

EXAMPLES OF QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Activities Designed to Improve the Quality and Availability of Child Care

Activities to expand the number of Texas Rising Star (TRS) certified or nationally accredited providers:

- Hire child development specialist (CDS) staff at the contractor level to:
 - conduct TRS monitoring visits;
 - provide technical assistance and/or mentoring to TRS provider staff working toward TRS certification;
 - offer research-based training to TRS providers needing to maintain or work toward quality; and
- Offer onetime bonuses to compensate three- or four-star TRS provider staff in order to reduce staff turnover; and
- Provide incentives to fund classroom materials and training.

Activities to promote inclusive child care:

- Recruit providers to care for children with disabilities;
- Train providers to care for children with disabilities;
- Hire CDS staff to write inclusion plans, monitor children with inclusion plans, and offer technical assistance and training to provider staff working with a child with disabilities; and
- Supply developmentally appropriate toys and resource materials to providers caring for children with disabilities.

Activities to enhance professional development related to child health and safety:

- Coordinate with community agencies to provide research-based training for providers;
- Offer and fund training sessions for additional child care health consultants;
- Develop a network of child care health consultants who can provide on-site technical assistance and training; and
- Provide a reference library for certified child care health consultants.

Professional development activities related to early learning and child development:

- Training toward a Child Development Associate credential;
- Tuition or stipends to attend early education courses at colleges and universities; and
- Support for child care providers to pay for substitute caregivers so staff can participate in early learning and child development training.

Activities to promote collaboration:

Collaborate or partner with Head Start, prekindergarten programs, or other community agencies to train new caregivers or offer ongoing professional development opportunities.

Other quality expansion activities:

Administration for Children and Families Guidance on Quality Expansion

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/pi-cc-99-05>

Activities Designed to Provide Comprehensive Consumer Education to Parents and the Public

Provide parents with brochures that:

- provide information on community resources; and
- offer guidance on selecting a child care provider.

Activities That Increase Parental Choice

Provide parents with:

- a list of participating facilities that offer subsidized care; and
- information on quality indicators, such as TRS, national accreditation programs, Texas School Ready!, and the Kindergarten Readiness System.