

QUALITYstarsNY

Budget Categories and Percentage of Total

There are numerous early childhood education programs across the state that are providing high-quality services. Unfortunately, far too many programs lack the financial, professional development, and technical assistance resources needed to provide the level of quality that they would like to provide. As a result, children and families do not receive the full benefits that only a high quality early childhood education program can provide. QUALITYstarsNY has been developed to support program administrators and staff, and family child care providers in meeting program standards that have been shown by the research to lead to positive outcomes for children. It also benefits parents who can become more productive at work knowing that their children are receiving the highest level of care available.

The following chart shows the major components of QUALITYstarsNY and the percentage of funding that has been proposed would be allocated to each component. The figures are based on a budget that was developed two years ago to estimate the cost of full implementation. This budget estimate was developed prior to full-day Prekindergarten expansion and Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships so the estimate needs to be reconfigured in order to account for those new resources being allocated for quality programming.

How would implementation of QUALITYstarsNY help programs and providers?

The chart below shows how QUALITYstarsNY would provide programs and providers with the resources that they need to provide high quality services. More than half of QUALITYstarsNY funding would be allocated to providing programs with the financial resources needed to purchase necessary equipment, and curricula and other learning materials and increase staff compensation. It is proposed that funding would be allocated to programs in three ways: 1) Incentives to make and sustain program improvements - Center-based programs would receive incentives ranging from \$2,500 - \$15,000 and home-based providers would receive \$500 - \$2,000 based on star level. 2) Compensation supplements – Staff of participating center-based programs would be awarded an average compensation supplement of \$500; home-based providers would receive an average supplement of \$100. 3) Incentives to serve at-risk children – Participating programs and providers serving at-risk children would receive additional funding based on the number of at-risk children served, defined as living at or below 100 percent of poverty.

How would implementation of QUALITYstarsNY support increased access to professional development and technical assistance?

Another 33 percent of the funds would be directed at providing professional development and technical assistance designed to support programs and providers to implement their quality improvement plan. CCRRs may position themselves to provide these services by establishing a regional presence for recruitment, coordination, professional development, and technical assistance as proposed in the concept paper describing the role of the Early Care and Learning Council and CCRRs in QUALITYstarsNY. One percent (\$1.1million) of the total funding would be directed toward supporting the Early Care and

Learning Council and the CCRR network to establish this regional presence. How professional development and technical assistance funding is allocated is based on the individualized quality improvement plans of each program.

Budget Category	Percentage of Overall Budget	Amount (figures are rounded and approximate)
Quality Assessment, Monitoring, and Administration	10%	\$10,000,000
Early Care and Learning Council and CCRR Support of QUALITYstarsNY	1%	\$1,100,000
Financial Incentives for Programs and Providers	54%	\$53,000,000
System Evaluation	.4%	\$361,000
Professional Development for program Administrators, Staff and Providers	19%	\$19,400,000
Technical Assistance for Programs and Providers	14%	\$14,300,000
Data Systems (i.e., WELS, Aspire)	2%	\$2,000,000
Total	100%	\$100,000,000
Cost per child		\$250

Note: The estimates above are based on a budget of \$100 million, the cost per child figure varies from \$250 to \$400 based on the amount of funding allocated to QUALITYstarsNY. Due to economies of scale, the cost per child decreases as funding for the system increases.