

## Workshop Application Overview

The BUILD Initiative and the QRIS National Learning Network are now accepting workshop proposals for *QRIS 2018: Sparking Solutions and Sharing Systems Strategies*. The meeting will be held in San Diego, California from July 16-18, 2018.

Share your wealth of knowledge and experience! Submit your proposal for the conference by December 1, 2017.

**Meeting Theme:** The focus of the meeting will be on a whole child/cross-systems approach that is designed from an equity perspective to meet the needs of each and every child and family. In submitting proposals, consider how QRIS fits into the overall early childhood system and strategies for weaving together early learning, health, and family support as part of an innovative and equitable approach at the program, local, regional and/or state level.

**Meeting Goals:** The goals of this meeting are to provide QRIS and early childhood systems leaders (at the state, regional and local levels) with opportunities to:

- Learn the latest innovations related to QRIS and early childhood systems building;
- Think strategically with peers as to how high quality early learning is interwoven and aligned with other “whole child” needs such as health and developmental screenings, early intervention, support to families, etc.;
- Learn strategies for assuring the QRIS and early childhood systems you are building are one based upon equitable distribution of resources and access to the system;
- Discuss what is needed to create a system that is highly inclusive, promotes equity, and meets the needs of our multi-racial, multi-lingual, multi-cultural population of young children and families;
- Engage with colleagues about supports that help programs improve services and move to a sustainable cycle of continuous quality improvement;
- Consider how best to engage families and to allow their voices to inform the approaches in developing and revising your QRIS and early childhood system;
- Discover evidence-based, cross-sector (e.g., child care, preschool, health, early intervention, early childhood special education) approaches to supporting each child’s learning and development within the context of a QRIS.
- Learn from the latest research and the experience and lessons learned from peers in other states; and
- Discuss cutting-edge ideas and innovations and to think about the “what if” possibilities.

Proposals must be submitted no later than 8 pm ET on December 1, 2017. Applicants will be contacted no later than March 1, 2018 regarding the status of their proposals.

**Key Points to Consider for your Proposal:** Below are some key points to consider prior to submitting a proposal:

Content

- What is important, unique or innovative about the topic that you want to share?
- How does your proposal contribute to the theme of the meeting?
- Every topical session should give at least two points of view or experiences about a topic unless you can show that the work in your state or area of expertise is innovative and justifies a session on its own.
- We want session designs that promote interactivity. Emphasize discussion and not talking heads.
- Reflect on your topic from a racial equity perspective. Does your approach take this into consideration in creating a high-quality system that is for each and every child and responsive to the diversity of their abilities, race, culture and language?
- Does the innovation you are proposing to share take a cross-system or cross-sector approach?

Presenters

- Diversity of presenters is a high priority. Do your proposed presenters include presenters of color?
- If you are considering a panel, don't include too many speakers – 2-3 should be the maximum.
- We seek sessions that incorporate the experience of multiple states. If you are including just one, let us know if you are open to being paired with another state or why you think the one-state story is important to share as a standalone session. Given how many proposals we generally receive, your best chance of success is if you are incorporating a multi-state perspective.
- We offer one free registration per session. All other presenters will need to pay the registration fee to attend. (Persons leading a poster session would not receive a free registration.)
- Diversity of Perspectives – Presentations that offer effective approaches to cross-sector collaboration (e.g., early childhood-early childhood special education, child care-preschool, health-education), within the context of a QRIS, are strongly encouraged.

Other Considerations

- NO products should be "sold" or "marketed" as part of your session.
- Would you like to create a consultancy session in which you share a challenge and work with others to solve or exchange ideas? Submit a separate proposal for a consultancy if that is of interest. For the consultancies, people are asked to sign up for appointments of 30 minutes. Three consultancies of 30 minutes each are arranged in a 90-minute time slot for each consultant.

