



Committed to Quality
Early Learning

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Health and safety compliance is the foundational block for programs for participation in Virginia's Quality Rating and Improvement System (Virginia Quality) and the launching pad for programs striving to achieve higher levels of quality.

Early learning programs must be in good standing with all requirements of their regulating authority. "In good standing" indicates that while there may be noncompliance with one or more standards that represent a minor or minimal risk or violation, compliance clearly and obviously exists with the standards as a whole. In an effort to streamline the application process, and align with and build on existing standards, Virginia Quality staff does not monitor the Level 1 requirements.

Virginia's Health and Safety regulatory system is in place through systems such as the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Child Care Licensing Program, the Virginia Department of Education Virginia Preschool Initiative, Head Start and the VDSS Child Care Subsidy Program.

As of May 1, 2017, programs that are new to Virginia Quality or due to complete the annual update requirements may present one of the following documents to demonstrate health & safety compliance:

1. Current child care license issued by Virginia Department of Social Services – Division of Licensing Programs
2. Current family day care home license issued by Virginia Department of Social Services or a state approved family day system
3. Copy of the Virginia Department of Social Services Subsidy Vendor approval letter
4. Proof of approval and in good standing as a Head Start program
5. Proof of approval and in good standing as a Virginia Preschool Initiative
6. Department of Defense Child Care Center

http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/assistance_providers.cgi