

## Quality Counts Humboldt ECE Quality Improvement Grants

**Quality Counts Humboldt** is the Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) in Humboldt County. QRIS systems are used across the country to improve and support the quality of early care and education programs. Numerous studies show that when children receive high quality care and education during their early years of life, they are better prepared for school, better readers, and are more likely to graduate high school. These outcomes benefit every child and family in our community. **Quality Counts Humboldt** provides a variety of quality improvement programs that are designed to support child care providers to get professional development, set goals and/or pursue higher education.

### Programs Available for 2024 - 2025:

- **IMPACT (Improve and Maximize so All Children Thrive) Legacy.** Funded by First 5 California, this program uses a Peer-Coaching model and participants can earn stipends for completing professional development and/or child development units
- **QRIS – CSPP (CA State Preschool Program).** Structured around the *Quality Continuum Framework-Measured Quality Elements*, this program is designed to assess quality and provide Tier Ratings for child care centers based on established criteria. Programs can earn awards based on their Tier Ratings.
- **QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT (QIG).** A grant that enables Family Childcare Programs to earn incentives by completing professional development and/or child development units and working with a coach to create and implement a Quality Improvement Plan structured around the *Quality Continuum Framework-Measured Quality Elements*.
- **WORKFORCE PATHWAYS.** This program focuses on professional development and/or higher education and is available to individuals in a variety of programs, including Family, Friend, and Neighbor Child Care Providers. Individuals can earn incentives for completing professional development and/or child development units

**You will be able to qualify for incentives from only one of these programs,** so make sure you evaluate the features and pick the one that is best for you and your situation. (In some cases, you may only be eligible to apply for one or two of them depending upon what kind of child care program you operate or are employed by). Look carefully at the list below to see where you fit and which program is right for you to apply for. All participants are required to utilize the CA Early Care and Education Workforce Registry.

**Eligibility (Who can apply for which program?):** \*Standalone (not blended) Head Start/Early Head Start programs are not eligible for any grants. Tribal Head Start/Early Head Start programs are only eligible for IMPACT Legacy.

- **IMPACT Legacy:** Licensed Family Child Care Providers, staff working in Tribal Programs and Family, Friend & Neighbor Child Care Providers
- **CSPP:** Child Care Centers with at least one State Preschool classroom
- **QIG:** Licensed Family Child Care Programs
- **Workforce Pathways:** Individuals who work in any of the above programs that are eligible to accept state funding

### Where can I get more information?

#### **For IMPACT Legacy, CSPP and QIG**

Star Mohatt, QRIS Coordinator  
First 5 Humboldt  
707-445-7385  
[smohatt@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:smohatt@co.humboldt.ca.us)

#### **For Workforce Pathways:**

Jennifer Black, Workforce Pathways Advisor  
Changing Tides Family Services  
707-444-8293  
[JBlack@changingtidesfs.org](mailto:JBlack@changingtidesfs.org)

We can help explain the features of each program, but the decision of which to apply for will be up to you based on your:

- Eligibility/child care program
- Current goals
- Professional development needs

#### **Funding Disclaimer:**

Funding is limited and there are caps on the number of participants or child care programs that can be funded through each funding stream, as well as parameters for who is eligible to apply. Depending upon the funding available and the number of applicants to a program, your stipend may differ from the estimated amount.

#### **Program Requirements:**

Programs must have a current license and be in “Good Standing” with Community Care Licensing if required to be licensed

All professional development and documentation must be turned in by **May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. No late submissions will be accepted.

Follow the guidelines and requirements for each grant as they all differ based on programs served, grant requirements and funding available.

