

QRIS Equity Journey



QRIS/Spark Revision Feedback and Planning

Feedback from Early Learning Council 2015: Concerns about QRIS field test:

1) Lack of Intentional Engagement

Some communities of color were not explicitly invited to be deeply engaged in the creation of QRIS.

2) Favoring Dominant Culture

Concern that some of the quality standards and inherently favor dominant culture providers.

3) **Missing Equity Prioritization:** Are providers that have a focus on equity being recognized for that commitment?

4) **Access concerns:** Are resources going to those who need them most?

5) **Focus:** Does the focus on the QRIS (and as a result, licensed child care providers) unintentionally exacerbate inequities?

6) **Cost impact:** QRIS could lead providers to increase prices and price-out families they previously served.

Revision Recommendations From The Early Learning Division for Spark:

Intentionally identify and use input from communities of color and language-diverse populations

Change personnel qualification domain to a more holistic way of looking at key staff and include language diversity

Modify standards to ensure the inclusion of culturally appropriate practices

Modify standards to further reflect diversity of ages of children, types of programs and pedagogies

Create a rating system and program endorsements to recognize programs' strengths, diversity, and specific areas of expertise

Clarify the language while maintaining the use of commonly used terms in the early childhood profession