

**CALIFORNIA RACE TO THE TOP – EARLY LEARNING CHALLENGE (RTT–ELC)  
 QUALITY CONTINUUM FRAMEWORK –RATING MATRIX WITH ELEMENTS AND POINTS FOR CONSORTIA COMMON TIERS 1, 3, AND 4**

ELEMENT	BLOCK (Common Tier 1) Licensed In-Good Standing	2 POINTS	3 POINTS	4 POINTS	5 POINTS
<b>CORE I: CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND SCHOOL READINESS</b>					
1. Child Observation	<input type="checkbox"/> Not required	<input type="checkbox"/> Program uses evidence-based child assessment/observation tool annually that covers all five domains of development	<input type="checkbox"/> Program uses valid and reliable child assessment/ observation tool aligned with CA <i>Foundations &amp; Frameworks</i> <sup>1</sup> twice a year	<input type="checkbox"/> DRDP (minimum twice a year) and results used to inform curriculum planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Program uses DRDP twice a year and uploads into DRDP Tech and results used to inform curriculum planning
2. Developmental and Health Screenings	<input type="checkbox"/> Meets Title 22 Regulations	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Screening Form (Community Care <i>Licensing form LIC 701 "Physician's Report - Child Care Centers" or equivalent</i> ) used at entry, then: 1. Annually OR 2. Ensures vision and hearing screenings are conducted annually	<input type="checkbox"/> Program works with families to ensure screening of all children using a <b>valid and reliable developmental screening tool</b> at entry and as indicated by results thereafter AND <input type="checkbox"/> Meets Criteria from point level 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Program works with families to ensure screening of all children using the <b>ASQ</b> at entry and as indicated by results thereafter AND <input type="checkbox"/> Meets Criteria from point level 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Program works with families to ensure screening of all children using the <b>ASQ &amp; ASQ-SE</b> , if indicated, at entry, then as indicated by results thereafter AND <input type="checkbox"/> Program staff uses children's screening results to make referrals and implement intervention strategies and adaptations as appropriate AND <input type="checkbox"/> Meets Criteria from point level 2
<b>CORE II: TEACHERS AND TEACHING</b>					
3. Minimum Qualifications for Lead Teacher/ Family Child Care Home (FCCH)	<input type="checkbox"/> Meets Title 22 Regulations [Center: 12 units of Early Childhood Education (ECE)/Child Development (CD) FCCH: 15 hours of training on preventive health practices]	<input type="checkbox"/> Center: 24 units of ECE/CD <sup>2</sup> OR Associate Teacher Permit <input type="checkbox"/> FCCH: 12 units of ECE/CD OR Associate Teacher Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> 24 units of ECE/CD + 16 units of General Education OR Teacher Permit AND <input type="checkbox"/> 21 hours professional development (PD) annually	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree (AA/AS) in ECE/CD (or closely related field) OR AA/AS in any field plus 24 units of ECE/CD OR Site Supervisor Permit AND <input type="checkbox"/> 21 hours PD annually	<input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree in ECE/CD (or closely related field) OR BA/BS in any field plus/with 24 units of ECE/CD (or Master's degree in ECE/CD) OR Program Director Permit AND <input type="checkbox"/> 21 hours PD annually
4. Effective Teacher-Child Interactions: CLASS Assessments (*Use tool for appropriate age group as available)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Familiarity with CLASS for appropriate age group as available by one representative from the site	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent CLASS assessment by reliable observer to inform the program's professional development/improvement plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent CLASS assessment by reliable observer with minimum CLASS scores: Pre-K ■ Emotional Support - 5 ■ Instructional Support -3	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent assessment with CLASS with minimum CLASS scores: Pre-K ■ Emotional Support – 5.5 ■ Instructional Support – 3.5 ■ Classroom Organization – 5.5

<sup>1</sup> Approved assessments are: Creative Curriculum GOLD, Early Learning Scale by National Institute of Early Education Research (NIEER), and Brigance Inventory of Early Development III.

<sup>2</sup> For all ECE/CD units, the core 8 are desired but not required.

**Note:** Point values are not indicative of Tiers 1-5 but reflect a range of points that can be earned toward assigning a tier rating (see Total Point Range).