## Quality Counts Humboldt Grant Comparison Chart

	<b>IMPACT Legacy</b>	<b>CSPP</b>	<b>QIG</b>	<b>Workforce Pathways</b>
Who is Eligible?	Individuals who operate or work in Licensed Family Child Care Homes, Tribal Child Care Programs, or Family, Friend, and Neighbor Child Care Providers.	Licensed Child Care Centers with at least one State Preschool classroom.	Licensed Family Child Care Providers	Individual staff who work in Center-based Child Care Programs; Tribal Child Care Programs (*excluding Head Start/Early Head Start); Family Child Care Homes; Family, Friend, and Neighbor Child Care Providers eligible to accept state funding.
Requirements to earn a Stipend, Incentive or Award	Minimum of 15 hours of Professional Development or 1 unit of college coursework, and completion of IMPACT program requirements. (Completed between May 16, 2024 & May 15, 2025)	Tier Rating on <i>Quality Continuum Framework</i> of 4 or 5; 21 hours of Professional Development for all Lead Teachers and Directors. (Completed between May 16, 2024 & May 15, 2025)	10 hours of coaching and 20 hours of Professional Development or 1.5 units of college coursework; must work with a QIG Coach to set goals. (Completed between May 16, 2024 & May 15, 2025)	Minimum of 15 hours of Professional Development or 1 unit of college coursework and must meet to set goals and work with the Workforce Pathways Advisor. (Completed between May 16, 2024 & May 15, 2025)
Stipend, Incentive or Award Range *	\$500 (if available funding) individual stipends can be earned based on Professional Development hours and/or College units completed.  <b>*Stipends may be adjusted based on available funding and number of participants who qualify</b>	Depending on Rating Tier, a program can earn \$4000 or \$5000 (Awards go to programs or agencies, not individuals).  <b>*Awards may be adjusted based on available funding and number of participants who qualify</b>	\$1000 program incentive can be earned based on Professional Development hours and/or College units completed  <b>*Incentives may be adjusted based on available funding and number of participants who qualify</b>	\$500-\$1500 individual incentives can be earned based on Professional Development hours and/or College units completed (Incentives can increase with hours and units completed).  <b>*Incentives may be adjusted based on available funding and number of participants who qualify</b>

## Quality Counts Humboldt - IMPACT Legacy Information and Guidelines

**IMPACT Legacy's** goal is to help children ages 0 to 5 and their families thrive by fostering high-quality early childhood settings and supporting and engaging families in the early learning process. Research shows that high-quality programs make a lasting difference in children's lives.

### Who is Eligible to Apply for IMPACT Legacy?

Individual participants must be 18 years of age and working in one of the following categories of childcare programs:

- Licensed Family Childcare Providers\*
- Family Friend & Neighbor Childcare Providers
- Staff from Center-based childcare programs, including tribal programs, that do not have a state preschool classroom.

### IMPACT Legacy Grant Priorities:

- Programs providing infant and toddler care
- Traditionally underserved populations, including multilingual learners, newcomer families, children in foster care and families experiencing homelessness
- Programs in rural areas

### IMPACT Legacy Requirements & Stipends:

- Complete a minimum of 15 hours of Professional Development or 1 unit of college course work, including 2 hours of Module 1 of *Safe Spaces: The Fundamentals of Trauma Informed Practice* on CECO (California Early Childhood Online).
- Attend at least one coaching session with an **IMPACT Legacy** Coach (will be assigned to you).
- Participate in a PLC (Professional Learning Community) with your coach and cohort (minimum 2X per year).
- Complete Hubbe and Workforce Registry training through F5H or approved online session.
- Keep professional development documentation updated in the Hubbe database for the year.
- \$500 stipends can be earned by individuals who complete the above requirements.

### Funding Disclaimer:

Funding is limited and there are caps on the number of participants or childcare programs that can be funded through each funding stream, as well as parameters for who is eligible to apply. Depending upon the funding available, your stipend may differ from the estimated amount. If more than 32 applicants apply to participate in IMPACT Legacy, we will hold a random lottery to select the final participants.

For questions, please contact the QRIS & IMPACT Coordinator, Star Mohatt, at First 5 Humboldt:  
(707) 445-7385 or [smohatt@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:smohatt@co.humboldt.ca.us)

## Quality Counts Humboldt – QRIS CSPP Block Grant Program

### Who is Eligible to Apply?

California State Preschool Programs can participate in the QRIS CSPP Block Grant. Participating programs receive a Tier site rating. The program participates and is rated as a whole; individuals cannot receive stipends.

### What is the Process to Apply and Participate?

- Fill out an application and self-review checklist
- Start or continue a coaching relationship with an assigned coach
- Create or update a Quality Improvement Plan

### What Does Site Rating Consist Of?

An external Rater evaluates sites according to the *Quality Continuum Framework – Measured Quality Elements*. The rated elements include:

- Child Observation (DRDP)
- Developmental and Health Screenings (ASQ, annual Physician’s Report)
- Lead Teacher education, permits and professional development
- Director education, permits and professional development
- CLASS Assessments Scores
- Ratios and Group Size

To complete a site rating a program will need to

- Arrange assessments (if needed) with coordinator
- Engage in a site and file review

All participating programs will receive coaching, but Tier 4 and 5 programs will also be eligible to receive awards based on their Tier Rating and available funds.

### Funding Disclaimer:

Funding is limited and there are caps on the number of participants or childcare programs that can be funded through each funding stream, as well as parameters for who is eligible to apply. Depending upon the funding available, the stipend may differ from the estimated amount.

