How can I participate in the RTT-ELC Pilot?

Please go to the Office of Child Care website (www.childcare.lacounty.gov) to download a RTT-ELC Pilot application packet. To request an application via mail, call the Office of Child Care at (213) 974-1188.

Who Developed the RTT-ELC Pilot?

California recently received a highly competitive Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) federal grant to improve the quality of early learning programs and close the achievement gap for vulnerable young children. Over the next three years, California, led by local efforts in 16 counties in collaboration with the California Department of Education, will work together to ensure positive outcomes for the state's infants, toddlers and preschoolers.

Where can I get more information?

Please contact the Los Angeles County Office of Child Care at (213) 974-4103 or on the Web at www.childcare.lacounty.gov .

This project is funded by Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC), a competitive federal grant awarded to California. The California Department of Education, Child Development Division is the lead agency.

Los Angeles County Office of Child Care
222 South Hill Street, 5th Floor Los Angeles, California 90012
Office: (213) 974-4103 www.childcare.lacounty.gov

RTT-ELC Pilot

A Child Care Quality Rating and Improvement System

Information Brochure

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What is the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) Pilot?

RTT-ELC is a new, federally funded child care quality rating and improvement system being piloted in Los Angeles County. RTT-ELC's goal is to close the achievement gap for young children ages birth to five who are **"high needs"** (e.g. low-income, dual language learners, have special needs or are under the supervision of child protective services).

What will the RTT-ELC Pilot do in Los Angeles County?

The Los Angeles County Office of Child Care will use RTT-ELC funds to improve the quality of licensed family child care homes and center-based programs serving high need children. Our goal is to serve up to 175 child care programs by providing quality rating assessments, quality improvement training, coaching and financial incentives.

The end goal of California's RTT-ELC effort is that young children, participate those who are low-income, dual language learners (DLL), or children with disabilities or developmental delays have access to high quality early learning programs so that they thrive in their early learning settings and succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

Who can participate in the RTT-ELC Pilot?

Licensed family child care homes and child development centers that are serving **high needs children** ages birth to five may volunteer to participate in our RTT-ELC Pilot program.

Eligible programs must have a child care license for at least 12 months and must meet the RTT-ELC Pilot's licensing standards. At this time, child care programs participating in the Steps to Excellence Program (STEP) or funded by Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) are not eligible to participate in our RTT-ELC Pilot.

How can the RTT-ELC Pilot benefit my child care program?

Child care programs that choose to participate in our RTT-ELC pilot program will be eligible to receive:

- Grants to help you improve your child care program
- 2 free quality assessments of your child care program (a service valued at $2,000 per visit)
- Coaching and support to help you improve the quality of your child care program (a service valued at $2,300 per year)
- Opportunities to meet and network with child care providers

Our RTT-ELC funding expires on December 31, 2015. Therefore, our services will be offered up until that date.

How does the RTT-ELC Pilot rate child care quality?

The RTT-ELC Pilot examines three core areas of a child care program's operation. These areas are:

Core I –Child Development and School Readiness

Core II –Teachers and Teaching

Core III –Program and Environment

Each participating program will receive a quality rating score after completing an on-site observation. Results will be shared with program staff and promoted on the Office of Child Care's website.