QR Program Manual Content Changes Summary

This document was created as a resource to help providers quickly recognize updates and additions made to the Quality Rated Program Manual in June 2025.

QR Program Manual: Content Changes

Topic	Update	Notes
Eligibility & Compliance	Programs not in Good Standing can now continue through the QR process but will not receive a rating until they return to Good Standing.	Previously, such programs were blocked from progressing. This change allows preparation for a rating to continue.
Observation Process	Clarified that ERS observations can occur even if a program is not in Good Standing, but ratings are delayed.	Adds flexibility and encourages continuous improvement.
Portfolio Requirements/Scoring	Updated portfolio requirements and scoring breakdown for each standard.	Reflects most current QR portfolio policies.
Rating Validity	Ratings are valid for 3 years, but programs must select a cohort within the expiration year to avoid expiration.	More structured guidance on reassessment timing and cohort windows.
Provisional & Probationary Status	Expanded and clarified eligibility and process for QR Provisional and Probationary Status.	Helps programs maintain CAPS eligibility while working toward or regaining a rating.
CAPS Participation	Programs must be Star Rated, or in Provisional or Probationary Status to participate in CAPS.	Reinforces the link between QR and CAPS funding.
Change of Ownership/Location	Detailed criteria and process for transferring ratings under new ownership or location.	Adds transparency and sets expectations for continuity.
Observation Scheduling	Introduced blackout dates and detailed pre-observation documentation requirements.	Gives providers more control and clarity over scheduling.
Assessment Tools	Updated to use the latest ERS editions (e.g., ITERS-3, ECERS-3, FCCERS-3). Expanded explanation of ERS tools.	Reflects current best practices in quality assessment.
Clarification Process	Formalized the process for requesting clarification on ratings via CCR&R Lead TA.	Ensures structured feedback and transparency.
Declared Disaster Response	Added procedures for extending reassessment windows and rescheduling observations.	Supports providers during emergencies.
Quality Rated Logo Usage	Expanded and clarified branding rules.	Provides instructions on how to properly use QR logos for advertising.

QR Program Manual: New Sections added in 2025

Section Title	Description
4.3 Additional Support Programs and Services	Lists support services for scholarships, incentives, and counseling.
6.2 How the ERS Is Used in Quality Rated	Clarifies scoring and observation policies.
8.1 Quality Rated Requirements for CAPS Participation	Clarifies QR status requirements for CAPS eligibility.
9. Quality Rated Provisional and Probationary Statuses	Covers new pathways for providers to maintain CAPS eligibility while working toward or regaining a rating.
10. Quality Rated Payments	Introduces financial incentives like Commitment 2 Quality (C2Q) and Quality Rated Workforce Bonus (QRWB) payments.
11.1 Registering in the Georgia Professional Development System	Provides step-by-step guidance for GaPDS registration.