For questions, please contact the QRIS & IMPACT Coordinator, Star Mohatt, at First 5 Humboldt:  
(707) 445-7385 or [smohatt@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:smohatt@co.humboldt.ca.us)

## Quality Counts Humboldt – Quality Improvement Grant (QIG)

### Who is Eligible to Apply?

- Licensed Family Childcare Programs

### Requirements:

Family Childcare Programs can earn incentives by completing professional development and/or child development units and working with a coach to create and implement a Quality Improvement Plan structured around the *Quality Continuum Framework-Measured Quality Elements*. Priority areas are programs who serve:

- Children utilizing subsidies.
- Children who have experienced trauma.
- Children who have experienced natural disasters.
- Children in foster care
- Children with special needs.

In addition, an overarching priority is to offer support that affirms the cultural diversity of those families served in each program.

### Incentives:

Incentives will be awarded to Family Childcare Programs who complete a minimum of 10 hours of coaching (can include individual coaching and CoP meetings) and 20 hours of either professional development or college coursework between May 16, 2024, and May 15, 2025.

\$1,000 for 30 total hours (10 hours of coaching with 20 hours of approved professional development **OR** 1.5 units of a college course leading to a degree.)

### Funding Disclaimer:

Funding is limited and there are caps on the number of participants or childcare programs that can be funded through each funding stream, as well as parameters for who is eligible to apply. Depending upon the funding available, your stipend may differ from the estimated amount. If more applicants than we have funding for apply to participate in the QIG, we will hold a random lottery to select the final participants.

For questions, please contact the QRIS & IMPACT Coordinator, Star Mohatt, at First 5 Humboldt:  
(707) 445-7385 or [smohatt@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:smohatt@co.humboldt.ca.us)

## Quality Counts Humboldt - Workforce Pathways Program

**Quality Counts Humboldt - Workforce Pathways Program** focuses on professional development and/or higher education of the child care and education workforce and is available to individuals in a variety of programs. Individuals can earn incentives for completing professional development and/or child development units.

### Who Can Apply for Workforce Pathways?

Individual staff who work in Center-based Child Care programs, Tribal Child Care Programs (\*excluding Head Start/Early Head Start), Family Child Care Homes, and Family, Friend, and Neighbor Child Care Providers eligible to accept state funding.

### Requirements to Earn an Incentive:

Incentives will be paid to *individuals* so owners and/or employees (**listed on the license**) of child care programs would be eligible to apply.

### Incentive Range\*:

\$500-\$1500 individual incentives can be earned based on professional development hours and/or college units completed (incentives can increase with hours and units completed).

**\*Incentives may be adjusted based on available funding and number of participants who qualify.**

### Incentive Levels:

Incentives will be awarded based on hours of professional development **OR** college classes completed. (**Must select either professional development OR higher ed track**). See the Incentive Levels Chart below:

\$500	15 professional development hours or 1 unit of a college course leading to a degree.
\$1,000	30 professional development hours or 2 Units of a college course leading to a degree.
\$1,500	45 professional development hours or 3 Units of a college course leading to a degree.

### Guidelines for Earning Incentives

All participants will meet at least quarterly with the Workforce Pathways Advisor, create an Individual Workforce Pathways Plan, and will utilize the CA Early Care and Education Workforce Registry. Activities include creating goals and plans to achieve either professional development or higher educational goals.

### Funding Disclaimer:

Funding is limited and there are caps on the number of participants or child care programs that can be funded through each funding stream, as well as parameters for who is eligible to apply. Depending upon the funding available and the number of applicants to a program, your incentive may differ from the estimated amount.

For questions, please contact the Workforce Pathways Advisor, Jen Black, at Changing Tides Family Services: (707) 444-8293 or [jblack@changingtidesfs.org](mailto:jblack@changingtidesfs.org)

## Authorization for Release of Information

I, \_\_\_\_\_ give permission for  
 (Family Child Care Provider/Owner or Authorized Staff Member)

- Changing Tides Family Services
- Northcoast Children’s Services
- Another agency (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

to release the following to the Quality Counts Humboldt - Quality Ratings & Improvement System (QRIS) Program:

- \_\_\_ Family Child Care Environmental Rating Scale (FCCERS) assessment results
- \_\_\_ CLASS Observation scores
- \_\_\_ College Transcripts and/or degrees
- \_\_\_ Professional Development documentation (certificates, etc.)
- \_\_\_ DRDP Summary page and/or sample completed DRDP
- \_\_\_ ASQ-3 and/or ASQ-SE completed form and/or summary of children assessed
- \_\_\_ Child Plus Information
- \_\_\_ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

The information from these documents will be used to develop Quality Improvement Plans with my QRIS Quality Counts Coach, and to develop site Tier Ratings. It will be kept confidential and may only be shared with QRIS staff and coaches for the above stated purposes.

