the outlined milestones. Grants and financial incentives are contingent on availability of state funds.**

Consent to Share

First 5 and/or CCCOE staff may share information, within legal limits, about your site and the services provided. Data collected through the self-assessment, coaching and rating process will be used to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the Contra Costa County QRIS implementation and to meet state reporting requirements. This process will enhance the quality and relevance of the services you receive and ensure that we are not duplicating services.



 Katharine Mason for Camilla Rand
 Camilla Rand, Director, Community Services Bureau
 Contra Costa Employment and Human Services

7/12/16

 Date



 Sean Casey, Executive Director
 First 5 Contra Costa

8/3/16

 Date



 Bill Clark, Associate Superintendent, Business Services
 Contra Costa County Office of Education

8/12/16

 Date