

**ExceleRate™ Illinois Silver Circle of Quality
Quality Counts Quality Rating System (QRS)
Licensed Center Alignment Crosswalk**

ExceleRate Illinois Standards	QRS program submit the following documentation to align with ExceleRate Silver Circle of Quality:
1 Teaching and Learning	
a. Learning Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRS program completes self-assessment of classroom quality and a Continuous Quality Improvement Plan (CQIP) to address overall score below 3.25 AND any classroom score below 4.0 and subscales below 4.5. • Program's plan addresses how to improve these scores by next renewal.
b. Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRS program indicates use of aligned curriculum OR submits a narrative description of how the curriculum used is aligned with the Early Learning Guidelines/Standards.
c. Instructional Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRS program writes a CQIP to address "Interaction" and/or "Language Reasoning/Listening and Talking" subscales scores below 4.0, including any classroom subscale score below a 3.0. Note: If this subscale is addressed in CQIP for 1a, it should not be duplicated. • Program's plan addresses how to improve these scores by next renewal.
d. Child Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRS program submits a copy of the program's written policies related to development/child screening.
e. Child Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRS program submits evidence of use of aligned assessment tool being used OR submits a narrative description of how the assessment tool used aligns with the program's curriculum.
f. Inclusion of Children with Special Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrator and one teacher per classroom complete Gateways Registry approved training on the inclusion of children with special needs.
1. Family and Community Engagement	
2 a. Family and Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRS program submits narrative and/or documentation of program's family engagement practices demonstrating at least five family supports (from Program Administration Scale (PAS) item #17) and two family-staff conferences per year.
b. Transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QRS program submits narrative and/or documentation of policies and practices related to transitions. Policy may include transition of children/families into/out of classrooms, early learning environments, community services and school setting including transition to Kindergarten.

3 Leadership & Management	
a. Program Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program administrator completes Gateways Registry approved PAS training. Program completes PAS self-assessment and develops Continuous Quality Improvement Plan (CQIP) addressing subscales below 4.5.
b. Group Size and Staff/Child Ratios	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (IDCFS) license is in compliance.
c. Continuous Quality Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QRS program submits CQIP.
d. Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QRS program submits narrative of cultural/linguistic practices AND CQIP.
4 Qualifications and Continuing Education	
a. Director Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program administrator must obtain Illinois Director Credential Level I by July 2016.
b. Staff Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30% of teaching staff applied for or obtained the ECE Credential Level 3 or higher. Staff must obtain the credential applied for by program's annual report.
c. Staff Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QRS program has completed individual staff development plans for all classroom staff, and must submit copies of individual staff development plans AND evidence of teaching staff completion of 20 professional development hours for classrooms assessed during last National Louis University (NLU) McCormick Center visit.