Design Considerations of the CPQ&R

CPQ&R was developed with the following five primary considerations, as illustrated in 5 Design Considerations of the CPQ&R Calculator:

1. It builds costs around quality standards and benchmarks.
2. It addresses state-, district-, and provider-level activities.
3. It provides a multi-year implementation window.
4. It allows for an unlimited number of side-by-side scenarios.
5. It allows state education agencies and other users to modify and customize the underlying calculations, if necessary, to meet their specific needs.

Total Program Costs produced by the CPQ&R are a function of unit costs and the number of units required to run a program. A unit cost is a simple concept – how much it costs to purchase or employ one unit of labor or capital. Examples of unit costs include annual compensation per teacher, administrative cost per child slot, and curriculum cost per classroom.

Total personnel, the number of classes and classrooms, and the number of facilities are examples of units required to run a program. These units are calculated in the CPQ&R as a function of the total number of children enrolled, annual dosage, class sizes, staff-child ratios, and facility capacity.