

# Office of Child Care (OCC) Advisory Council Branch Update August 18, 2022

## Child Care Scholarship Branch

- Maryland completed their Federal Improper Payment Cycle. The 404 form with the audit results was submitted, received and accepted. Thank you all!
- The Scholarship Branch continues to make manual payments for all stabilization grants awarded to child care providers for Round 2 supplement and Round 3. They are being processed simultaneously.

## Maryland EXCELS and Maryland Accreditation

### State Wide Maryland EXCELS Participation July 2022

- 81% of all license child care centers
- 56% of all registered family child care homes

### Published Quality Ratings by Program Type July 2022

Program Type	Quality Rating 1	Quality Rating 2	Quality Rating 3	Quality Rating 4	Quality Rating 5
Child Care Center	1019	194	492	19	190
Family Child Care Homes	1591	140	320	83	83
Public Prekindergarten				13	126

### Programs Participating in Maryland Accreditation: 632

#### Accredited Programs: 374

- Child Care Centers/School Age Only Programs- 220
- Public Pre-K Centers -154

#### Programs Maryland Accredited Since September 2021: 140

- Programs That Achieved Accreditation For the First Time: 41
- Programs That Achieved Re-Accreditation: 97
- Programs That Received a Decision 2 Prior: 2

#### National Accreditation Support Fund Awards: (September 2021 - Present)

##### 66 Programs Awarded: \$71, 829.90

- National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)- 45 Family Child Care Providers Awarded - \$30,130.00
- National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA)- 2 Programs - \$2,805.00
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)- 2 Programs - \$1,325.00
- Association Montessori International (AMI/USA) - 1 Program - \$1,172.00

#### Maryland Accreditation Support Fund - Reimbursement (September 2021- Present):

- 15 Programs Awarded - \$36,397.90

## Licensing Branch

- Beginning on August 7, 2022, each provider will receive a Licensing Inspection Survey after each licensing inspection. The survey will be sent with the copy of the inspection report. These surveys will rate the provider's experience with their licensing specialist during the inspection.

# Office of Child Care (OCC) Advisory Council

## Branch Update

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- The 5 year fingerprint requirement FAQs were updated with the questions from the June Listening session and sent out last week.
- COVID Guidance- The quarantine requirements in the COVID guidelines were revised to state:
  - Contact Tracing and Quarantine of Close Contacts Universal contact tracing is no longer recommended in schools and child care programs.
  - When a COVID-19 case has been identified in a staff member or a student/child at any COVID-19 Community Level:
    - The staff member with COVID-19 or parents of the student/child with COVID-19 should be encouraged to notify their own/their child's close contacts.
    - Schools and child care programs should provide notification of the COVID-19 case to the school or child care community at the cohort level (e.g. classroom, grade, sports team, bus route, etc.).
    - Staff and students/children who may be close contacts, regardless of their vaccination status, can continue to attend school and child care as long as they remain asymptomatic.
    - Those who can wear a mask should do so for 10 days (day 0 is the last date of exposure).
    - A test at 3-5 days after exposure is recommended, especially for those who cannot wear a mask (ex. children under 2 years of age).
  - Schools and child care programs can refer to Appendix A: MDH/MSDE Guidance for COVID-19 Symptoms, Isolation, and Quarantine for additional guidance.

#### Workforce Advancement Branch

#### Maryland Child Care Credential Program

#### Overview – Blueprint for Maryland's Future Statute: Statute: § 9.5-904

Established in July 2001, the Maryland Child Care Credential is a voluntary quality initiative that recognizes child care providers who go beyond the minimum requirements of State licensing and registration regulations. It is a professional development career pathway. There are seven staff credential levels and four administrator credential levels, each one recognizing a child care provider's achievement of a specified number of education and training clock hours, experience and professional activities recognized as fundamental for providing quality child care programs. Participating providers are required to complete training in six Core of Knowledge areas that have been identified as essential knowledge to develop the skills and practices to provide the best possible care for the children and families they serve. Child care providers who are enrolled in the Credentialing program may receive bonuses ranging from \$200 - \$1500.

