

Continuing Quality

ONGOING SUPPORT



Who Qualifies

- ▶ Quality First participants with a 4-star or 5-star rating
- ▶ Head Start/Early Head Start participants
- ▶ Participants with existing internal quality supports that have achieved a 3-star or higher rating

Your System of Support Includes:

- ▶ Coaching
- ▶ Coordination
- ▶ Child Care Health Consultation
- ▶ Funding
- ▶ Assessment

You will have access to a team of experts to support you as you work to continue your quality practices.

Coaching & Coordination

Your coordinator will support your continued success. In addition to being your main person of contact, they will assist you with:

- ✓ Orientation and onboarding to Quality First,
- ✓ Extranet (QF data system), paperwork, forms and general technical assistance to support participation in Quality First
- ✓ Help finding other resources for your program, staff, children and families

As you work to continue your quality practices, you can request additional help from a coach.

Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC)

You will receive ongoing support from a specially trained health professional. Your CCHC provides advice and technical assistance in areas like nutrition, physical activity, disease prevention and more.

- ✓ Health and Safety Assessment
- ✓ Health and Safety Action Plan
- ✓ 3 hours of consultation quarterly (or 1 hour per month)

Depending on your regional area and the population you serve, you may also have access to additional specialists in the areas of early childhood mental health and inclusion for children with special needs.

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Funding

You will have access to funding for staff recognition.

- ✓ Available to all program types and sizes
- ✓ Focused on staff employed at the program
- ✓ Direct payment to program following star rating achievement (approximately every 2 years)
- ✓ Based on star rating

Star Rating	Funding amount per staff*
5-star	\$1,000 per staff
4-star	\$500 per staff

**The number of staff in the following roles are used to calculate total incentive amount: Director, Assistant Director, Teacher and Assistant Teacher.*

Opt-in Option for 3-star Programs

Some 3-star programs with existing internal supports will be eligible to opt-in to the Continuing Quality level. Programs that opt in to this level have access to funds to support quality improvements and will work with their coach or coordinator to make purchases in alignment with their Quality Improvement Plan.

Program Size	Funding Amount - per year*
DES Family Home (1-4 children)	\$600
DHS Group Home (5-10 children)	\$1,175
Small center (1-50 children)	\$2,050
Medium center (51-150 children)	\$2,950
Large center (151+ children)	\$4,700

**Up to two assessment cycles, which means after June 30, 2023, two completed renewal assessments or four years, whichever comes first.*

Assessment

Approximately every three years, you will receive your assessment and star rating. Assessment gives you a clear picture of your program—what is great and opportunities to do even better.

- ✓ On-site assessment
 - ▶ Environment Rating Scales (ERS)
 - ▶ Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)
- ✓ Written feedback reports to help you set goals

Questions? Contact the Quality First team at

QualityFirst@FirstThingsFirst.org or 602.771.5000

Learn more at QualityFirstAZ.com