**Target Audience:** The 2018 meeting will be designed to bring together a range of leaders from the local, state and national levels including state child care administrators, QRIS administrators, Head Start state and local leaders, state and community systems leaders, technical assistance providers and coaches, quality improvement specialists, advocates, evaluators and researchers, funders, and higher education faculty.

**Session Formats/Times:** We are incorporating some different session designs in our format this year. Consider these options as you plan for what you'd like to propose.

- Pre-Conference Session (3.5-hour format) - To be held on July 16 from 8:30-12:00. Participants sign up for these sessions in advance so you know who will be coming and can tailor the session to your participants. Topics for the pre-conference should be ones that require a deeper discussion and be very interactive.
- Hot Topics Session (60-minute discussion format) - Is there a hot topic discussion that you want to lead on a topic that everyone is struggling with these days or should be thinking about and where a quick interactive discussion that you would lead would be helpful for everyone in the group to weigh in on the topic? This is NOT a presentation session. It is a discussion session so think about that if you are proposing a topic you would lead.
- Poster Session (60-minute session) - Do you have an innovative or promising practice that you would like to share in a "poster" session? All poster sessions would be set up simultaneously in a large room with your poster used as a visual to share your approach and gather ideas and feedback. Participants would stop by your poster to ask questions and get details from you as to your innovative or promising practice. These would NOT be full presentations and there would be no audio-visual equipment. Consider a creative way to share your innovation or promising practice. It takes many good ideas and efforts coming together to build a system!
- Intensive Topical Session (2 and 3-hour format) - These sessions allow extra time to focus on a specific topic and assure time for interactive discussion.
- Topical Breakout Session (90-minutes) - These sessions are 90 minutes in length and should be structured to provide research/practice/discussion over the course of this time.
- Role-Alike Sessions (90-minutes) - Participants are asking for more opportunities to talk with their peers in similar positions. If you would like to lead a discussion with a group of peers on a specific topic, choose this approach. This is NOT a presentation. You would facilitate a discussion of your choosing for a group of peers in similar roles and allow them a chance to share what they are struggling with on the topic, lessons learned, successes, etc.
- Consultation Sessions (30-minute time blocks/90 minutes in total for up to 3 consultations) – If you would like to provide short consultations with individuals and small groups, this is the category you should choose. This is NOT a presentation. Individuals/groups will sign up in advance to speak with you. You'll be offering your advice/experience to fit their particular needs. In this proposal, share the expertise that you would like to offer.

## Workshop Application

### 1. Lead Proposal Contact:

**Name:**

**Title:**

**Organization:**

**State:**

**Email Address:**

### 2. Type of Session (select one based upon the type of session you want to offer):

- Pre-Conference Session (3.5-hour format) - To be held on July 16 from 8:30-12:00. Participants sign up for these sessions in advance so you know who will be coming and can tailor the session to your participants. Topics for the pre-conference should be ones that require a deeper discussion and are very interactive.
- Hot Topics Session (60-minute discussion format) - Is there a hot topic discussion that you want to lead on a topic that everyone is struggling with these days or should be thinking about and where a quick interactive discussion that you would lead would be helpful for everyone in the group to weigh in on the topic? This is NOT a presentation session. It is a discussion session so think about that if you are proposing a topic you would lead.
- Poster Session (60-minute session) - Do you have an innovative or promising practice that you would like to share in a "poster" session? All poster sessions would be set up simultaneously in a large room with your poster used as a visual to share your approach and gather ideas and feedback as well. Participants would stop by your poster to ask questions and get details from you as to your innovative or promising practice. These would NOT be full presentations and there would be no audio-visual equipment. (No free registration with this session.)
- Intensive Topical Session (TWO hour format) - These sessions allow extra time to focus on a specific topic and assure time for interactive discussion.
- Intensive Topical Session (THREE hour format) - These sessions allow extra time to focus on a specific topic and assure time for interactive discussion.
- Topical Breakout Session (90-minutes) - These sessions are 90 minutes in length and should be structured to provide research/practice/discussion over the course of this time.
- Role-Alike Sessions (60-minutes) - Participants are asking for more opportunities to talk with their peers in similar positions. If you would like to lead a discussion with a group of peers on a specific topic, choose this approach. This is NOT a presentation. You would facilitate a discussion of your choosing for a group of peers in similar roles and allow them a chance to share what they are struggling with on the topic, lessons learned, successes, etc.
- Consultation Sessions (30-minute time blocks for each appointment – 90 minutes in total for up to 3 consultations) – If you would like to provide short consultations with individuals and small groups, this is the category you should choose. This is NOT a presentation. Individuals/groups will sign up in advance to speak with you. You'll be offering your advice/experience to fit their particular needs. In this proposal, share the expertise that you would like to offer and/or the specific topic of your consultation.

