

Oregon's QRIS

Module 1: Introductory Training for Quality Improvement Specialists

Introductions

- What is your name?
- Where do you work?
- What is your role?
- How long have you been in your role?

Module Series

1. Introduction to Spark: Oregon's QRIS
2. Engaging Early Learning Programs in Spark
3. Spark Quality Improvement Phase, part 1
4. Spark Quality Improvement Phase, part 2: Spark Standards
5. Spark Quality Improvement Phase, part 3: The Portfolio
6. Spark Quality Rating Phase
7. Spark Continuous Quality Improvement Phase

Training Logistics

- ✓ Spark website
  - *Training materials*
- ✓ Handouts
  - *Acronym handout*
- ✓ Other logistics
  - *Please type your name in the chat at the beginning and end to receive ORO credit*

Training Objectives

- Participants will understand the components, history and development of Spark
- Participants will review the roles of Spark statewide partners

Icebreaker

- Based on the training objectives, what is the one question that you want to be sure is addressed during today's training.



What is Spark?

Spark: Oregon's QRIS



Spark

Empowering early educators
to inspire children



What do you currently understand about Spark?

Spark is a

Quality

Recognition (formerly Rating)

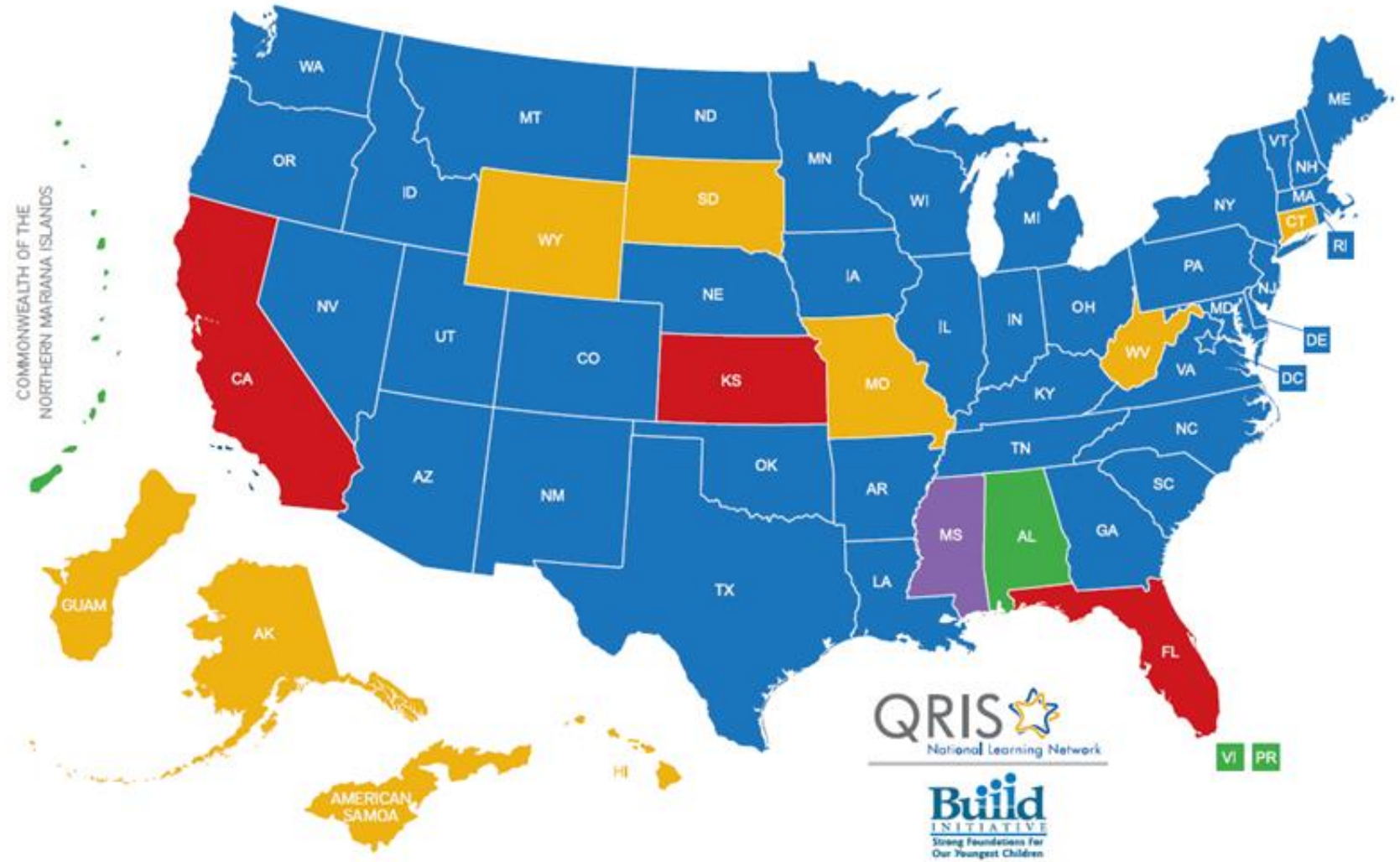
Improvement

System

Increased Quality and Better Outcomes for Children in Oregon

Current Status of QRIS in States

January 2017



www.qrisnetwork.org

Spark Components Phases

- Commitment to Quality Phase
- Quality Improvement Phase
- Quality Rating Phase
- Continuous Quality Improvement Phase

Break



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Discussion

These early educators have expressed curiosity to you about Spark.

- Maribeth Lootens, the Director at Butterfly House, a Certified Center
- Carrie Middleton, a Registered Family program and owner of Carrie's Ducklings Daycare

What do you think they may have heard about Spark, and what are some questions you think they might have?

Spark Standards and Portfolio Development Process

Standards Development Input Sources

- Review of research and best practices on early childhood care and education
- Caring for Our Children Standards
- Research and evaluation from QRISs around the nation
- Cultural and Linguistic Competency Technical Assistance from Build Foundation
- Race to the Top Grant Feedback
- Cost Modeling from national QRIS experts



Standards Development Principles

- Support positive child outcomes linked to school readiness
- "Few and powerful”
- Understandable, relevant, and intuitive
- Measurable and feasible to monitor
- Progressive/distinct among the levels

