



Child Care Information Session

Maryland State Department of Education

Presented By | Division of Early Childhood

November 30, 2023

Presentation Outline

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Division of Early Childhood Updates
3. Workforce Advancement Branch Updates
4. Questions
5. Closing Remarks



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Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dr. Shayna Cook, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Early Childhood

Welcome to the November Information Session

- Please place your name and organization in the chat.
- Your microphones will be muted throughout today's session.
- Please use the chat box on the bottom menu bar of your screen to submit any questions that you may have during the session.
- Feel free to enter your question during any presentation. We will answer the questions during the Q-and-A portion of today's session.
- Be sure to send your message to all participants to ensure that we can see your message.



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Division of Early Childhood Updates

Opportunities and updates from Early Learning, Licensing, and Child Care Scholarship branches.

Push to Pre-K (1 of 2)

Join Push to Pre-K, an initiative designed to empower child care providers to tap into State prekindergarten grants.

- Elevate Your Program: Position yourself as a provider of high-quality early childhood education.
- Access Funding Opportunities: Uncover financial support through State prekindergarten grants.
- Build a Strong Team: Learn the strategies to assembling a qualified and dedicated staff that meet the grant requirements.
- Increase Quality Standards: Implement best practices to meet and exceed Pre-K program expectations.

No commitment or sign-up required! Attend any session or listen to any recording to learn more about the Pre-K grant application components.

Push to Pre-K (2 of 2)

Topics Covered:

- Maryland EXCELS Participation (Recording available)
- Licensing Requirements – Dec. 13, 2023 1:00-2:00pm
- Educational Program Components - Jan. 24, 2024 1:00-2:30pm
- High-Quality Pre-K Definition - Jan. 24, 2024 1:00-2:30pm
- Finding Qualified Staff - Jan. 24, 2024 1:00-2:30pm
- Grant Writing - Feb. 7, 2024 1:00-2:00pm

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



UNLOCK PRE-K GRANTS WITH SUPPORT

Are you a child care provider looking to access State prekindergarten grants?

Do you want expert guidance and assistance to meet grant requirements?

Look no further! **PUSH TO PRE-K** is for you.

We've created **PUSH TO PRE-K** to empower child care providers with the tools they need to tap into State prekindergarten grants.

As a participant, you'll receive invaluable technical assistance and unwavering support in understanding Pre-K grant requirements. We'll cover a range of essential topics, including:

- Licensing Requirements
- Maryland EXCELS Participation
- Components of an Educational Program
- Defining High-Quality Pre-K
- Finding Qualified Staff Members
- Grant Writing Tips

We're committed to your success, and our experts are ready to walk you through every step of the process. Join **PUSH TO PRE-K** to take your child care program to the next level!

SCAN ME



 earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/pushtoprek


Health and Safety Training Update

3 STEPS TO

Accessing the Basic Health and Safety Annual Update 2023

1

Access the MSDE eConnect Canvas Welcome Page and click on the **Educator Resources** button.



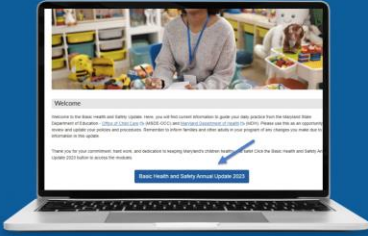
2

Click on the **Early Childhood Modules** button.



3

Click on the **Basic Health and Safety Annual Update 2023** button.



The training update is **FREE** and registration is not required.

The training must be completed by March 31, 2024. All family child care providers and child care center staff are required to complete this annual update. Upon completion of the course, individuals will be awarded 1.5 hours of continued training.

Staff hired during December 2023 only need to complete the 3-hour Basic Health and Safety training by March 31, 2024.

Upon successful completion of the training, the system will produce a “Certificate of Participation”. Please download and save the certificate.

Please save it to your device, email it to yourself, or print multiple copies in case you need another copy. The Division of Early Childhood will not keep copies of your certificate on file.

Child Care Provider Portal (1 of 3)

Effective November 20, 2023:

- All child care providers with families enrolled in the Child Care Scholarship Program are required to have an account in the Child Care Provider Portal.
- MSDE no longer accepts paper invoices, attendance, or scholarship enrollment requests. All of these processes must be completed electronically using the Child Care Provider Portal.

