

Professional Development Sessions Available from the Program Quality Assessment Team

Please select from the following list of professional development (PD) sessions when applying to host an on-site event.

On-Site Program Observation Instrument PD Sessions
<p>A First Look at Program Observation Instruments for Continuous Quality Improvement: This two-hour professional development session is an introduction to the Program Observation Instruments used in Keystone STARS for continuous quality improvement (CQI). Upon completion of the seminar, participants will be able to define the term Program Observation Instrument (POI), identify the types of POIs, and explain the value and the process for selecting POIs that align with their program's quality goals.</p>
<p>Introduction to Self-Assessment: Using Program Observation Instruments (POI) to Inform CQI: This two-hour professional development session explores the key concepts of self-assessment and reviews best practice in completing an effective self-assessment. Small group activities will allow participants to discuss self-assessment practices with their colleagues and reflect on their goals for self-assessment.</p>
<p>ERS: Environment Rating Scale Foundations: This two-hour professional development session is a pre-requisite for the ITERS-R, ECERS-R, or SACERS-U sessions. Participants will learn: how the ERS scales measure quality; how the ERS scales are used in PA; and how to accurately score the ERS. Upon completion of Foundations seminar, participants will be properly prepared for the specific scale PD seminars: 201 ITERS-R; 202 ECERS-R; 203 SACERS-U.</p>
<p>ERS: Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ITERS-R): Pre-requisite ERS Foundations or completion of the online ITERS-R ECERS-R, ECERS-3, or SACERS-U sessions. This two-hour professional development session meets the needs of child care facilities participating in the Keystone STARS child care quality initiative who are preparing to conduct an ITERS self-assessment of their infant/toddler classrooms (Birth-36 months). Participants will learn about the indicators of quality in infant and toddler settings, how the scale measures quality, and how to use the scale as a self-assessment tool.</p>
<p>ERS: Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ECERS-R): Pre-requisite ERS Foundations or completion of the online ITERS-R ECERS-R, ECERS-3, or SACERS-U sessions. This two-hour professional development session meets the needs of child care facilities participating in the Keystone STARS child care quality initiative that are preparing to conduct an ECERS-R self-assessment of their early childhood/kindergarten classrooms (37 months through entrance into 1st grade). Participants will learn about the indicators of quality in early childhood settings, how the scale measures quality, and how to use the scale as a self-assessment tool.</p>
<p>A Strengths Based Approach to Best Practice Using the ECERS, Third Edition (ECERS-3): Pre-requisite ERS Foundations, or completion of the online ITERS-R, ECERS-R, ECERS-3 or SACERS-U. This three-hour professional development session meets the needs of child care facilities participating in the Keystone STARS child care quality initiative that are preparing to conduct an ECERS-3 self-assessment of their early childhood/kindergarten classrooms (37 months through entrance into 1st grade.) Participants will learn about how the ECERS-3 scale reflects developmentally appropriate practice, can be used to support continuous quality improvement, and its role as a self-assessment tool.</p>



ERS: School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale Updated (SACERS-U): Pre-requisite ERS Foundations or completion of the online ITERS-R ECERS-R, ECERS-3 or SACERS-U sessions. This two-hour professional development session meets the needs of child care facilities participating in the Keystone STARS child care quality initiative that are preparing to conduct a SACERS-U self-assessment of their school-age classrooms (younger and older school-age children). Participants will learn about the indicators of quality in school-age settings, how the scale measures quality, and how to use the scale as a self-assessment tool.

ERS: Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale- Revised (FCCERS-R): This three-hour professional development session provides an overview of the FCCERS-R for Family and Group Child Care facilities operating in a residence. Participants will learn about the indicators of quality in mixed age group early childhood settings, how the scale measures quality, and how to use the scale for continuous quality improvement.

Program Administration Scale (PAS) Overview: Assessment of early childhood program quality is generally associated with indicators of the classroom learning environment. Yet the management and leadership practices that promote norms of continuous improvement are critical for achieving and sustaining quality at the classroom level. This session provides a rationale for viewing quality from a broader perspective. Participants are introduced to the Program Administration Scale as a research-based instrument to measure and improve organizational practices. An overview of the instrument and scoring is provided and prepares program leadership for conducting self-assessment using the PAS. Technical assistance and Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC) staff will also find attendance at this event beneficial in supporting programs using the PAS and/or supporting programs in meeting general leadership and management practices.

Business Administration Scale for Family Child Care (BAS) Overview (More Than A Nurturing Heart): Assessment of family child care program quality is generally associated with indicators of the family child care learning environment. Yet the business practices that promote norms of continuous quality improvement are critical for achieving and sustaining quality. This course provides an overview of the Business Administration Scale and will assist the family provider in systematically assessing the business practices in their family child care program and use that data to develop an action plan for program improvement. Technical assistance consultants and ELRC Quality Coaches may also find attendance at this event beneficial in supporting providers using the BAS to implement sound business practices.