Portfolio System

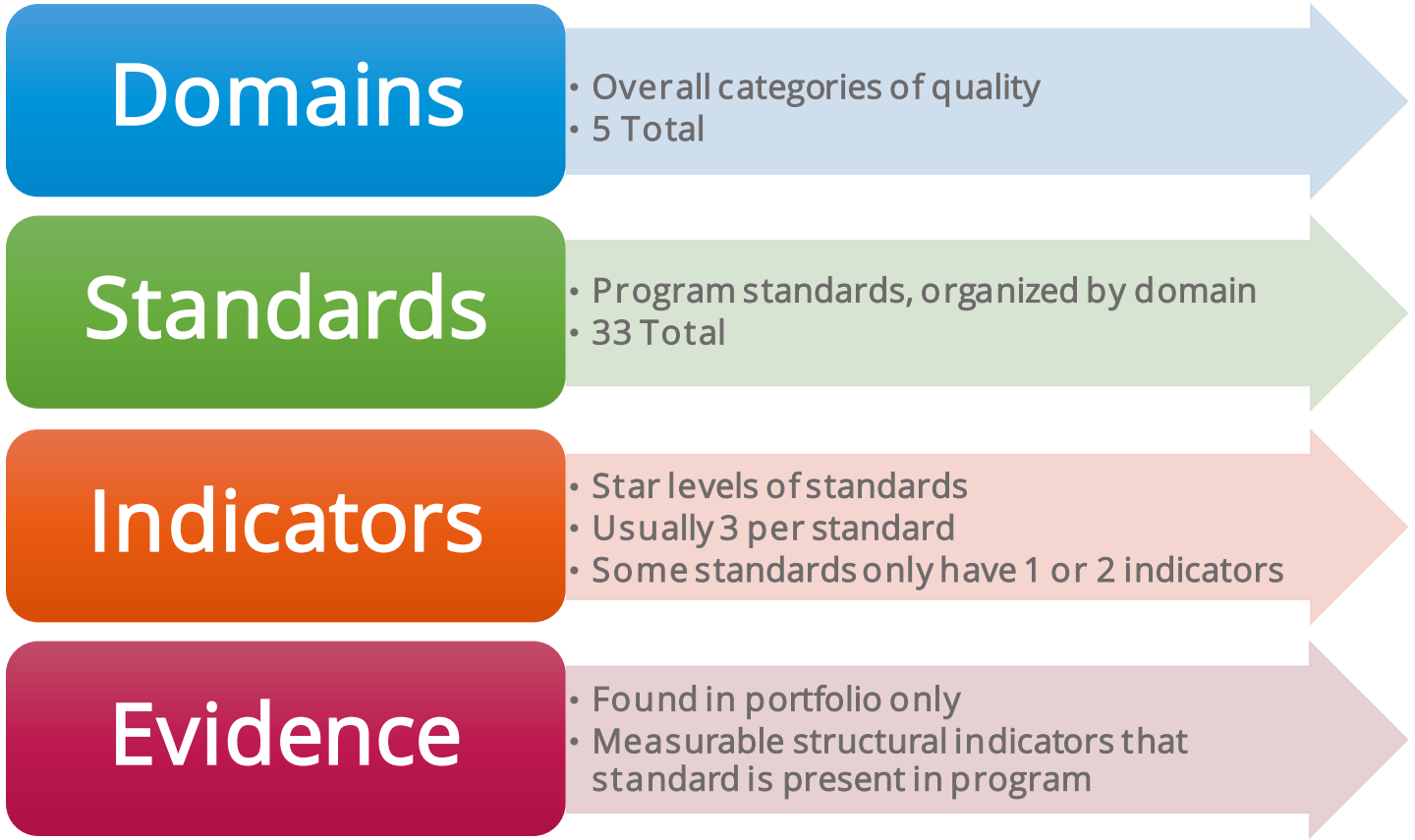
- Balance of evidence
  - Documentation
  - Report
  - Observation
  - Data
- Reviewed by Early Learning Specialists



Spark Domains and Standards

Children's Learning and Development	• 12 standards
Health and Safety	• 6 Standards
Family Partnerships	• 4 Standards
Personnel Qualifications	• 5 Standards
Administration and Business Practices	• 6 Standards

