



### **Categories of Quality Standards**

- ◆ Administrative policies and procedures
- ◆ Care of children with special needs
- ◆ Health and safety
- ◆ Learning environment/curriculum
- ◆ Licensing status/compliance
- ◆ Parent/Family involvement
- ◆ Personnel/Staffing
- ◆ Professional development/qualifications/training
- ◆ Program evaluation
- ◆ Ratios/Group size
- ◆ Staff compensation

### **ERS**

- ◆ Fifteen of the 19 statewide QRIS are using an environment rating scale (ERS).
- ◆ Variations in using ERS for QRIS:
  - Frequency of assessment
  - Percent/Number of classrooms observed
  - How scores are used
    - Averaged
    - Required score for a particular quality level

### **Tiered Reimbursement**

- ◆ Of the 19 States with a QRIS, 17 pay a higher child care subsidy reimbursement rate to child care programs that meet the QRIS quality standards.

### **Evaluation**

- ◆ In six States (Colorado, Kentucky, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee), evaluations of QRIS have shown positive impacts on quality.

Further information is available on NCCIC's Web site at <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/topics/topic/index.cfm?topicId=44>.