

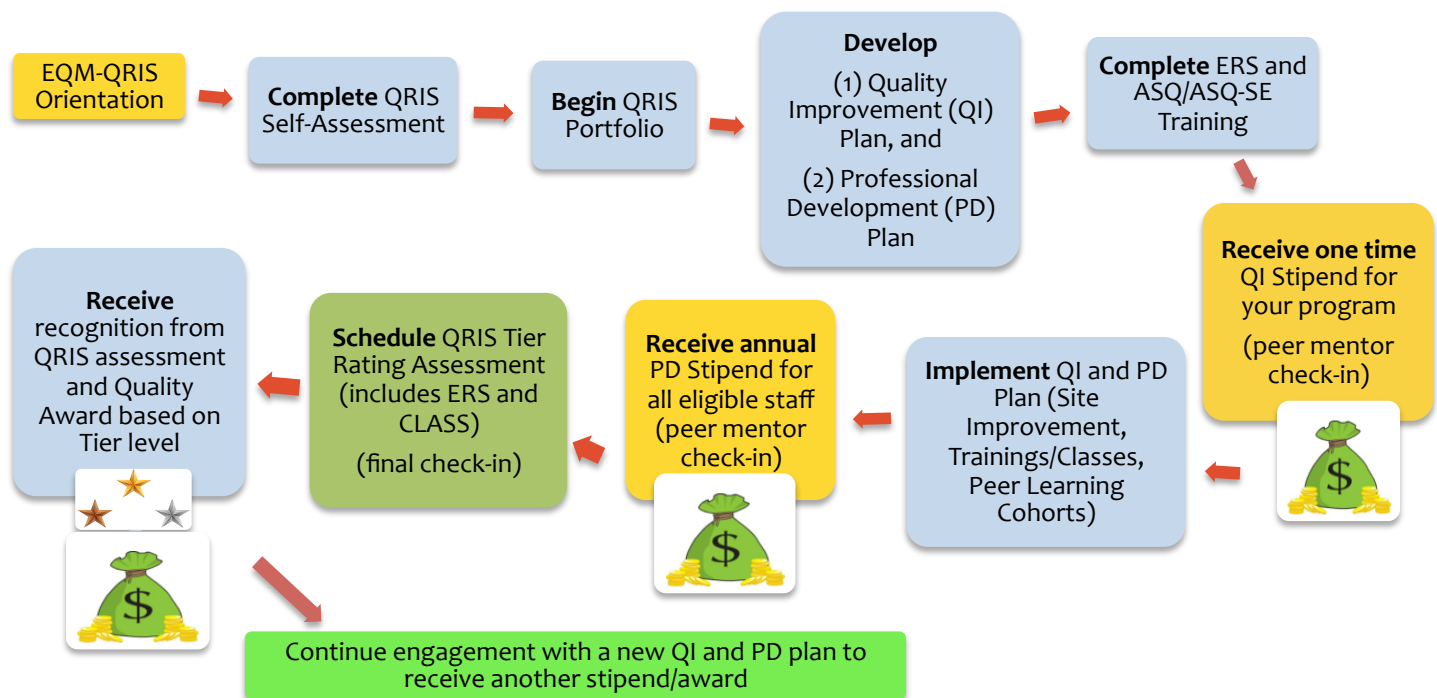
## STEP 3: QUALITY RATING IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM (QRIS)

**GOAL:** Enhance teacher skills and sound program practices on an advanced level. Sites in Step 3 receive the most support to enhance overall program quality, environment, and teacher-child interactions. Sites in Step 3 are rated and receive public recognition for their commitment to quality care through site stipends, education award stipends and public recognition.

### QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN:

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| REQUIREMENT     | <p>Learn and Use Developmental Health Screenings to ensure children are developing on track – physically, emotionally, and socially</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Receive Training on ASQ and ASQ-SE</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implement the use of ASQ and ASQ-SE</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use annual Health Screening or Parent Opt Out Forms</li> </ul>  |
| RECOMMENDATIONS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Engage in Professional Development (PD) to receive an <b>annual PD Stipend</b> (see PD Stipend Guide for more info and eligibility)</li> <li>★ Prepare for a QRIS Site rating to qualify for a <b>Quality Improvement (QI) Stipend</b> and a <b>QRIS Quality Award</b> for your site (see next page for more info)</li> </ul> <p>Focus on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Observe How Children Are Developing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Use DRDP or another choice child assessment</li> <li>○ Be connected to a certified behavioral specialist who will provide onsite assistance</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate and Support Children’s Learning (2 options) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attend Ages and Stages training</li> <li>○ Attend trainings based on CA Preschool Learning Foundations and Preschool Curriculum Framework</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Support Children’s Social-Emotional Development and Understand and Apply Elements of Positive Teacher-Child Interactions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS™)</li> <li>○ Program for Infant and Toddler Care (PITC) Trainings</li> <li>○ Receive trainings and utilize resource guides on health, nutrition and physical activities</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Create a Safe, Clean and Enriching Environment - <b>Receive QI stipend for environment enhancements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attend Environmental Rating Scales (ERS) Training/Refresher</li> <li>○ Complete an informal ERS self-assessment with support from your Peer Mentor/coach</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Support Family Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Families in your program receive Strengthening Families Five Protective Factors Framework</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

## ROAD MAP:



## FEATURES AND BENEFITS:

- ★ Specialized Workshops And Trainings: health and safety practices, creating positive and enriching climates for children, developmentally appropriate curriculum, marketing, business/contract support, and stronger partnerships with parents
- ★ Expert Consultation And Coaching: teacher-child interactions, legal and business development, universal developmental and social emotional screening
- ★ Connections to Scholarships, Financial Aid, Reimbursements for Training, College Courses and Professional Resources
- ★ Free Quality Rating Assessment of every eligible classroom, completed by a certified independent Environmental Rating Scale Assessments and CLASS™ Observer (valued at \$500 per assessment)
- ★ ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC RECOGNITION – state and county wide advertisements, publications, awards
- ★ Quality Improvement (QI) Stipend
  - ✓ A grant for site materials, facility improvements, professional development or technology
  - ✓ QI stipends are typically \$500 for Family Child Care and Centers with 1-2 classrooms. Family Child Care and Centers with more than two classrooms typically receive \$1000 or more depending on size, number of children served, safety indicators based on quality rating assessments, and funding availability. CSPP and Head Start sites are not eligible for QI Stipends.
  - ✓ To receive this stipend, child care program representatives must attend an Environmental Rating Scales Training (FCCERS for Family Child Care, ECERS for Centers) and submit an approved Quality Improvement Plan
- ★ Professional Development (PD) Stipend
  - ✓ An annual stipend for each eligible staff employed in an EQM Step 3 site who completes an EQM approved Professional Development Option. See the annual PD Stipend Guide for stipend amounts for each PD Option.
- ★ QRIS Quality Award Stipend
  - ✓ QRIS Ratings and awards are for a two year term and dependent upon the size, type of program and QRIS Tier Rating: Bronze Award (Tier 3), Silver Award (Tier 4), Gold Award (Tier 5)

| Type of Child Care and Site Size |                         | Bronze<br>(Tier 3) | Silver<br>(Tier 4) | Gold<br>(Tier 5) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Family Child Care                | Small (0-6)             | \$500              | \$900              | \$1300           |
|                                  | Large (0-14)            | \$750              | \$1250             | \$1600           |
| Center                           | Small/Medium (up to 60) | \$1000             | \$1700             | \$2200           |
|                                  | Large (60+)             | \$1200             | \$2000             | \$2500           |