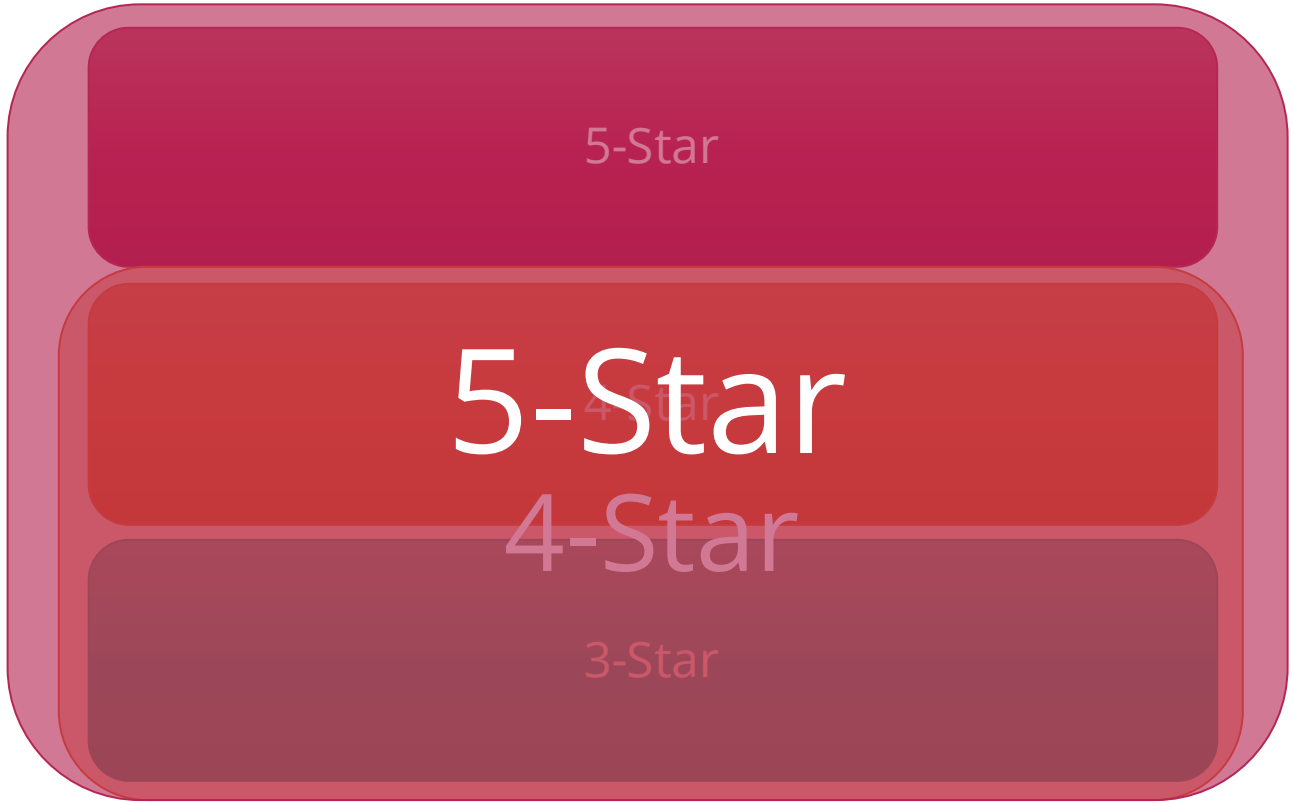
Spark Standards Structure



Spark's 5 Tier Building Block System



Star Level Indicators: Building Block



Other Spark Details

- Spark rating by licensed site
  - Multiple-site portfolio available during Quality Rating Phase
  - Only licensed programs and programs operated by school districts can participate
- Head Start, Oregon Programs of Quality (OPQ) and programs accredited by National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), Association of Christian School International (ACSI) eligible for accelerated process
