



Talking Points for IQ4K®

What is IQ4K®:

- Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K) is Iowa's new Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) licensed Child Care Centers and preschools, registered Child Development Homes and programs operating under the authority of an accredited school district or nonpublic school.
- IQ4K provides five levels of quality (building blocks) that programs can achieve and continue to improve on.
- IQ4K is the leading indicator of quality child care using national standards and evidence-based practices that have proven outcomes for kids.
- IQ4K implements Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI), which allows programs to assess their current grade across all areas of programming and devise a structured plan to increase the overall level of program quality.

Benefits of IQ4K®:

- Enhanced best practices in health, safety and nutrition.
- Building family and community partnerships.
- Improved environment for children that creates and provides learning spaces that are welcoming, interactive, diverse and inclusive to everyone.
- Teaching and learning activities are individualized based on the developmental needs of the children.
- Providers participate in additional training/professional development beyond the regulatory requirements.
- Monetary bonus upon achievement of each IQ4K level.
- Higher child care assistance reimbursement rates via a sliding scale.
- Qualifies the program for grants and other funding opportunities.

