

Data Facts

February 28, 2014

www.wou.edu/tri/QRIS



Oregon's QRIS

Oregon's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) is a system designed to raise the quality and consistency of child care and early learning programs across the state. Oregon's QRIS aligns with the national trend of QRISs that recognizes, rewards, and builds on the current quality of early learning and development programs (ELDPs). The QRIS provides a framework for quality improvement for ELDPs while providing a tool that helps parents looking for quality early learning and care options.

Oregon's QRIS is currently being field tested in four regions covering eight of Oregon's counties. It is scheduled to go statewide in March 2014. The goal of the QRIS Data Facts is to provide updates on the QRIS process evaluation being conducted at the Teaching Research Institute.

How an ELDP progresses

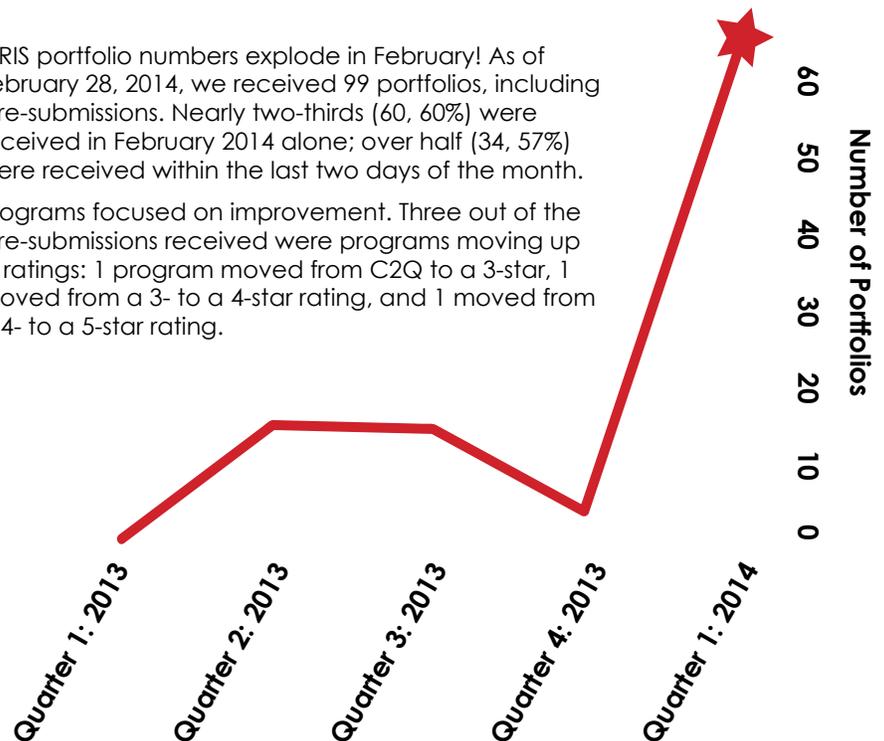
- Be a licensed ELDP and have been in business for two years.
- Attend an Increasing Quality Training (IQT).
- Submit an application and a self-assessment to become a Commitment to Quality (C2Q) program.
- Request financial support to improve child care facility by completing a Quality Improvement Plan.
- Complete a portfolio documenting attainment of quality standards in children's learning and development, health and safety, collaborative family partnerships, personnel qualifications, and administration and business practices in order to receive a 3, 4 or 5 star rating.
- Submit annual reports to maintain star rating or a portfolio documenting attainment of increased quality standards.

Participation numbers as of February 28, 2014:



QRIS portfolio numbers explode in February! As of February 28, 2014, we received 99 portfolios, including 8 re-submissions. Nearly two-thirds (60, 60%) were received in February 2014 alone; over half (34, 57%) were received within the last two days of the month.