\* 3. Session Title (limit 20 words):

\* 4. Session Description (limit 70 words):

This description will be used in the meeting program. Tailor your description to the type of session you are picking.

PLEASE LIMIT YOUR TEXT OR WE WILL HAVE TO CUT IT OURSELVES.

5. Target Audience - Pick ONE target audience that best fits your proposed session. (We recognize that there are probably multiple audiences that apply but which is the primary target?)

- Child Care State Administrators
- Community Early Childhood Systems Leaders
- Evaluators and Researchers
- Funders
- Head Start Local and State Leaders
- Higher Education Faculty
- National Leaders
- QRIS Administrators
- State Early Childhood Systems Leaders
- Technical Assistance Providers, Coaches, Mentors, Quality Improvement Specialists
- All of the above
- Other

Other (please specify)

6. Level of Expertise - What level of expertise will you target with your session?

- Beginner
- Intermediate
- Advanced
- Researchers/Evaluators Only
- Not Applicable

7. Track Category - Pick the ONE target area that best represents your proposed session. (We recognize that there are probably multiple areas that apply but which is the primary target?)

- Community-Based Approaches - Innovations at the community level to build integrated and aligned systems designed to support young children and families with opportunities for high quality early learning and development.
- Continuous Quality Improvement and Technical Assistance - Strategies for building ongoing quality improvement into the fabric of your early learning system.
- Cross-SECTOR Systems Building - Approaches that integrate pre-K, child care centers/homes, Head Start, public schools, school-age care, etc. into the QRIS.
- Cross-SYSTEM Systems-Building - Integrating health, family support, mental health/social-emotional, child welfare, housing, etc. into a whole child approach to early learning and development for young children.
- Data - Designing, collecting and using data and data systems effectively to achieve your goals, improve practices and drive equitable outcomes
- Equity and Diversity of Race, Culture, Language and Ability - Strategies for assuring children/families have what they need for optimal development including removing barriers to opportunities; and ensuring that resources, barriers and rewards are distributed in ways that remove, and do not exacerbate, inequities.
- Evaluation and Research - Latest evaluation and research strategies to inform QRIS-related and systems building approaches.
- Family Engagement/Family Voice - Approaches that emphasize family engagement as the shared responsibility of families, early education programs, schools and communities to actively promote, support, and sustain family well-being, healthy child development, strong family child relationships and lifelong learning for all children and families. How are you incorporating the voice of families into the development of your early childhood system?
- Financing - Innovative financing strategies for early learning.
- Inclusion - Strategies for increasing the supply and quality of early learning for children with disabilities; cross-agency collaboration that supports children with disabilities and their families; and tools, practices and resources that can support state systems to be more responsive to children of diverse abilities and their families.
- Infants and Toddlers - Approaches to providing high quality early learning, health and development to infants and toddlers and support to their families.
- Leadership Development - Initiatives for building and sustaining a diverse cadre of leaders at the program, community, regional and state levels.
- Policy and Advocacy - Federal, state or local policy and advocacy work to advance QRIS and early childhood systems building. Focus may be on tackling policy and advocacy in a difficult climate; inserting support for early childhood during legislative or gubernatorial races; impacting regulatory, statutory or budgetary decisions; advancing new policies to stop problematic policies; and effective use of coalitions with diverse partners. Have you incorporated a focus on equity in your policy and advocacy approaches?
- QRIS 101 and Revisioning - Priorities for consideration in the development of QRIS; Lessons learned from states in their revisions to QRIS; New strategies as a result of the revisioning; Strategies related to outreach in launching a new or revised QRIS; Capacity, infrastructure and financing; How did an equity lens inform the developmental or revisioning approaches?
- Stakeholder Engagement and Communications - Approaches to engage potential QRIS stakeholders in the development and implementation of the QRIS including families, teachers, directors, service providers, allied professionals in fields such as health or behavioral health, policymakers, business leaders, school district officials, higher education leaders and community members. Did you use an equity lens in your approach?
- Workforce/Professional Development/Training - Strategies to improve workforce compensation, create a more diverse workforce and increase access to higher education opportunities for teachers and directors. Emphasis on professional development that prepares teachers and directors to be more responsive to the racial, cultural and linguistic diversity of the children and families they serve.

