

EARLY LEARNING COUNCIL

QRIS Standards Revision Process

David Mandell, Acting Early Learning System Director
Dawn Woods, Child Care Director

November 16, 2016

QRIS Goals

2

- Promote practices that promote positive culturally responsive child development, kindergarten readiness, professional development and strong family engagement
- Provide guidance, supports and resources to early learning programs to promote positive child development and strong family engagement
- Provide an opportunity for early learning programs to shine and demonstrate their strengths
- Provide information to parents about early learning programs
- Create a common framework for early learning programs that supports public investments in diverse settings and programs

The history of QRIS

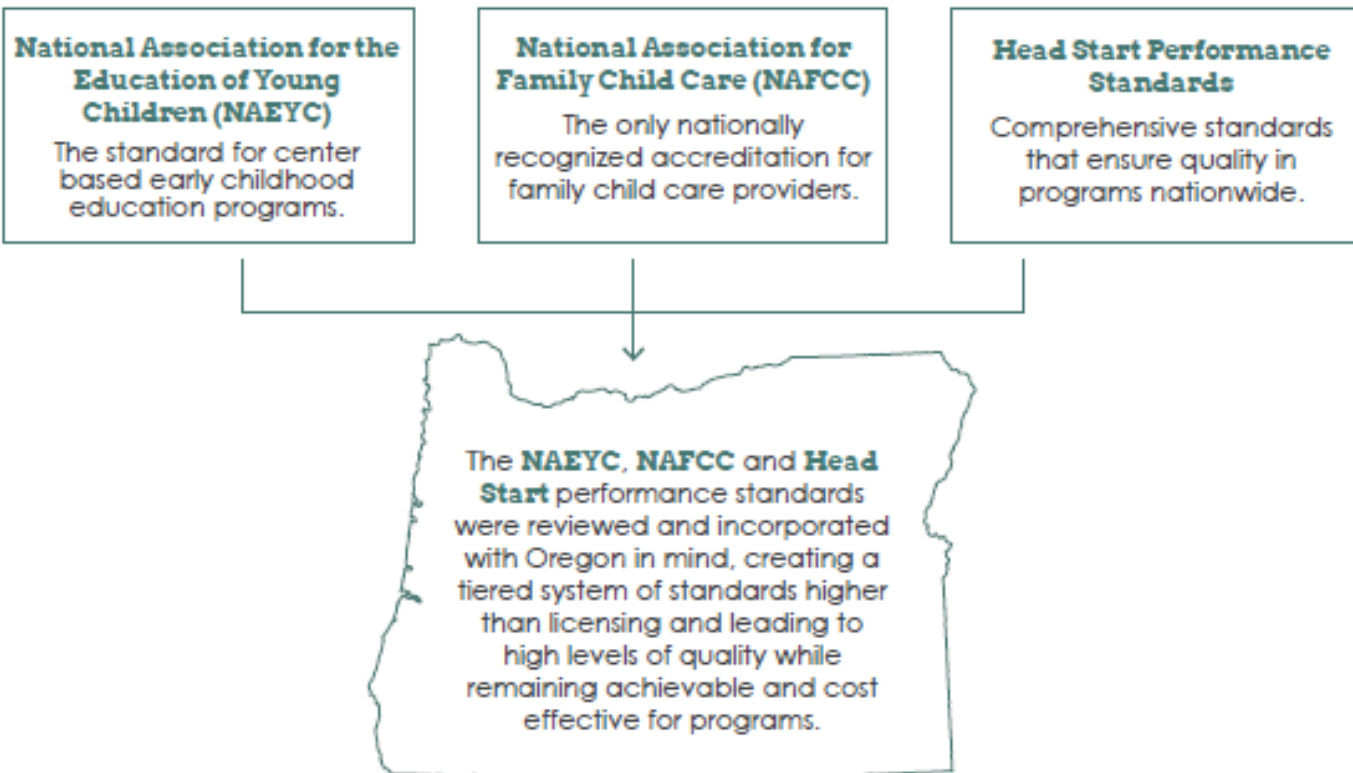
3

- Framework of the QRIS
 - Standards
 - Process for monitoring standards
 - Process for supporting quality improvement
 - Financial supports and incentives
 - Information to families
- Race To the Top funded
 - Development and Field Test
 - Validation Study

Standards Development

4

Grounded in national standards & research based practices



What we heard from the field: standards

5

- Too many standards
- Need for streamlined and simplified language
- Need for more focus on cultural responsiveness throughout domains and standards
- Desire for the ability to get partial credits or points for the quality work
- Challenges in meeting personnel qualifications
- No opportunity to receive credit or points for experience

What we heard from the field: process

6

- Materials ought to be written in plain language and available in more languages
- Quality Improvement Specialist supports are critical
- Provide feedback on the portfolio along the way
- Provide samples of submissions
- Shorten the review process

What we learned from the validation study

7

- What is the quality of programs in the QRIS Validation Study, as indicated by CLASS scores and QRIS ratings?
- How highly correlated are the QRIS domains and standards with one another?
- How well do programs' QRIS ratings differentiate observed quality of adult-child interactions?
- How do certain QRIS standards & indicators of interest relate to observed quality?
- How well are other personnel measures associated with observed quality and final QRIS ratings?

Potential Guiding Principles

- Focus on standards that have the greatest impact on children and families with the least burden on providers
- Build QRIS to be a support for children, families and providers furthest from opportunity
- Revisions should reflect both what research tells us and what we have heard from communities
- Cultural responsiveness should be reflected throughout the standards and tiers

Preliminary recommendations for standards revisions

- Greatly reduce the number of standards, focusing on those with the most impact on positive child development and family engagement;
- Consider eliminating the Business Administration domain and consolidating Health and Safety under licensing and other domains;
- Ensure that cultural responsiveness is more meaningfully reflected across domains and across tiers;
- Revise personnel qualifications, streamline process for aggregating them across a program and provide opportunity to document and reward experience;
- Allow programs to receive partial or bonus credit by moving to a point or hybrid system (rather than the current “block” system where all standards must be fully met before moving to the next tier);
- Provide some differentiation of standards for programs serving different ages (e.g., infant-toddlers, after-school programs).

Process & timeline for QRIS revisions

10

- January, 2017: Draft principles for QRIS revision brought to the ELC
- February, 2017: Draft principles brought to the Equity Implementation Committee and Child Care and Education Committee
- March, 2017: ELC adopts principles for QRIS revision
- April, 2017: Staff/WOU work team revise standards in accordance with principles
- May, 2017: ELC briefed on revised standards
- June, 2017: ELC adopts revised QRIS standards

QRIS Rule-making

- Entity responsible for final determination of QRIS standards
- Entity responsible for final determination of QRIS rating for a program
- Process for appealing a QRIS rating
- Process for revoking a QRIS rating
- Process for appealing a revocation of a QRIS rating
- Role of licensing standards in QRIS
- Process for programs governed by tribal governments to participate in QRIS

QRIS Rule-making timeline

12

- January, 2017: CCEC briefed on QRIS and need for rules
- February, 2017: CCEC rule development work session
- March, 2017: CCEC develops recommended rules; ELC briefing on need for QRIS rules
- April, 2017: CCEC final rule development work session; ELC first reading of rules
- May, 2017: ELC adopts QRIS rules