ELEMENT	BLOCK (Common Tier 1) Licensed In-Good Standing	2 POINTS	3 POINTS	4 POINTS	5 POINTS
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Classroom Organization – 5</li> </ul> <b>Toddler</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Emotional &amp; Behavioral Support – 5</li> <li>▪ Engaged Support for Learning – 3.5</li> </ul> <b>Infant</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Responsive Caregiving (RC) – 5.0</li> </ul>	<b>Toddler</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Emotional &amp; Behavioral Support – 5.5</li> <li>▪ Engaged Support for Learning – 4</li> </ul> <b>Infant</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Responsive Caregiving (RC) – 5.5</li> </ul>
<b>CORE III: PROGRAM AND ENVIRONMENT - Administration and Leadership</b>					
<b>5. Ratios and Group Size</b> (Centers Only beyond licensing regulations)	<input type="checkbox"/> Center: Title 22 Regulations <b>Infant</b> Ratio of 1:4 <b>Toddler Option</b> Ratio of 1:6 <b>Preschool</b> Ratio of 1:12 <input type="checkbox"/> FCCH: Title 22 Regulations <i>(excluded from point values in ratio and group size)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Center - Ratio: Group Size  <b>Infant/Toddler</b> – 4:16 <b>Toddler</b> – 3:18 <b>Preschool</b> – 3:36	<input type="checkbox"/> Center - Ratio: Group Size  <b>Infant/Toddler</b> – 3:12 <b>Toddler</b> – 2:12 <b>Preschool</b> – 2:24	<input type="checkbox"/> Center - Ratio: Group Size  <b>Infant/Toddler</b> – 3:12 or 2:8 <b>Toddler</b> – 2:10 <b>Preschool</b> – 3:24 or 2:20	<input type="checkbox"/> Center - Ratio: Group Size  <b>Infant/Toddler</b> – 3:9 or better <b>Toddler</b> – 3:12 or better <b>Preschool</b> – 1:8 ratio and group size of no more than 20
<b>6. Program Environment Rating Scale(s)</b> (Use tool for appropriate setting: ECERS-R, ITERS-R, FCCERS-R)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Familiarity with ERS and every classroom uses ERS as a part of a Quality Improvement Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment on the whole tool. Results used to inform the program's Quality Improvement Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent ERS assessment. All subscales completed and averaged to meet overall score level of 5.0	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent ERS assessment. All subscales completed and averaged to meet overall score level of 5.5 OR Current National Accreditation approved by the California Department of Education
<b>7. Director Qualifications</b> (Centers Only)	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 units ECE/CD+ 3 units management/ administration	<input type="checkbox"/> 24 units ECE/CD + 16 units General Education +/with 3 units management/ administration  <b>OR</b> Master Teacher Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree with 24 units ECE/CD +/with 6 units management/ administration and 2 units supervision <b>OR</b> Site Supervisor Permit <b>AND</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 21 hours PD annually	<input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree with 24 units ECE/CD +/with 8 units management/ administration <b>OR</b> Program Director Permit <b>AND</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 21 hours PD annually	<input type="checkbox"/> Master's degree with 30 units ECE/CD including specialized courses +/with 8 units management/ administration, <b>OR</b> Administrative Credential <b>AND</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 21 hours PD annually
<b>TOTAL POINT RANGES</b>					
<b>Program Type</b>	<b>Common-Tier 1</b>	<b>Local-Tier 2<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Common-Tier 3</b>	<b>Common-Tier 4</b>	<b>Local-Tier 5<sup>4</sup></b>
Centers 7 Elements for 35 points	<b>Blocked</b> (No Point Value) – Must Meet All Elements	<b>Point Range</b> 8 to 19	<b>Point Range</b> 20 to 25	<b>Point Range</b> 26 to 31	<b>Point Range</b> 32 and above
FCCHs 5 Elements for 25 points	<b>Blocked</b> (No Point Value) – Must Meet All Elements	<b>Point Range</b> 6 to 13	<b>Point Range</b> 14 to 17	<b>Point Range</b> 18 to 21	<b>Point Range</b> 22 and above

<sup>3</sup>Local-Tier 2: Local decision if Blocked or Points and if there are additional elements

<sup>4</sup> Local-Tier 5: Local decision if there are additional elements included California Department of Education, February 2014 Updated May 28, 2015; Effective July 1, 2015