OFFICE OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Division of Early Childhood

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | September 29, 2022

Presented By | MSDE Division of Early Childhood Staff

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. Maryland Rebuilds
3. Child Care Scholarship Program
4. Questions and Answers
5. Closing Remarks

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Deann Collins

BLUEPRINT FOR MARYLAND'S FUTURE

Deputy Superintendent of
Teaching and Learning

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Maryland Rebuilds
- Child Care Scholarship Program Updates
- Questions and Answers
- Closing Remarks

Interacting With the Panelist

- Submit your question in the Q&A box on the upper right-hand side of your screen

- Select All Participants
  - Type in your question

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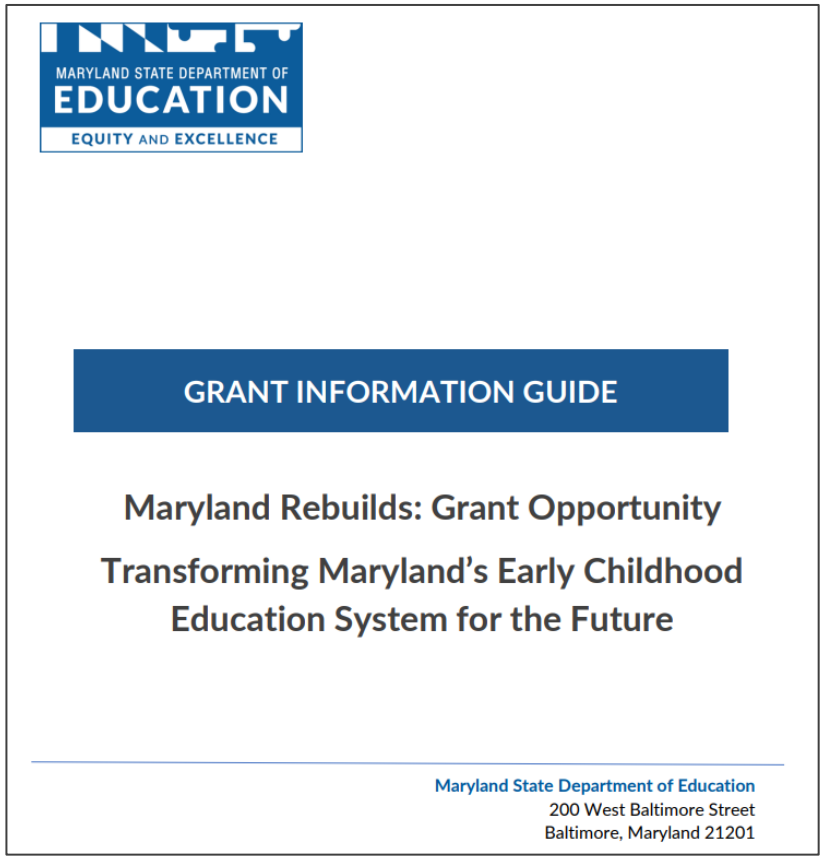
Maryland Rebuilds

An overview and what it means for the child care community

Overview of Maryland Rebuilds

Maryland Rebuilds is a Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) grant initiative **designed to support the state's child care system** in utilizing federal funds to stabilize, strengthen, and sustain the child care system and **mitigate the impact from the COVID-19 pandemic** through Six targeted High-Leverage Strategies.

Maryland Rebuilds **addresses systemic issues in the child care system** so that **all children have an equitable start in learning**, including our most vulnerable children: children with disabilities, multilingual children, children experiencing homelessness, and children from low-income families.



Six High-Leverage Strategies and Key Expectations

Expanding Access to Quality Child Care

- Create an early childhood **regional technical assistance** center(s) for families.
- Develop a regional **outreach and support program** to increase child care provider participation in and advancement within the Maryland EXCELS system.