This Portal supports the provider by:

- Simplifying payments and invoice history within the Portal to initiate timely payment.
- Enabling electronic processing of scholarships.
- Improving communication and customer service with automatic notifications of next steps.

<https://provider.childcareportals.org>

Child Care Provider Portal (2 of 3)

Instructions for how to create a portal account are available at money4childcare.com

CONTACT CCS CENTRAL 2

CCS Central 2 Office Hours:
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Need help in your home language? Call
CCS Central 2 at 877-227-0125 and
ask for a Translator.

**Families - Submit applications online
at:**

<https://family.childcareportals.org>

For questions about your Child Care
Scholarship application or payments,
complete the form below:

**Families - Child Care Scholarship
Customer Inquiry**

CCS Central 2 - 1-877-227-0125

[Download Contact Info](#)

Child Care Provider Portal:

<https://provider.childcareportals.org>

Submit invoices to:

Portal:
<https://provider.childcareportals.org>

[How to register for the Portal \(video\)](#)



How to Register for a Provider Portal Account

STEP ONE: Submit Registration Details

1. Click Register for a New Account



2. Complete the User Registration Form to include the following information. All fields marked with a red asterisk* are required. You should also complete any non-required fields that apply to you. **NOTE:** The information marked as required helps us accurately locate your records in our systems.

- **First Name** (Required)
- **Middle Name** (Optional)
- **Last Name** (Required)
- **Date of Birth** (Required)
- **Gender** (Required)
- **Email** (Required)
- **Verify Email** (Required)
- **Phone Number** (Required)
- **Preferred Language** (Required)



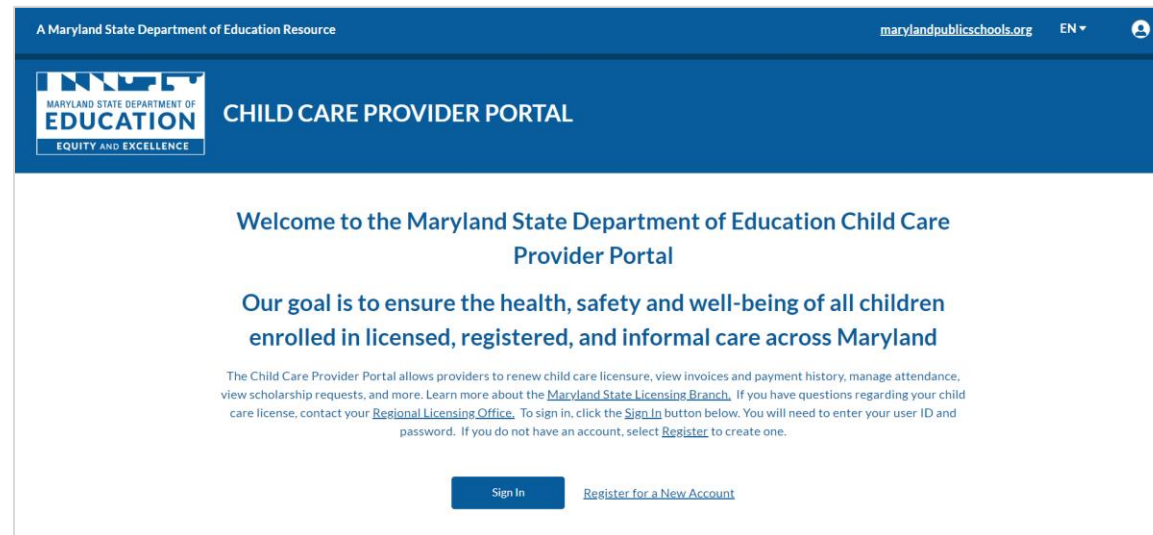
Child Care Provider Portal (3 of 3)

Provider Portal Helpdesk

Monday - Friday 8AM - 5:00 PM

Email: ProviderPortal.MSDE@maryland.gov

Call: 410-650-5937





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Workforce Advancement

Sharing the latest updates regarding professional development programs within the Workforce Advancement Branch.

Maryland Child Care Credential Program

What's new?

- All Maryland Child Care Credential applications will be submitted via Maryland OneStop. Additional information will be coming soon!
- Credential applications are currently being processed within 24 hours of receipt.

