

Child Care Quality System (CCQS) Framework

Center-based Programs



Domain 1: Health and Safety		
Licensing Compliance with Office of Licensing	Select One: 0 public citations 1 public citation 2 public citations 3 or more public citations	Points 20 15 10 0
		Licensing – Subtotal Points
		20
Participation in a health and safety program	Select all that apply: TOP Star: Level 5 TOP Star: Level 4 TOP Star: Level 3 TOP Star: Level 2 TOP Star: Level 1 Healthier CACFP: Highest Honors in 3 or more categories Healthier CACFP: Highest Honors in 2 categories and High Honors in 1 or more categories Healthier CACFP: Highest Honors in 1 category and High Honors in 2 or more categories Healthier CACFP: Honors, High or Highest Honors in 3 or more categories Healthier CACFP: Honors or High in 3 or more categories Nature Explore Outdoor Classroom Eco-Healthy Child Care Environment	 10 8 6 4 2 10 8 6 4 2 3 3
		Participation – Subtotal Points
		10
		Health and Safety Total Points
		30
Domain 2: Learning Environments and Relationships		
Ratios and Group Size based on onsite verification	Select all that apply: Ratios Group Size	Points Up to 12 Up to 12
		Ratios and Group Size – Subtotal Points
		24
Observations conducted using ITERS, ECERS and SAPQA	Select all that apply: Overall Observation (average all observation scores and multiply by 5)	 30
		Observations – Subtotal Points
		30

Child Development and Learning

Family Engagement	Choose from the following for up to a total of 16 points:		Points	
	Family Conferences	2x year, OR Annually	4 2	
	Developmental Screenings	ASQ Online ASQ Other Tool	4 2 1	
	Connecting to Services		1	
	Activities for Families	1 point each, up to 4x year	up to 4	
	Home Learning Activities	4x year, OR 2x year	2 1	
	Donation of Time/Resources		1	
	Communication on Child		2	
	Communication on Program		1	
	Share Program Philosophy		1	
	Visit Before Enrollment		1	
	Open Visitation Policy		1	
	Discipline Policy		2	
	Collaborate to Avoid Expulsion		2	
	Grievance Procedures		1	
	Supporting English Learners		1	
	Breastfeeding Support Policy		1	
	Information on Transitions		1	
	Parent Handbook Review		1	
	Parent Feedback	2x year, OR Annually	2 1	
	Family Engagement – Subtotal Points		16	
Inclusion of children with special needs	Program has current All Means All certification		10	
	Learning Environments and Relationships Total Points		80	
Domain 3: Leadership and Professional Development				
	Select Points within One Option:		Points	
	Option 1	Career Ladder Level 10 or higher	28	
	Option 2	Career Ladder Level 9	22	
	Option 3 (Max. 18 points)	Career Ladder Level 8 w/current demonstrated competency	15	
		Career Ladder Level 4-7 w/current demonstrated competency	12	
		Verified college credit hour in field	1 pt/ hour	
		20 hours of Career Ladder approved annual training	12	
		5+ years of verifiable experience	5	
		Education of Primary Director – Subtotal Points		45

Education of Caregivers A caregiver can only be counted in one category 	Select One:	Points
	At least 25% of caregivers with current Career Ladder Level 4 or higher	20
	At least 20% of caregivers with current Career Ladder Level 4 or higher	15
	At least 15% of caregivers with current Career Ladder Level 4 or higher	10
	At least 25% of caregivers have 20 hours of Career Ladder approved annual training	15
	At least 20% of caregivers have 20 hours of Career Ladder approved annual training	10
	At least 15% of caregivers have 20 hours of Career Ladder approved annual training	5
	Education of Caregivers – Subtotal Points	35
Leadership and Professional Development Total Points		80
Domain 4: Management and Administration		
Training and credentials of the administrator responsible for business operations 	Select One:	Points
	A college degree with 6 credit hours in finance, business and/or program administration.	5
	Aim4 Excellence Director's Credential	4
	Current National Administrator's Credential (NAC)	3
	Select if applicable:	
	10 hours of Career Ladder approved annual training in the area of business or leadership	5
	Management and Administration Total Points	10
Domain 5: National Accreditation		
National Accreditation <i>*Early Head Start partnerships do not count</i> 	Select One:	Points
	National Early Childhood Program Accreditation	20
	National Association for the Education of Young Children - Accreditation Plus	20
	National Accreditation Commission	20
	Head Start and Early Head Start Programs*	20
	National Accreditation Total Points	20
GRAND TOTAL SCORE		
	Total possible points in each section:	
	1. Health and Safety	30
	2. Learning Environments and Relationships	80
	3. Leadership and Professional Development	80
	4. Management and Administration	10
	5. National Accreditation	20
	Grand Total Score	220



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Quality Rating Minimum Requirements

Foundation of Quality Rating: The program is fully licensed by the Utah Dept. of Health and Human Services, Office of Licensing Program, which enforces foundational health and safety standards in child care facilities.

- License in good standing (not conditional) and DWS eligible



Emerging Quality Rating: The program is fully licensed and beginning to implement practices that can lead to high quality.

- License in good standing (not conditional) and DWS eligible
- Minimum 30 total points required from components



Growing Quality Rating: The program is implementing practices that can lead to high quality including participating in observations and may also include additional technical assistance, professional development and coaching for program staff.

- License in good standing (not conditional) and DWS eligible
- Minimum 65 total points required from components
- At least 16 points in the Observation component



High Quality Rating: The program creates an environment that supports good outcomes for children. Observed interactions are educational and built on positive relationships. The program continues to support high-quality care through ongoing professional development of staff.

- License in good standing (not conditional) and DWS eligible
- No high or extreme citations assessed
- Minimum 120 points total points required from components
- At least 10 points on Licensing Compliance
- At least 18 points on Education of Director
- At least 10 points on Education of Caregivers
- At least 20 points in the Observation Component
- Score of at least 3 or higher in each classroom observed



Please visit the official CCQS website at jobs.utah.gov/occ/provider/quality.html for more resources.

For questions, please contact your regional [Child Care Resource Agency](#) CCQS Specialist or email ccqs@utah.gov.