**Maine Roads to Quality (MRTQ)**

Maine’s Early Care and Education Professional Development Network promotes the quality of early care and education by addressing the training and educational needs of all early care and education professionals and recognizing their professionalism through a career lattice.

- Professional development is linked to the quality of care that is provided by the early childhood practitioner.
- Supports for professional development include high quality training, credential support, and a career lattice.
- A central component of efforts to improve the quality of early care and education in Maine.

Contact us at: 1-888-900-0055
Or at [http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/](http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/)

- The Maine Roads to Quality Registry sends the following information to Quality for ME, which uses it to assign a program’s Step on Quality for ME:
  - The names of all staff listed at a particular program
  - A professional’s individual level on the MRTQ Career Lattice
  - Which staff have attended the MRTQ training on Maine’s Early Learning and Development Standards
  - Program accreditation status or Head Start compliance status

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**Quality for ME- Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS)**

Quality for ME is a voluntary system for licensed child care providers to have their quality assessed on a 4-step rating scale.

- To give individuals a simple tool to help recognize and choose quality child care.
- To give Maine child care programs help in improving their quality.
- To help Maine measure how well supports to child care programs are working.
- To join other states across the nation in measuring and supporting quality child care for families.

Contact our staff at the Early Childhood Division, 624-7909

- Once all licensed program staff have registered in Maine Roads to Quality, the program can apply for Quality for ME.
- Based on information submitted in the self-assessment application, a program is assigned a step level in the Quality for ME system
- This step assignment is based on the program’s unique characteristics
- Every step is an important quality measure based on the 8 standards of Early Care and Education in Quality for ME.