Early Learning Models of Excellence

MSDE will select **16 child care sites** to provide opportunities for observation, professional learning, and development of resources to enhance the quality of other programs in the following ways:

- Participate in the Maryland Models of Excellence network
- Train and support other providers/programs to identify potential partners
- Demonstrate effective implementation of the Maryland early learning standards
- Share data demonstrating improved learning outcomes
- Be open to serving the provider/program/public prekindergarten community in a collaborative way

Six High-Leverage Strategies and Key Expectations

Expanding Mental Health Supports and Services

Through one of the following three focus areas, applicants will:

- **Coordinate with state and/or local partners** (Judy Centers, ECACs, LITPs) to develop a plan to connect families to mental health support services.
- Develop a **statewide social-emotional development curriculum** that aligns with the Pyramid Model Framework and the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (SEFEL), and the Early Learning Social Emotional Standards.
- Coordinate with state and/or local partners to develop a cohort of child care providers, early childhood education teachers, and support staff for the **prevention and response to challenging behaviors in young children** using evidence-based practices and trauma-informed care.

Six High-Leverage Strategies and Key Expectations

Growing a Highly-Effective Child Care Workforce

Applicants will **design and launch** child care apprenticeship programs and other innovative initiatives to grow the pipeline of family home child care providers, and other support staff.

Boosting Family Child Care

- **Develop and implement an incubator** that supports individuals who want to start up their own family child care business.
- Design and launch a **Shared Services Alliance** that benefits from the economies of scale of the State's more than 7,000 providers.
- Launch programs that support early childhood educators in **obtaining a Child Development Associate (CDA) Credentials, Associate's and/or Bachelor's degrees**.

Six High-Leverage Strategies and Key Expectations

Advancing a Coordinated Prekindergarten Enrollment System

Applicants will design a **coordinated prekindergarten** enrollment system, **strengthen the participation** of private providers through parent choice, and **support alignment** of the birth to age 8 early childhood system. All 7 focus areas listed in the Grant Information Guide must be addressed.

Key Details

Deadline

PDF Applications are due no later than 11:59 p.m. on October 18, 2022, to the MD Rebuilds email. *(Application deadline was extended from October 10, 2022)*

Grant Period

Award Announcement - November 10, 2022

December 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024

Total Funding Available

$43 million

Estimated number of Grants

40-55

Information Sessions

September 3 - October 5, 2022 (Attendance to sessions or attestation of viewing session recordings is required for application)

Funding Guidelines

Funds May Be Used For	Funds May Not Be Used For
• Salaries and wages • Instructional Materials • Marketing Tools • Translation Services • Consulting and Technical Assistance • Supplies and materials	• Capital improvements • Cost(s) incurred prior to the approval of the grant

Awardees will first spend funds during the grant implementation period and periodically invoice MSDE according to the approved project timeline. MSDE requires that all supporting documentation for submitted invoices be available upon request.

For entities expending federal funds of $750,000 or more in a single fiscal year a copy of the most recent Single Audit Report is required with the grant application.

Updates

- Internal MSDE review teams have been established; applications will first be pre-screened.
- The Rebuilds team has received over 150 emails, held 15 individual sessions, 4 General Information Sessions (1 in Spanish and English) and 12 strategy specific sessions.
- Two upcoming strategy Q&A sessions on October 5th, focused on strategies 1-3 in session one & strategies 4-6 in session two.
- Grant information guide is translated into 10 languages.
- While potential applicants are noted in our presentation, we welcome applicants from all organization types.
- The rebuilds team provides technical assistance but not specific proposal guidance.
- Average attendance: General Information Sessions (200), Strategy Specific Sessions (100)

Notable Questions

- Do I qualify?
- Who are partners, and what does a partnership look like?
- Can this grant be used to build a child care center or purchase a trailer?
- What are child care deserts?
- Will funding be extended beyond June 30, 2024?
- How many awards will be issued, and can we apply outside of the anticipated award amount?
- Can we apply even though we have other grant funding from MSDE?
- How much indirect cost is allowed?
- Will grant funds be distributed evenly?