8. Track Category - Pick the SECOND target area that best represents your proposed session. (We recognize that there are probably multiple areas that apply but which is the secondary target?) If you feel your session is best in only one track, just skip this question.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Community-Based Approaches                                  | <input type="radio"/> Financing                                   |
| <input type="radio"/> Continuous Quality Improvement and Technical Assistance     | <input type="radio"/> Inclusion                                   |
| <input type="radio"/> Cross-SECTOR Systems Building                               | <input type="radio"/> Infants and Toddlers                        |
| <input type="radio"/> Cross-SYSTEM Systems-Building                               | <input type="radio"/> Leadership Development                      |
| <input type="radio"/> Data  | <input type="radio"/> Policy and Advocacy                         |
| <input type="radio"/> Equity and Diversity of Race, Culture, Language and Ability | <input type="radio"/> QRIS 101 and Revisioning                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Evaluation and Research                                     | <input type="radio"/> Stakeholder Engagement and Communications   |
| <input type="radio"/> Family Engagement/Family Voice                              | <input type="radio"/> Workforce/Professional Development/Training |

9. List the states that will be highlighted in your proposed session. Please note that proposals will be given additional points if they represent multiple examples or states (rather than just one) unless you can make a compelling case as to why your proposed session is better as a stand alone example. NO NEED TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION IF YOU ARE DOING A POSTER, CONSULTATION, HOT TOPICS OR ROLE ALIKE SESSION.

10. If you have not proposed another state to include as part of your session, would you be willing to be paired with a presenter from another state for a combined presentation? (Mark "not applicable" for a consultation, hot topic, role alike or poster session.)

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable
- If there is a state that you would like to be paired with, please note here the name of the state or individual.

11. Does the proposed topic incorporate an emphasis on supporting children/families of color or linguistic or ability diversity?

- Yes
- No

12. Does the proposed topic focus on institutional or structural shifts to assure inclusion of racially diverse providers, children and communities?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable

13. Does the proposed topic focus on inclusion of providers, neighborhoods and communities that were not early adopters of QRIS?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable

## Presenters

**Up to THREE presenters may be listed for the proposed session. Free registration will be provided for one presenter. If your lead contact for the proposal is also a presenter, list their information again in this section so that all presenters are listed together.**

14. We are trying to assure that the speakers at our meeting are of diverse races and representative of the diversity of the children and families being served in the US. To that end, please list below the race of each of your proposed speakers. (Note: Diversity of speakers will be a high priority in decision-making. Consider including someone on your panel that has benefited from the work if that is applicable to your proposal.)

List race of your speakers as American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latino, Two or More Races, White, or Other.

15. If possible, please list the name/affiliation of your proposed co-presenters.

16. What else would it be helpful for us to know about the topic you are proposing? (Limit 300 words.)

## Workshop Application

Thank you for your interest in presenting at the 2018 QRIS National Meeting. We will contact you by March 1st regarding your application.