#### Credential applications must be sent directly to Child Care Central using one of the following methods:

Child Care Central

- Email: [MCCCredential@conduent.com](mailto:MCCCredential@conduent.com)
- Fax: 410-229-0145
- Mail: Child Care Central, PO Box 598 Baltimore Maryland 21203

For questions pertaining to your credential, please contact Child Care Central: 877-355-1229

Click [here](#) for Maryland Child Care Credential Program Helpful Hints

Credentialed Providers-July 1, 2022 - May 30, 2022

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**Child Care Teachers**

Credential Level	Number of Center Staff
Staff Level 1	595
Staff Level 2	596
Staff Level 3	1652
Staff Level 4	1467
Admin Level 1	162
Staff Level 4+	189
Admin Level 2	23
Staff Level 5	813
Admin Level 3	7
Staff Level 6	1286
Admin Level 4	96
<b>Total</b>	<b>6886</b>

**Family Child Care Providers**

Credential Level	Number of Family Providers
Staff Level 1	36
Staff Level 2	61
Staff Level 3	157
Staff Level 4	198
Admin Level 1	39
Staff Level 4+	91
Admin Level 2	6
Staff Level 5	102
Admin Level 3	1
Staff Level 6	96
Admin Level 4	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>802</b>

**Training Voucher and Reimbursement**

Training Vouchers and Reimbursement are designed to assist child care professionals participating in the Maryland Child Care Credential Program at Level Two or higher with the costs of training for professional development.

**An application for training reimbursement can be submitted for:**

- Approved Core of Knowledge Training (Note: training must be a minimum of 2 clock hours);
- Pre-Service training; or
- Registration at statewide and national child care conferences.

**An application for training voucher can be submitted for:**

- Pre-Service training; or
- Registration at statewide and national child care conferences.

**Eligibility:**

Child care providers participating in the Credential Program at level two or higher are eligible to receive up to \$400 each year as long as funds are available. Requests for training voucher or reimbursement, must not exceed \$400

**How to apply:**

All training Voucher and Reimbursement applications must be submitted via Maryland One Stop. Online Reimbursement Application Form:

<https://onestop.md.gov/forms/msde-application-for-training-reimbursement-6176a948a0c8d4019fc6978d>

Online Voucher Application Form:

<https://onestop.md.gov/forms/msde-training-voucher-608af42b6bce330222afb5ca>

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**Note:**

- Training voucher or reimbursement applications submitted by scan, mail, or fax will not be processed.
- Training voucher or reimbursement applications submitted to Child Care Central will not be forwarded to MSDE and will not be processed.

**Child Development Associate (CDA)**

**MSDE will pay for your CDA!**

Eligible Registered Family Child Care Providers and Licensed Child Care Center Staff can apply to receive funding to cover the cost of the initial and renewal application fees and competency standards books for new applicants. For more information on eligibility, funding and CDA requirements, please visit:

<https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/CDA>

**CDA Funding Data**

<b>CDA Vouchers Issued and Redeemed 2022</b>				
<b>Totals Redeemed as of January 19, 2022</b>				
	<b>Initial</b>	<b>Renewal</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Number of Vouchers Issued</b>	341	71	300	<b>712</b>
	<b>Number Redeemed</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Totals</b>	
<b>Vouchers Redeemed</b>				
Initial Assessment Fee	76	\$425.00	\$32,300.00	
Renewal Fees	17	\$125.00	\$2,125.00	
Publication Order	165	\$33.00	\$5,445.00	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>258</b>		<b>\$39,870.00</b>	

**Child Care Career and Professional Development Fund (CCPDF)**

**Blueprint for Maryland's Future Statute § 9.5-905**

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Established in 2008, the Child Care Career and Professional Development Fund (CCCPDF) is a tuition assistance program for Child Care providers to obtain a college education at participating colleges/universities in Maryland. Funding is available for child care providers to earn a college degree in the following areas:

- Early Childhood Education;
- Child Development;
- Elementary Education; and
- Special Education.

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

CCCPDF applicants must meet the following requirements to receive funds (COMAR 13A.14.09):

- Participate in the Maryland Child Care Credential Program at Level Two or higher;
- Work in a licensed child care center or be a registered family child care provider in Maryland and work at least 10 hours per week;
- Fulfill entrance requirements at the participating college of your choice;
- Have at least one year of documented experience working with groups of children in an approved setting;
- Maintain employment in licensed child care in Maryland while participating in the Program;
- Agree to complete the child care service requirement in Maryland for at least 10 hours per week after completion of the degree (Employment with the public school system does not meet the service requirement); and
- Maintain at least a 2.50 cumulative GPA from the point of first entering the Program.

#### **How to Apply:**

- The deadline for new students to apply for the Child Care Career and Professional Development Fund is March 1st, 2023.