



## How to Use the Additional Notes for Clarification

### What is the purpose of the Additional Notes for Clarification?

Additional Notes for Clarification exist for each scale to clarify requirements of the scale items and indicators, and to provide updated guidance for each scale. Quality Rated Assessors use the Additional Notes for Clarification as they conduct observations to inform scoring. Programs can use the Additional Notes to prepare for observations and to enhance program quality through better understanding of the ERS scale requirements.

The ERSI Additional Notes for Clarification are created by the Environmental Rating Scales Institute (ERSI) based on questions from the field and current best practices about child development and classroom methods that support high-quality experiences for children. The Georgia Additional Notes for Clarification are created by Quality Rated to further clarify scale book and/or ERSI Additional Notes, as needed for Quality Rated purposes in Georgia.

### Where can the Additional Notes for Clarification be found?

Both the ERSI Additional Notes and the Georgia Additional Notes can be found on the Quality Rated website at [www.qualityrated.decal.ga.gov](http://www.qualityrated.decal.ga.gov) in the ERS Resources section. The ERSI Additional Notes can also be found on the ERSI website at [www.ersi.info/](http://www.ersi.info/).

### How often should I look for new notes?

ERSI Additional Notes are updated as needed. GA Additional Notes are typically updated every 6-12 months.

### How do I use the Additional Notes for Clarification?

- ✓ Print the ERSI and GA Additional Notes for each scale and refer to them when you use your scale book. Consider them an extension of your scale book. Without them, the guidance found in your scale book is incomplete.
- ✓ The Additional Notes are listed in chronological order by item and indicator number. As you begin working on a new item, refer to both the ERSI and GA Additional Notes to see if there are any notes listed for that item. The most recent notes appear in colored text, but all notes listed within each document are still current.
- ✓ When Additional Notes are listed for an item/indicator, apply the guidance when making quality improvements based on scale requirements.
- ✓ The Additional Notes are the most recent guidance, so if an Additional Note contradicts earlier guidance found in the scale book, the All About ECERS-3, or the All About ITERS-3, follow the guidance in the most recent Additional Notes.