- Materials available in Russian and Spanish

School District Programs

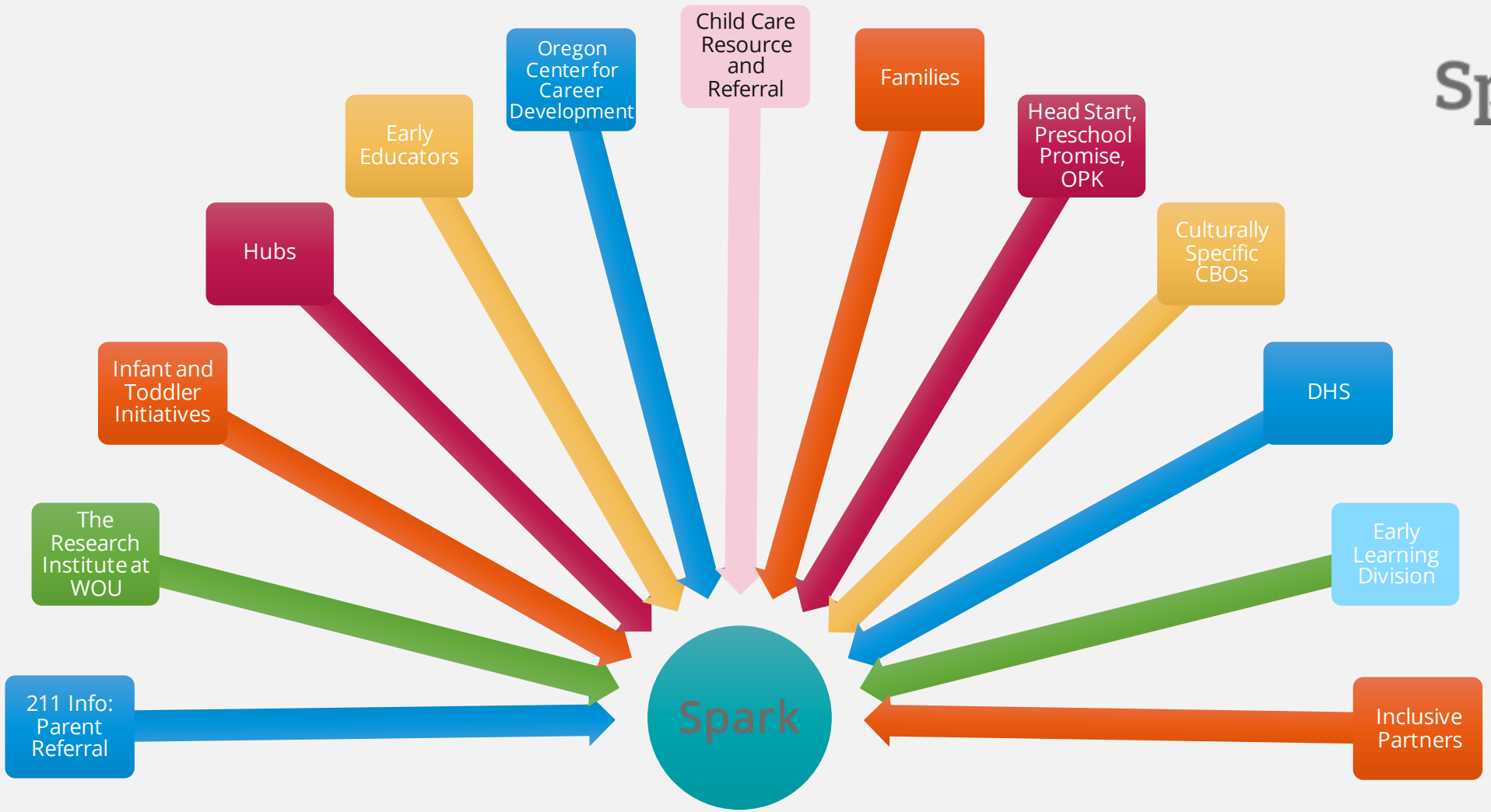
- For programs that are operated by school districts:
  - Office of Child Care does not have authority to license programs run by school districts and Educational Service Districts (ESD)
  - Programs can participate in Spark without being licensed
  - ELD is developing procedures for monitoring health and safety similar to licensing.

