



2015 FACT SHEETS

QRIS Mission & Goals

Mission and goal statements are explicit written declarations that provide a foundation for QRIS activities and expected outcomes. Mission and goal statements may be included in QRIS statutes, policy manuals and/or websites; they offer stakeholders a clear vision of the QRIS priorities.

#1. Quality improvement and recognition.

A focus on improving and recognizing the quality of ECE programs was the most common theme across state and localities' QRIS mission statements, with 100% (n=37) referencing quality improvement.

Example from South Carolina: "ABC Quality... helps child care providers improve the quality of care they provide to children to a level beyond the basics."

#2. Facilitating parent and public awareness.

Promotion of QRIS awareness for parents, early care and education programs, and the public was the second-most targeted component in state and localities' QRIS goals, included by 62% (n=23) of states and localities.

Example from Washington: "Early Achievers will provide parents with clear and easily accessible information about the quality of child care and early education programs and close the disparity in access to high quality early learning opportunities for all children."

#3. Access to high quality care.

Implementing a QRIS that improves families' access to high quality early care and education was the third most common theme, included by 32% (n=12) of states and localities.

Example from Minnesota: "Parent Aware is a voluntary system to market and incentivize quality early learning programs to help... children access quality."

#4. Supportive of children's early development and readiness for school.

About 30% of states and localities (n=11) identified the provision of support for the healthy physical, social, emotional, or academic development of young children to prepare them for school and life, as a goal of the QRIS.

Example from Pennsylvania: "To create a comprehensive quality improvement system in which all early learning programs and practitioners are encouraged and supported to improve child outcome [including] improvements in programming are designed to increase the capacity to support children's learning and development."

#5. Educated and trained workforce.

The fifth most commonly included component of the QRIS mission statements by 24% (n=9) of states and localities was a goal to use the QRIS as a means to improving the education and training of the early care and education workforce.

Example from Indiana: "Development of well-trained qualified child care and early education staff through child care professional training and mentoring."

Methods: Data about state and localities' QRIS mission and goals (collected during the spring and summer of 2015) was analyzed from qriscompendium.org in December 2015 and reflects 40 systems as they were on October 31, 2015. A qualitative analysis was completed to identify the most commonly occurring themes. A QRIS may have articulated more than one goal or mission; thus, the themes identified in this brief are not mutually exclusive.