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(Family Child Care Provider/Owner or Authorized Staff Member Signature) Date

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(Phone number/email)



## Quality Counts Humboldt Application

I. CONTACT INFORMATION		
Name (First, Last):	Date:	
Personal Mailing Address:	City and Zip Code:	
Phone number(s):	Preferred method of contact	
Home: <span style="margin-left: 150px;">Work:</span>	<input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Text	
Email(s):		
CA Early Childhood Workforce Registry ID Number:		
CA Child Development Permit Level: <input type="checkbox"/> NA if no permit <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant <input type="checkbox"/> Associate <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Master Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Site Supervisor <input type="checkbox"/> Program Director		
Do you have a degree in Child Development or a related field? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Education Level (Please check highest level of education completed and specify subject) <input type="checkbox"/> Less than a High School Diploma <input type="checkbox"/> High School/GED <input type="checkbox"/> AA Degree (Subject: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> BA/BS Degree (Subject: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Degree (Subject: _____)		
Which Grant are you applying for? (Mark only one box)		
<input type="checkbox"/> IMPACT Legacy		
<input type="checkbox"/> Quality Improvement Grant (QIG)		
<input type="checkbox"/> QRIS-CSPP (Centers with State Preschool Programs only)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Workforce Pathways		
II. PROGRAM INFORMATION		
Name of Child Care Program you own or work in:		
Does your program hold a valid License through Community Care Licensing (CCL)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	CCL License Number:	
Please check type of child care you work in ⇒	<input type="checkbox"/> State-funded Licensed Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensed Family Child Care Home (FCCH)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Child Care Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) Child Care
	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Child Care Center	

<b>How many children can be enrolled at your program?</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Infants (birth - 17 months): _____  <input type="checkbox"/> Toddlers (18 months – 35 months): _____  <input type="checkbox"/> Preschoolers (36 months – K): _____	<b>How many children are enrolled now?</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Infants (birth - 17 months): _____  <input type="checkbox"/> Toddlers (18 months – 35 months): _____  <input type="checkbox"/> Preschoolers (36 months – K): _____
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**Does your program have WiFi?**  Yes  No

**How do you plan to access the online database or training?**

iPad/tablet       Desktop/Laptop computer       Phone

Please briefly answer the following questions. *If you add a separate piece of paper, please number your responses to match the question number and label each page with your name and program name.*

**1. Briefly describe your program and program philosophy.**

**2. What do you hope your program will achieve through participation in a QCC Program?**

**3. Describe one or two areas you would like to focus on to improve the quality of your program.**

**III. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

**1. In what language would you prefer services and materials?**

English       Spanish       Other \_\_\_\_\_

**2. What is your primary language of instruction?** \_\_\_\_\_

3. Number of Children with IFSPs \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Children with IEPs \_\_\_\_\_

4. Number of Children in Foster Care \_\_\_\_\_

5. Number of Children receiving an Alternative Payment Program and/or CalWORKs Voucher \_\_\_\_\_

6. Number of Children who are considered homeless \_\_\_\_\_

7. Ethnicity of Children in Care (please indicate how many of each with a number):

Alaska Native/ American Indian	Asian	African American/Black	Hispanic/Latino	Pacific Islander	Caucasian	Multi-racial	Other Please Specify	Unknown

8. Preschool-aged Children's Primary Language (please indicate how many of each):

English	Spanish	Other Please Specify	Unknown

## CERTIFICATION OF APPLICATION

The Applicant Certifies:

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information in this application is true and correct. The application has been authorized by the governing board of the applying Site/Program (if applicable). I understand that any materials created under this grant are public domain and may be used and/or reproduced by the State of California, First 5 California and First 5 Humboldt. I understand that this is a public document and open to public inspection.

Name	Signature <i>(Person authorized to bind this agreement)</i>
Name of Childcare Program	Date

*Funding is limited and there are caps on the number of participants or child care programs that can be funded through each funding stream, as well as parameters for who is eligible to apply. Depending upon the funding available and the number of applicants to a program, your stipend may differ from the estimated amount.*

### **All Program Requirements**

- Licensed programs must be in Good Standing with CCL
- All professional development and documentation must be turned in by May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. No late submissions will be accepted.
- Follow the guidelines and requirements for each grant as they all differ based on programs served, grant requirements and funding available