



QUALITY START LOS ANGELES

FY2017-18

High-quality early learning and care programs can have a lifelong, positive impact on young children and their families. The first five years of a child's life are the most critical in their development, and it is important that children have the most supportive learning environment possible during that critical time.

Quality Start Los Angeles (QSLA), Los Angeles County's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), is part of a larger state and national movement to acknowledge and support early learning providers as they continuously elevate the quality of care for children birth to five and their families.

QSLA aims to improve the program quality of participating centers and family child care homes by offering instructional supports and incentives for programs, teachers and administrators to reach higher levels of quality. QSLA believes that parents play an important role in their child's early learning experience and seeks to help them better understand what to look for when choosing a quality early learning and care program.

QSLA is funded by the California Department of Education (CDE), First 5 California and First 5 LA, serving state and non-state funded Infant/Toddler and Preschool programs.

Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) • Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education
Child360 • Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles (CCALA) • First 5 LA

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QSLA Providers

Total number of Early Care and Education (ECE) providers participating in QSLA: **867**

- ECE Centers participating in QSLA: **645**

- Family Child Care Homes (FCCH) participating in QSLA: **222**

Providers receive a Tier Rating based on how well they meet program standards and guidance, which follow three core areas: (1) **Child Development and School Readiness**, (2) **Teacher Qualifications and Teacher Interactions**, and (3) **Program Leadership and Learning Environment**. Tier Ratings help providers identify areas for improvement and find ways to sustain success. Providers go through the re-rating process every two years, and can receive a Tier Rating of 1 to 5.

QSLA Tier Rating Distribution



*1% Not yet rated

Children

Total number of children served: **43,973**

Total number of children served by age groups:

- Infant: **1,251**
- Toddler: **4,722**
- Pre-K: **38,000**

Workforce

Number of early learning teaching staff and administrators participating in QSLA: **4,858**

Quality Improvement Supports

QSLA sets high standards for early learning providers and offers quality improvement supports they need to strive towards delivering high quality programs for the children and families they serve.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Total number of QSLA trainings provided:

52 trainings provided to QSLA providers on topics, including: **Behavior Management, Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), Cultural Competency, Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP), Environment Rating Scale (ERS), Family Education, and Strengthening Families Protective Factors.**

COACHING

24,170 coaching hours were provided

Quality Improvement Plans

35% focused on Teacher Qualifications and Teacher Interactions

29% focused on Program Leadership and Learning Environment

29% focused on Child Development and School Readiness

7% focused on Family Engagement

INCENTIVES

Monetary incentives of over **\$3 million** distributed to QSLA providers to support quality improvement and program enhancement in early learning programs and provide measurable, direct benefits to the program.