

# Environment Rating Scale (ERS) Optional Practice Assessment Pilot Program

Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K) and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISU) are partnering to offer a new, FREE pilot program from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024, where programs can request a practice Environment Rating Scale assessment (ITERS-3, ECERS-3, SACERS-U or FCCERS-3). Practice assessments are completed as ISU Extension and Outreach capacity allows; priority is given to IQ4K Level 5 assessments.



## Purpose

- Gain insight into the assessment process before receiving a formal IQ4K assessment.
- Experience the three hour observation with observer(s) in the caregiving space.
- Receive feedback from ISU Extension and Outreach ERS reliable assessors on selected ERS subscales for goal setting.

**NEW FREE  
PROGRAM**

## Requirements

- For programs who have achieved an IQ4K Level 3 or 4.

## For more information

Contact your regional IQ4K Specialist at Child Care Resources and Referral (CCR&R).

## Next Steps

- Complete *ERS Practice Assessment Intake Form* from the regional IQ4K specialist.
- Request ERS Practice Assessment by submitting intake form within six months of receiving Level 3 or 4 rating to [ers@iastate.edu](mailto:ers@iastate.edu)
- Programs cannot apply for an IQ4K Level 5 until 90 days after the practice assessment is completed.
- ERS assessors may need to contact programs to reschedule practice assessments due to IQ4K Level 5 assessment priorities.

## Observations and Feedback Guidelines

- One-third of center-based classrooms will be randomly selected, including at least one classroom from each ERS age group (ITERS-3, ECERS-3, SACERS-U).
- Three-hour observation (typical day, during the most active part of the day)
- Written feedback provided on three subscales chosen by the administrator/owner prior to the assessment. No average scores or item scores will be provided.
- Written feedback provided to programs and the IQ4K Specialist within 30 days of practice assessment.
- Programs are encouraged to work with their CCR&R Consultant to identify and implement any quality improvements prior to their official ERS assessment for IQ4K.