Maryland Rebuilds Team Contact Information

Dr. Kisha Lee
ECE Systems Director
410-767-0342

Andre Murray
Program Manager
410-767-0583

Nicholas Miller
Program Specialist
410-767-7814

Email
marylandrebuilds.msde@maryland.gov

Website
https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/MDRebuilds

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Child Care Scholarship Program

News and Updates

Updates

1. Customer Service and Case Management:
   - CCS Central 2 Daily Program Data
     - September 15, 2022
     - September 28, 2022

2. Parent Portal:
   - Where we are now and what's to come

3. How to contact CCS Central2:
   - The best and fastest ways to get help
   - money4childcare.com
   - Provider and Parent links

Updates

One Day Program Data – September 15, 2022

Case Management	Customer Service	Invoice Processing
• Scholarships returned for processing – 1,690 • New Applications received - 665 • Scholarship Extension Form – 119 • Missing Documentation - 144	• Live Calls – 1,184 • Provider Inquiry Link - 56 • Parent Inquiry Link - 66	• Invoices submitted for the Service Period of August 29 - September 11, 2022 – 2,316 • Scholarships requiring processing – 2,856

One Day Program Data – September 28, 2022

Case Management	Customer Service	Invoice Processing
• Scholarships returned for processing - 949 • New Applications received - 399 • Scholarship Extension Form – 85 • Missing Documentation - 16	• Live Calls - 1,301 • Provider Inquiry Link - 73 • Parent Inquiry Link - 106	• Invoices submitted for the Service Period of September 12 - September 25, 2022 - 2,364 • Scholarships requiring processing – 1,359

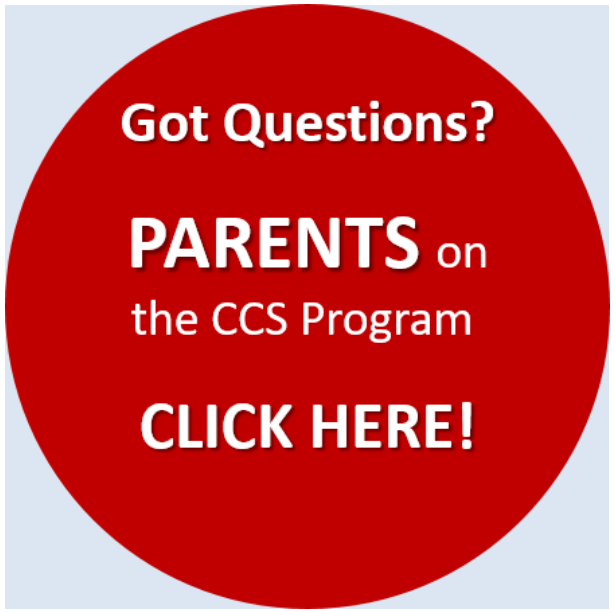
Updates

Family Child Care Portal	Program and Policy Updates

• Currently in User Acceptance Testing
• Parent testing will start in late October 2022
• Release 1 is expected in early 2023 and will include:
  • Homepage (for instructions)
  • Registration
  • Submission of Initial and Redetermination Applications
  • FAQ responses
	• Initial Income Eligibility Scale increased to 75% of State Median Income:
	  • Family 2 - $61,222
	  • Family 3 - $75,627
	  • Family 4 - $90,033
	  • Family 5 - $104,438
	• Scholarship reimbursement increased up to the 70th percentile of the Market Rate Survey
	• Assigned Co-Payments are capped based on the authorization of the Child Care Scholarship:
	  • 3-Unit - $3.00
	  • 2-Unit - $2.00
	  • 1-Unit - $1.00
	  • Zero Co-pay – 12 categories
	  • Removal of child support as an eligibility requirements
	• Approved activities increased to include:
	  • Graduate
	  • Professional school

Contacting CCS Central 2

"Use the Link", in any web (Internet) browser go to: money4childcare.com. Scroll and then "Tap" (or Click on a computer) the large round red button for PARENTS with questions, or the large round red button for PROVIDERS with questions.



