

# Development of a Measure of Family-Provider Relationship Quality (FPRQ), 2010-2014

## Overview

The goal of the FPRQ project is to develop a new measure to assess the quality of the relationship between families and providers of early care and education for children birth to 5 years of age. The measure will examine this relationship from both the parent and the provider perspectives, and capture important elements of family-provider relationships such as attitudes of respect, commitment, and openness to change and practices such as bi-directional communication, sensitivity, and flexibility. The project aims to develop a measure that is appropriate for use across different types of early care and education settings, including Head Start and Early Head Start programs, center-based child care, pre-k classrooms, and home-based child care. In addition, a high priority of the project is to make the new measure culturally appropriate for diverse populations, including lower-income and higher-income families, ethnically/racially diverse providers and families, and non-English speaking families and providers.

Tasks for the FPRQ project include (1) reviewing literature on family-provider relationships; (2) developing a conceptual model of the key components of family-provider relationships that promote family engagement and lead to better family, child and provider outcomes; (3) reviewing existing measures; (4) consulting with experts in relevant fields on possible content and format of the measure; (5) holding focus groups with parents and providers, developing items, and piloting the measure; (6) development of a final measure for extensive data collection in a variety of care settings; (7) psychometric and cognitive testing to ensure the soundness of the measure; and (8) the development of a sustainability plan regarding training on the measure and production of future editions of the measure as needed.

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## Project Team

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