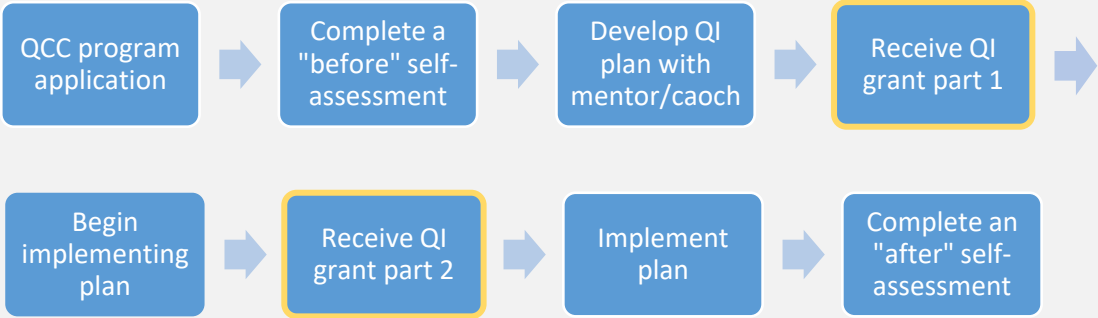
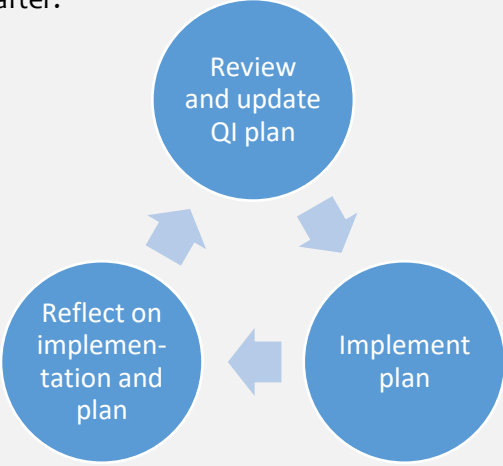


GOAL: Strengthen foundations essential to positive child development and master the key components of quality early care and education: teacher-child interactions, child development, staff qualifications, curriculum, and physical environment.

Participate in one or both	Activities	Incentives
Site-level: Quality Improvement (QI)	<p>Create a safe, clean and enriching environment using the self-assessment tool(s), QCC resources, and developmentally appropriate materials.</p> <p>Year 1 process:</p>  <p>Annual process thereafter:</p> 	<p>Receive a QI grant for environment enhancements. <i>Grant amount is based on need and funding availability, additional incentives may be available.</i></p>
Individual-level: Professional Development (PD)	<p>Strengthen foundations and skills that lead to higher quality interactions with children by participating in professional development (PD) activities. Content may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive teacher-child interactions (CLASS) 	<p>Eligible staff receive a PD stipend upon completion of PD activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See PD Guide for more details.

(recommended for all eligible staff)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental rating scale (ERS) 	
	<p>Annual process:</p> <pre> graph LR A[PD stipend application] --> B[Participate in PD activities] B --> C[Mid-phase check in] C --> D[Complete PD activities] D --> E[] F[Submit PD stipend request application] --> G[Receive PD stipend] style G stroke:#f90,stroke-width:2px </pre> <p>The flowchart illustrates the annual process for PD stipend application and receipt. It consists of two parallel horizontal sequences of steps. The top sequence starts with 'PD stipend application', followed by 'Participate in PD activities', 'Mid-phase check in', and 'Complete PD activities', with arrows indicating a rightward flow. The bottom sequence starts with 'Submit PD stipend request application', followed by 'Receive PD stipend'. The 'Receive PD stipend' box is highlighted with a yellow border. The entire process is contained within a larger box labeled 'Annual process:'.</p>	