



National Child Care Information Center

A service of the Child Care Bureau

NCCIC

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GOALS and/or OBJECTIVES of STATE TIERED QUALITY STRATEGIES

Tiered quality strategies broadly encompass the systems of tiered reimbursement (a funding strategy), rated licensing (a licensing strategy), quality rating systems (a consumer strategy), and a combination of these strategies. The overarching goal of the tiered quality strategies is to improve child care quality through systemwide improvements rather than through an incremental approach. There are similarities and differences in these systems as implemented by States. The following are the stated goals and/or objectives of a sample of State tiered quality strategies.

District of Columbia: Going for the Gold

Type: Combination of tiered reimbursement and a quality rating system.

- Reward programs that excel.
- Increase quality of care for children and families in the District of Columbia.
- Bring new providers into the subsidy program.
- Increase subsidy slots.
- Increase compensation for providers.
- Help consumers be more informed about options.

Kentucky: STARS for KIDS NOW Child Care Quality Rating System

Type: Combination of tiered reimbursement and a quality rating system.

- Increase quality of child care for all children.
- Reward and improve child care quality.
- Provide consumer awareness and guidance.
- Increase capacity for subsidy children in higher quality programs.

Maryland: Maryland Child Care Tiered Reimbursement Program

Type: Combination of tiered reimbursement and a quality rating system.

- Promote a well-qualified workforce.
- Increase the amount of Purchase of Care payments to child care programs.
- Promote a high level of program quality through the application of standards for program accreditation and environmental rating scales.
- Encourage parent involvement in child care settings.

Oklahoma: Reaching for the Stars

Type: Combination of tiered reimbursement and a quality rating system.

- Increase the training and education of child care providers, thereby improving the overall quality of care.
- Provide parents with a method to evaluate child care.
- Increase the reimbursement that child care providers receive and increase slots for low-income families.

The National Child Care Information Center does not endorse any organization, publication, or resource.

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