Do You Have Child Care Scholarship Questions?

Don't have time to call? USE THE LINK!
Have a question or concern but unable to call during business hours? USE THE LINK!

The **BEST** way for customers and providers to ask questions about the Child Care Scholarship program is to **use the QR code** below **or click on the link** provided and submit your questions to CCS Central 2.

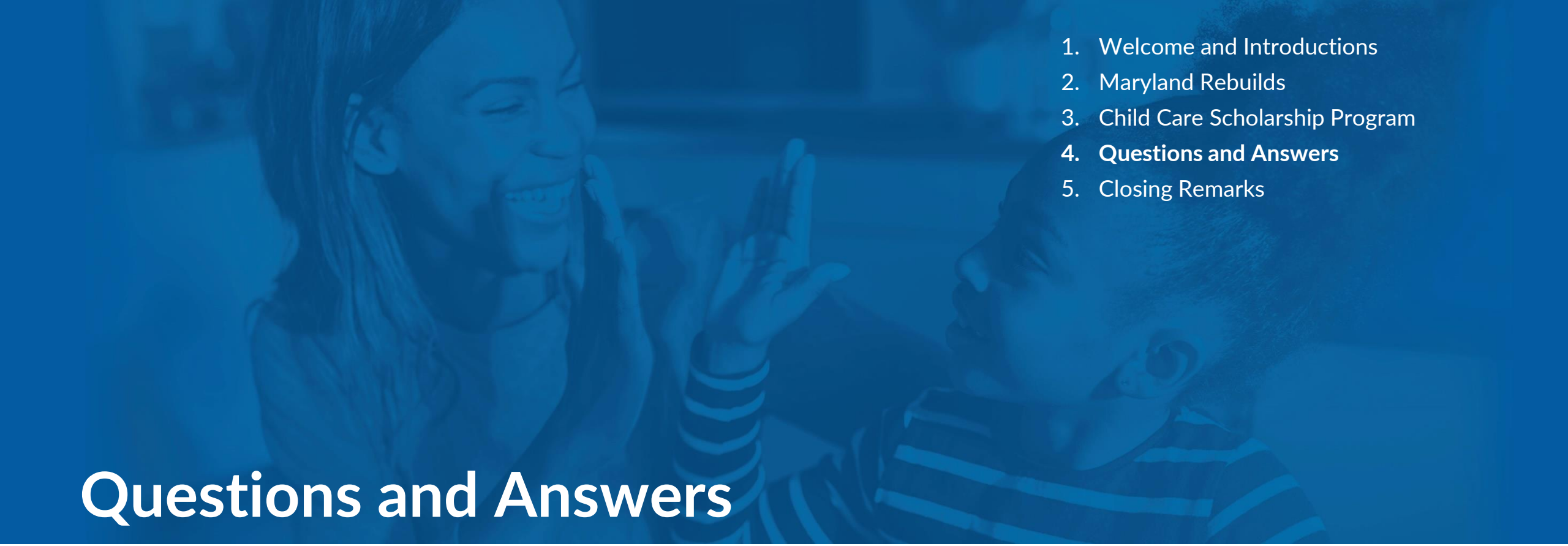
**Use this link to get a quicker response for your questions and/or concerns.*

Use your phone to **scan the QR code** below to access the Money4childcare.com website **or click on the link** provided.
There are two links available to submit questions, one for customers and one for providers.

Customer Link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScSUapLuOHlrcJfrHjO2p6XXLJYAEShAlGFMGNBuSfzmLS0Kg/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0

Provider Link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfR-ebYMMObvz0DbgjYDLYKH-jeV2HLuFGPO_8dXYx3VTjbug/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0

NOTE: If you do not see a timely response received via email, please make sure to check your Spam folder prior to alerting CCS Central 2.



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Questions and Answers

Questions?

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Closing Remarks

Office/Division/ Departments share

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