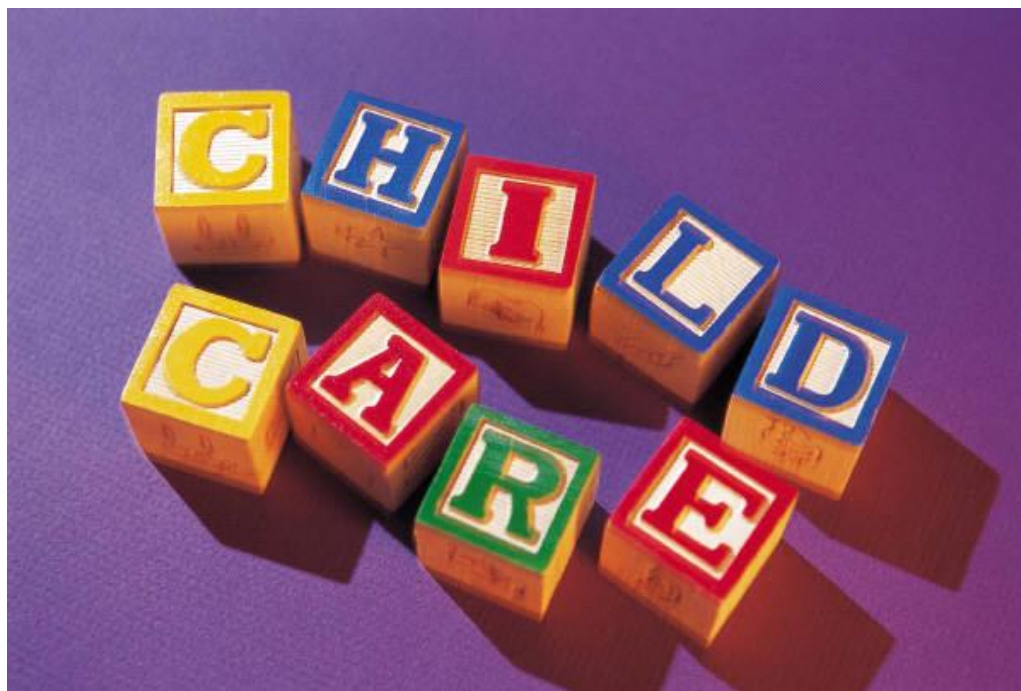


# Volunteers in Child Care Co-operative Programs

Maryland State Department of Education  
Division of Early Childhood Development  
Office of Child Care

## Resource Guide



2012

Replaces Circular Letter #96-08 Volunteers in Child Care Facilities (September 12, 1996)

**Guidance**  
**Volunteers in Child Care Co-operative**  
**Nonpublic Nursery School Programs**

**CO-OPERATIVE CHILD CARE AND NURSERY SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

- A. A co-op child care center or nursery school is an entity governed and operated by an organized group of parents of students currently enrolled in the program.
  
- B. Most co-op programs usually operate on a part-day basis (morning or afternoon sessions). Many operate on a part-week schedule for different age groups (i.e. T/Th for 2-year-olds; M/W/F for 3-year-olds; 5 days/week for 4-year-olds). Co-op programs usually do not offer before and/or after school child care services.
  
- C. For these reasons :
  - 1. Parent Volunteers in co-operative programs may be utilized to meet staff/child ratios.
  
  - 2. Parent Volunteers in co-operative programs are not required to get criminal background checks or child abuse and neglect clearances.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Contact Paula Johnson, Branch Chief, Licensing Branch, Office of Child Care at (410) 569-8071.