



License-Exempt Providers and Community Based Programs

Quality Start San Bernardino County, or QSSB, is part of a statewide movement to support the high quality efforts of those providing care, education, and school readiness programs for children ages zero to five. Developed by early learning leaders and community partners, QSSB follows established standards of what quality means and looks like to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early learning environments.

Reaching beyond the scope of more traditional environments like child care centers, licensed family child care, and state preschools, QSSB has extended its work to partner with alternative settings. Alternative settings are license-exempt providers and community based programs like family resource centers, home-visiting programs, libraries, Boys and Girls Clubs and more.

What does Quality Start San Bernardino County mean for your program?

As a program that provides early learning and school readiness services, you understand why high quality matters. You recognize the importance of the first five years and are committed to making sure that the children in your program have the best early learning experiences possible. QSSB is available to support the work you are already doing and introduce opportunities to move you toward even greater levels of quality. Such opportunities include access to relevant trainings, instructional support and mentorship from a QSSB coach, a quality improvement plan based on the needs or goals of your program, networking and more.

QSSB was built to be a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) which means that some participating programs, including state, center, and licensed family child care environments, receive ratings based on state defined standards in three core areas: child development and school readiness, teacher qualifications, and overall program and environment. Alternative environments, are supported according to these standards, or those that apply, but will not receive a program rating. QSSB is also a great resource for parents and caretakers in understanding, choosing and evaluating early care and education programs.

Quality Start San Bernardino is a collaboration of partners invested in the early learning community and the children of San Bernardino County. It is led by First 5 San Bernardino, San Bernardino County of Superintendent of Schools, California State University San Bernardino, and Child Care Resource Center. Join these partners at forums and meetings offered throughout the year to further the critical work of ensuring high quality care for all children.

Yes, Quality Start San Bernardino County benefits you!

QSSB is committed to supporting alternative early childhood environments with resources and information to guide the ongoing quality improvement of your early learning program.

Participants in Quality Start San Bernardino County will receive:

- **Access to Quality Improvement Trainings:** Attend professional development opportunities including, but not limited to, Ages & Stages Questionnaire, California Preschool Instructional Network and Strengthening Families.
- **Quality Improvement Support:** Receive coaching, technical assistance, and resources based on your needs.
- **Quality Improvement Plan:** Build a customized plan with your QSSB coach to guide your quality improvement efforts.
- **Access to a Community of Practice:** Join a peer support network of professionals to connect with those who lead programs similar to yours.
- **Recognition of Your Program:** Signal your commitment to quality. Get featured on QSSB's website and other outreach materials and market your program using the QSSB toolkit.

A program like yours can make all the difference. Children who have high quality early learning experiences in educational and care-based programs are more prepared for school and future success.

Research shows they:



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



All children deserve a quality start.

Enroll in QSSB today and, and join a national movement to increase the number of quality early learning programs for children.

Learn more, get involved!

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Growing Excellence in Early Learning