

Examples of Quality Improvement Activities

1. Examples of Quality Expansion Activities

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;
- Offer one-time 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 (ACF) Guidance on Quality Expansion <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/law/guidance/current/pi9905/example.htm>

2. Examples of Infant and Toddler Quality Improvement Activities

Activities to promote inclusive child care for infants and toddlers:

- Recruit providers to care for infants and toddlers with disabilities;
- Train providers to care for infants and toddlers with disabilities;
- Hire CDS staff to write inclusion plans, monitor infants and toddlers with inclusion plans, and offer technical assistance and training to provider staff working with infants and toddlers with disabilities;
- Coordinate or partner with local Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) programs to provide training or resources for early detection of children with special needs; and
- Supply developmentally appropriate toys and resource materials to providers caring for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Activities to enhance professional development:

- Coordinate with community agencies to provide research-based training for providers that care for infants and toddlers;
- Offer and fund training sessions for additional child care health consultants to assist providers that offer infant and toddler care;
- 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 serving infant and toddler care providers.

Activities to increase child care slots for infants and toddlers:

- Fund minor classroom renovations to convert existing classrooms and create additional infant and toddler classrooms;
- Provide equipment and material incentives for providers that open additional infant and toddler classrooms; and
- Hire CDS staff as infant-toddler specialists to provide technical assistance, training, and/or monitoring of new infant and toddler caregivers.

Activities to promote collaboration:

- Collaborate or partner with Early Head Start programs, ECI, or other community agencies to train new infant and toddler caregivers or offer ongoing professional development opportunities.

Other infant and toddler quality improvement activities:

- ACF Guidance on Infant-Toddler Quality Expansion
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/law/guidance/current/pi9905/activity.htm>