



**Quality
Start**
San Bernardino County



Every child in San Bernardino County deserves a quality start!

The first five years of a child's life are extremely important. Research shows that the care and education children receive from birth to age five play a major role in their early brain development.

High quality early learning experiences make a lasting difference—they help prepare children to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. In fact, studies have shown that children who attend high quality early learning programs are more likely to graduate from high school and have successful careers.

Children who have high quality early learning experiences:



Have better critical thinking skills



Cooperate and engage better with others



Do better in reading and math



Are more likely to graduate from high school and attend a four-year college

For more information on quality early learning, visit the Quality Start website at www.qualitystartsb.org.

What does quality look like?

- **Teacher-to-Child Ratios:** More teachers per child mean staff can spend one-on-one time engaging with children.
- **Learning Activities:** High quality learning activities support each child's interests and development, as well as culture and home language.
- **Environment:** High quality learning environments are safe, healthy, and engaging, and promote effective teacher and child interactions.
- **Health and Child Development:** Children's overall well-being, including physical, social, and emotional development, is supported.
- **Staff Training and Education:** Program administrators and teachers are trained in child development and early learning. They have completed relevant college coursework and/or ongoing professional training.

What is Quality Start?

Quality Start San Bernardino County is a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS), a program designed to help child care and preschool programs provide the highest quality early learning experiences possible.

Quality Start San Bernardino County supports quality early learning by establishing standards that define what quality means and looks like for types of early care and education programs, and then measuring programs using these standards.

Parents and caregivers gain tools and resources to find and select a quality early learning program for their child.

Early educators receive resources and professional development opportunities to continuously improve and elevate the quality of the care they provide.

Why Quality Start San Bernardino County?

Partners throughout San Bernardino County came together to develop a local QRIS, Quality Start San Bernardino County, to increase the number of children in San Bernardino County who have access to high quality early learning environments,

Quality Start San Bernardino County is led by First 5 San Bernardino, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, County of San Bernardino Preschool Services Department, Child Care Resource Center, California State University San Bernardino, and many other organizations throughout the county. Each of these partners play a critical and integral role in the design, development, and implementation of Quality Start San Bernardino County.



Learn More, Get Involved

Learn more about this exciting new effort by visiting www.qualitystartsb.org. If you are interested in becoming involved in Quality Start San Bernardino County, contact Victor Hernandez at (909) 252-4264 or victor.hernandez@cfc.sbcounty.gov. We look forward to hearing from you!



Growing Excellence in Early Learning



www.qualitystartsb.org