

VQB5 Participation Requirements 2024-2025

To prepare all children for kindergarten and in response to state law, Virginia has developed the [Unified Virginia Quality Birth to Five System \(VQB5\)](#) to measure and improve the quality of all publicly-funded birth-to-five classrooms and support families to choose quality programming across program types.

All publicly-funded programs that serve children ages birth to five are required by state law to participate in VQB5.* This includes:	
Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI)	Title I Preschool
Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE or IDEA Part B, Section 619 preschool)	Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF) Mixed Delivery
Head Start/Early Head Start	Federal Department of Defense Military Child Care Fee Assistance (MCCYN)
Virginia's Child Care Subsidy Program (VA CCSP)	Federal Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS)
Local government child care assistance, such as Fairfax's Child Care Assistance and Referral (CCAR) program	

*Programs that do not receive public funding have the option to participate.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS: Publicly-funded sites must complete three activities annually to meet the legislative requirement. Non-publicly-funded sites who opt-in to VQB5 must also complete these activities in order to receive a public quality profile.

- 1. All VQB5 participants are required to use LinkB5 to provide information about their sites, classrooms, teachers, and child enrollment through the completion of various profiles.** This includes using LinkB5 to:
 - a. Complete site, site administrator, educator, and classroom profiles during annual registration, August 15-October 1.
 - b. Enter information about optional use of VDOE-approved curriculum for each classroom by October 1, with the option to update curriculum information by May 31.
 - c. Complete classroom lists by December 22 to better understand the impact of classroom experiences on child outcomes.
- 2. Every eligible classroom must complete two local CLASS® observations, one in the fall and one in the spring, with scores entered in LinkB5.**
 - a. The fall local observation window occurs from August 15 to December 22
 - b. The spring local observation window occurs from January 20 to May 31
- 3. In addition to the two local CLASS® observations coordinated by Ready Regions, all participating sites must participate in external CLASS observations for each age-level served, between August 15 and May 31.**

As a result of participation in VQB5, sites receive:

- ✓ **Strengthened Quality:** Educators and leaders will receive individualized feedback and support, training, and resources to help improve interactions and access to curriculum.
- ✓ **Public Recognition:** Quality profiles will be posted publicly starting in the fall of 2024. All programs will receive a certificate.
- ✓ **Financial Recognition for Child Care and Family Day Home Teachers:** To assist with providing competitive compensation, eligible educators will receive a financial incentive through [RecognizeB5](#).

Publicly-funded sites that do not complete the participation requirements will be out of compliance with the law and may have public funding terminated.

Details about participation requirements and consequences are available in the [2024-2025 VQB5 Guidelines](#). For more information about supports to prepare for VQB5 2024-2025, please contact your local [Ready Region](#).