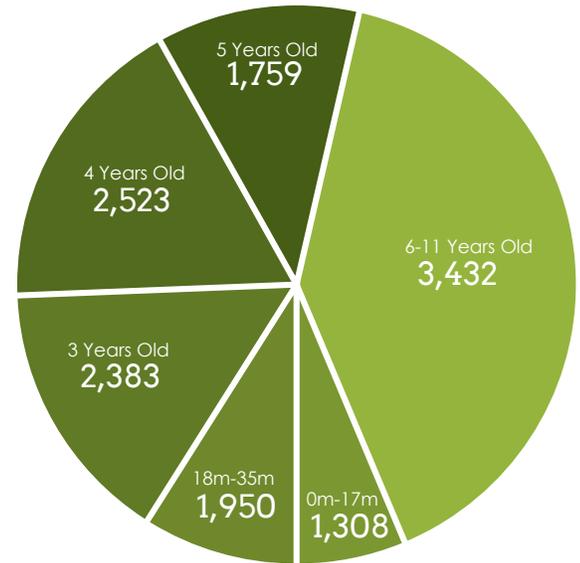
Programs focused on improvement. Three out of the 8 re-submissions received were programs moving up in ratings: 1 program moved from C2Q to a 3-star, 1 moved from a 3- to a 4-star rating, and 1 moved from a 4- to a 5-star rating.



Portfolio reviewers are reliable. Two reviewers are assigned to score every portfolio received. This minimizes any bias that could creep in from one reviewer. Inter-rater reliability is strong (Cronbach's alpha = .87).

Children impacted by the QRIS

Currently, 13,355 children are in Early Learning & Development Programs (ELDPs) that have attained a Commitment to Quality (C2Q) rating. Four in five (81%) of those children are in child care centers, 13% are in certified family child care, and 6% are in registered family child care. ELDPs that have attained a 3, 4 or 5 star rating provide service to 979 children. The age distribution of children in C2Q or star rated programs is highlighted in the figure.



Total Children Enrolled in C2Q and Above
13,355

Happenings at TRI

As part of the state-wide rollout of QRIS, on February 18 – 20, TRI welcomed partners from the Office of Child Care/Early Learning Division, Oregon Department of Education (OCC), the Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education (OCCD), and 70 QRIS participants representing 13 CCR&Rs, the Coordinator for Teen Parent programs, representatives of Inclusive Child Care Program, and staff from Oregon Ask after school care. Dawn Woods from OCC and Ingrid Anderson from OCCD gave the key note addresses. The three-day training held at Western Oregon University provided an overview of QRIS, introduced State partners, discussed requirements of the system, and demonstrated the assistance available to guide CCR&Rs through the process.

What participants had to say

"I just feel like I understand the steps in the process and the role of different agencies better."

"Sitting and talking with staff that have already been working with providers was very useful."

"How fabulous this is for the future of Oregon's children! Thank you all for all of your hard, dedicated work!"

News from the Front

Lane County offers monthly Community Cafés on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8:30PM. These open meetings offer an opportunity to area child care providers to drop in and participate in QRIS related activities (such as reviewing Welcome Kits, completing Quality Improvement Plans, and compiling evidence for portfolios).

On February 12th, TRI staff joined Lane County at their regularly scheduled Community Café to provide support to programs completing their portfolios to meet the February 28th deadline for portfolio submission rewards in the field test regions. Seventeen providers attended this highly successful work session and a majority of these attendees turned in portfolios by the deadline. TRI staff will continue to attend similar work sessions across the state to support child care programs as they complete their portfolios.

Where the data come from

The purpose of the QRIS Process Evaluation is to provide information to guide the development and implementation of the QRIS process. A variety of information is gathered from the groups involved to ensure the final process is reliable, valid and leads to improvement in participating ELDPs. Data about the QRIS process come from child care provider surveys, focus groups and interviews; Quality Improvement Specialists activity logs, focus groups and interviews; and observations conducted within ELDPs.

This report reflects information gathered as of February 28, 2014.
For additional information please contact:

<http://www.wou.edu/tri/QRIS/>
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