As of September 30, 2023, participation in the Maryland Child Care Credential Program includes:

- 9,893 providers

Applications are currently being processed within 24 hours of receipt, but the process can be delayed for the following reasons:

- Multiple Party IDs in Child Care Administration Tracking System (CCATS)
- Applicant not associated with the center listed on the application
- Training submitted is not approved in CCATS
- Applications require additional information

Maryland Child Care Credential Program

Helpful hints for submitting an application to the Credential Program:

- Read the Child Care Credential Program booklet prior to submitting your application. (Please note that the email address listed in the booklet is incorrect and will be updated in the next publication. The correct email address is mcccredential@conduent.com.)
- An application form must be completed for first-time applicants, renewal of credentials within 30 days of your expiration date, upgrade to a higher level within your credential year, and to update/reactivate your credential when your expiration date has passed.
- Write legibly.
- Send all required documentation with your application.
- Processing time can take up to 30 days once a complete application is received.
- If information or documentation is missing, a letter will be sent to the email address provided on your application.
- When emailing Child Care Central with questions, please include your legal first and last name (as submitted on your application), Party ID, and date of birth.
- For assistance completing your application, you can reach out to your local Child Care Resource Center, or your Maryland EXCELS Quality Assurance Specialist.

Training Voucher and Reimbursement

During FY2023, participation in the Training Voucher/Reimbursement Program included:

- 367 providers approved for a training voucher, totaling **\$128,422**.
- 696 providers approved for training reimbursement, totaling **\$135,707.37**.

Helpful hints for quick processing of Training Voucher and Reimbursement submissions:

- Be sure that the attachments are legible, otherwise the application will not be processed.

