Quality Counts - A snapshot of Virginia’s quality rated early education programs

December 31st, 2018

Virginia Quality is the state’s voluntary Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS). The focus is on continuous quality improvement, recognizing early learning programs’ commitment to excellence, and supporting programs with tools, services to achieve top quality.

Increase in # of Quality Rated Programs in Virginia

In 2015, there were 394 programs rated under the 1.0 version of Virginia’s QRIS (representing 8% of eligible providers). Following the launch of Virginia’s 2.0 QRIS standards in 2017, there are now 1177 quality rated programs (representing about 25% of eligible providers).

1177 Sites Rated
1177 total child care and preschool sites have voluntarily enrolled in Virginia Quality showing their commitment to quality early learning.

10,980 Educators Participating
10,980 educators are engaged in ongoing professional development based on Virginia Quality Standards.

48,505 Children Impacted
48,505 of Virginia’s children (ages birth-5) are attending quality rated early education programs.

Over 1150 programs across the state of Virginia have been awarded a quality level. To find a quality rated program near you, visit www.virginiaquality.com/parents
The Path to Quality

Levels are awarded to child care and preschool programs based on nationally recognized standards and areas proven to matter to children’s school success.

Each level builds on the level before it and prepares programs for the next level. Programs move through the levels at their own pace based on their current level of quality, and which elements of quality they are ready to demonstrate.

Virginia Quality Rated Sites

As of December 31st, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Quality Demonstrated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>535*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The “fast track” option allows programs that are already demonstrating quality in education/qualifications and curriculum to enter Virginia Quality at Level 3.

Programs achieving Levels 4 and 5 have demonstrated quality in all of Virginia’s Quality Standards.

Level 5 represents that the highest level of quality in environment and interaction was demonstrated.

Basic Health & Safety

The program is in compliance with requirements of state and local regulatory agencies.

Education & Qualifications

The program has teachers who have or are working towards formal education in child development or early childhood education.

Curriculum & Assessment

The program works to use curriculum, child assessment, and intentional teaching that promotes children’s development and incorporates state early learning guidelines.

Environment

The program strives to have children engaged in meaningful learning and play by offering them a variety of materials and activities throughout the day.

Interactions

Daily, supportive interactions between teachers and children form the foundation for social and cognitive learning, significantly impacting school readiness.

For additional information, visit us at virginiaquality.com or email us at qris@vecf.org.

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