Questions and Comments



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Introduction of Spark partners and their roles in relation to Spark


Spark
Child Care Resource and Referral
Oregon Center for Career Development
Families
Early Educators
Head Start, Preschool Promise, OPK
Hubs
Culturally Specific CBOs
Infant and Toddler Initiatives
DHS
The Research Institute at WOU
Early Learning Division
211 Info: Parent Referral
Inclusive Partners

Coordinated System with Key Early Learning Partners

- TRI (The Research Institute)
- OCCD (Oregon Center for Career Development)
- CCR&Rs (Child Care Resource & Referral)
- ELD/OCC (Early Learning Division/Office of Child Care)



Early Learning Division (ELD)

- Early Learning Division provides the funding and leadership for Spark. ELD is responsible for all final decisions related to Spark.

The Research Institute (TRI)

TRI is responsible for the administration of Spark, including:

- Technical Assistance (TA) for Quality Improvement Specialist (QIS) and other early learning system partners
- Processes including supports and incentives, portfolio review, compliance review and rating maintenance

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&Rs)

- CCRR&Ss engage and support programs' participation in Spark within their local communities.

Oregon Center for Career Development (OCCD/ORO)

- OCCD partners with Spark by providing information and TA regarding professional development planning and tracking.



Questions and Comments


Spark
JEOPARDY!

What is Spark

Spark Standards and Portfolio Development Process

Statewide partners and their roles in relation to Spark

Professional Action

Complete the following:

- Explore the Spark website at https://oregonspark.org/
- QIS portal https://oregonspark.org/qis-portal/
  - password: QIS4spark!
- Create an account for the Oregon QRIS Resources Website: https://www.oregonqrisresources.org/utility-pages/log-in/?redirectUrl=/
- Sign up for the Spark Newsletter. Request to be added to the mailing list by emailing qrishelp@wou.edu

Preview Module 2

- Spark eligibility, Welcome Kit, and Self Assessment
- Strategies to support programs planning next steps

Closing

- Final thoughts and questions
  - Evaluation
- Please type your name in the chat