

ExceleRate Illinois Quality Recognition and Improvement System

ITERS-3 Training

July 2025

Communication was previously shared with centers outlining the new plan for ERS training in Illinois. Please refer to the communication shared on 7/14/25. The information below is specific to the ExceleRate Illinois transition to ITERS-3.

1. What will be the requirement for ExceleRate Illinois Standard 1A?

The training requirement for ExceleRate Standard 1A (ERS training) remains the same. The program has met the requirement if the on-site program administrator and 50% of teaching staff have completed former Introduction to ERS training.

If not, the applicable percentage of staff will need to complete the forthcoming **How ERS Works** training. Participation will populate on the staff person's Professional Development Record (PDR), and INCCRRA ExceleRate staff will see that at application time.

2. When will ITERS-3 training be available?

The *Making ITERS-3 Work for You* Zoom webinar will be held in August and September 2025 for all current ExceleRate centers (through the assessment path) to participate. Dates are **8/13/25** and **9/24/25**.

Registration information will be shared with ExceleRate centers in July. Due to the number of programs eligible to participate, we will limit participation to 3 staff per program between the two sessions. *Please remember that the plan is to record the Zoom and post on I-learning for additional staff to complete as their schedules permit.*

3. Are the Scale-specific trainings required for ExceleRate application/renewal?

At this point, Scale-specific trainings are not required for ExceleRate application as they are not readily available yet in Illinois. However, a future requirement of ExceleRate application may be completion of Scale-specific training.

For your program to be successful in the assessment process, staff should complete training specific to the ages they care for. If accessing technical assistance of the CCR&R Quality Specialist (QS) or Infant Toddler Child Care Specialist (ITCCS), staff will need to complete training specific to the Scale used in their classroom. **QS and ITCCS will not do specific Scale training within individual programs.** The consultation agreement that specialists use with programs will be updated and programs will need to self-certify that individual Scale training of some type has occurred prior to a QS or ITCCS working with the program.

Other outside entities have training available online for staff to learn about the individual tools. There are training videos on YouTube or elsewhere on specific Scales that could be helpful for staff. *Please keep in mind that if Illinois requires Scale-specific training as part of the ExceleRate application in the future, these videos will not count, as there is no way to track completion.*

Child Care Education Institute is a Gateways-approved entity that offers ITERS-3 training (and other ERS trainings). www.cceionline.com/catalog/ - search "ITERS-3".

4. Will ITERS-3 be provided?

Current ExceleRate Centers (eligible through the child care assessment path as of June 2025) will receive two copies of the ITERS-3 to get your program started on transition to ITERS-3. INCCRRA will mail to the ExceleRate site contact in July.

Any additional Scales needed are the programs responsibility, as Scales will not be provided moving forward.

It would also be beneficial for the program to have a copy of the All About ITERS-3.

5. Can programs access CCR&R professional development funds/training funds for reimbursement of training completion?

Yes, individuals can apply to the local CCR&R for reimbursement through Individual Professional Development Funds (*for ERS trainings not offered through INCCRRA or NLU*).

6. Can programs access CCR&R funds for reimbursement for purchasing additional Scales?

How ERS Works training will be offered at no cost. Programs should purchase Scales as needed for their program with funds that would have been previously used towards registration cost for ERS training.

A program may request the All About ITERS-3 as part of the CCR&R Quality Improvement Cohort application.



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