Child Care Career and Professional Development Fund

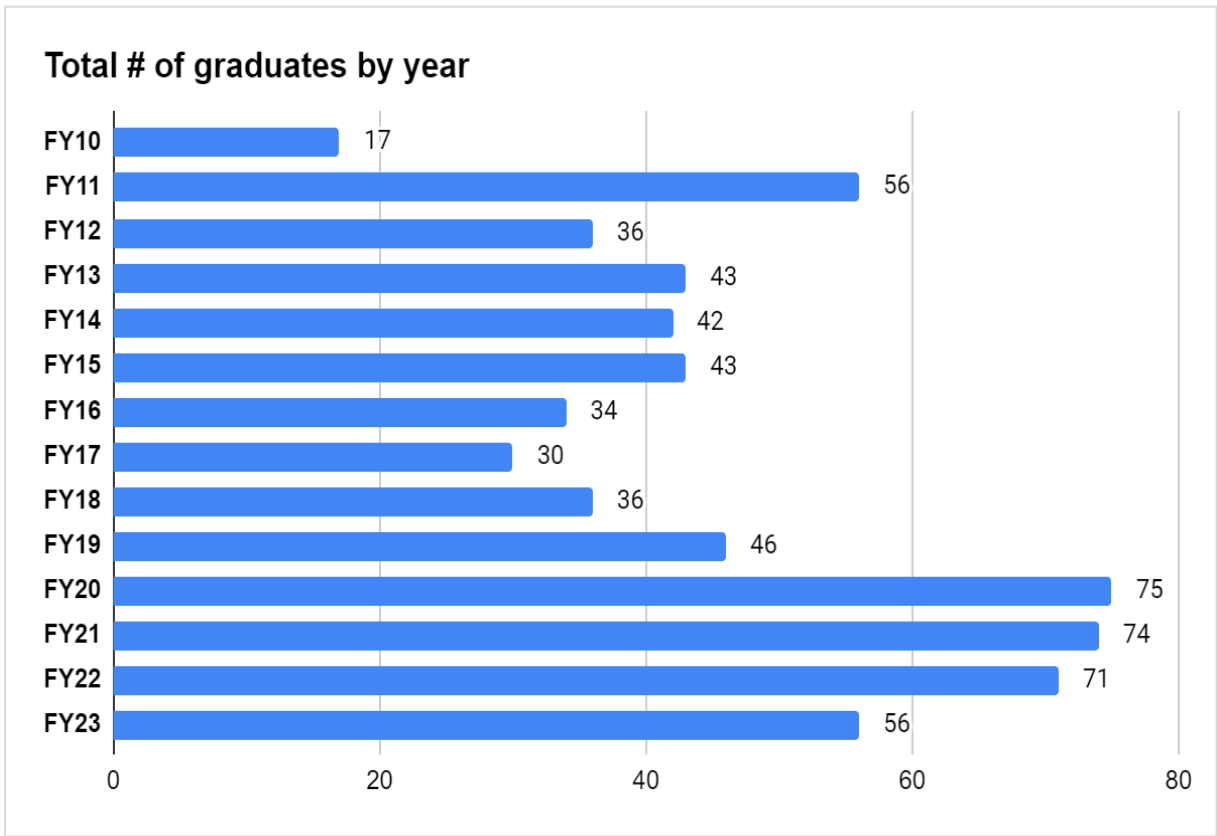
FY2023 Updates

- The Workforce Advancement Branch celebrates **56** graduates who participated in the Child Care Career and Professional Development Fund.
 - 32 early childhood educators received an Associate degree
 - 24 early childhood educators received a Bachelor's degree
 - 19 early childhood educators are eligible for ECE certification

FY2024 Student Enrollment

- A total of **381** early childhood educators are enrolled in a degree or certification program.

Child Care Career and Professional Development Fund



Total # of Graduates FY2010 - FY2023: 659

- FY2010 marked the beginning of the program with only 17 graduates, the lowest in the program's history.
- The greatest change in graduation numbers, when the number more than tripled, occurred in FY2011 when students matriculated from the 2-year program to a 4-year program.
- The number of graduates declined in FY2012 and remained below the FY2011 number through FY2019.
- The number of graduates increased in FY2020 (the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic) to its highest level of 75 participants.
- Though there were slight decreases in FY2021 and FY2022, and FY2023, the number of graduates remained significantly higher than the pre-pandemic levels.

Child Care Apprenticeship

- Harford Community College launched the first registered child care apprenticeship program in Maryland.
- The program currently serves 37 apprentices in Cohorts 1 and 2.
- The apprenticeship program is open to all child care providers that work in Maryland.
- For more information, please visit Harford Community College's webpage for the program:
<https://www.harford.edu/academics/workforce-career-programs/child-care-apprenticeship.php>

Child Development Associate (CDA)[®] Training Bundle

The Training Bundle is at no cost to participants. Training options are available for CDA[®] candidates and renewal applicants.

Included in the bundle are:

- Initial Online Assessment Fee
- Renewal Online Application Fee
- The CDA[®] National Credentialing Program and CDA[®] Competency Standards book for one of the following settings:
 - Infant-Toddler
 - Preschool
 - Family Child Care
- 120-Hours Initial Training Bundle for first-time CDA candidate who have not completed the Maryland 90-hour training
- 30-hour Bridge Training Bundle for first-time CDA candidates who have completed the Maryland 90-hour training
- 45-hour Renewal Training Bundle for CDA renewal applicants

To learn more about the program and to apply for it, visit
marylandfamilynetwork.org/providers-cda.

45-Hour Zero to Three Critical Competencies for Infant Toddler Educators

Alternative to the 45-hour Infant Toddler curriculum requirement.

- Training is available at no cost.
- Training numbers to date:
 - 485 child care providers currently trained
 - 11 cohorts in progress with 246 participants
 - Four cohorts scheduled to begin in January 2024

Visit <https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/criticalcompetencies> to locate and contact a trainer, or search the Maryland Child Care Training Calendar at <https://trainingcalendar.marylandfamilynetwork.org/Search>

WIDA – Supporting Maryland’s Multilingual Learners

Training is available at no cost.

Eight modules providing resources and strategies to support young multilingual learners and their families.

Training numbers to date:

- 912 providers trained in at least two modules

Visit <https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/wida> to contact a trainer or search the Maryland Child Care Training Calendar at <https://trainingcalendar.marylandfamilynetwork.org/Search>



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Questions



Questions?

Contact Information

Branch/Office	Contact Information
Division of Early Childhood	earlychildhood.msde@maryland.gov
Early Learning Branch	early.learningbranchesmsde@maryland.gov
Collaboration and Program Improvement Branch	collaboration.programimprovement@maryland.gov
Office of Child Care	earlychildhood.msde@maryland.gov
Licensing Branch	licensingocc.msde@maryland.gov
Workforce Advancement Branch	workforceadvancementocc.msde@maryland.gov 1-877-355-1229
Child Care Scholarship Program	CCSCentral2@maryland.gov 1-877-227-0125
Maryland EXCELS	info@marylandexcels.org or marylandexcels.org
Recordings are available at: https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/office-child-care	



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Closing Remarks

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