

May 29, 2024

Dear Maryland Child Care Providers,

We hope this message finds you well. We have an important update regarding the Maryland Child Care Credential program and the Training Vouchers and Reimbursements program. As you know, both programs have been funded since 2000. Unfortunately, at the end of the Legislative Session, the program was not funded for FY 2025, which begins July 1, 2024.

Due to a lack of continued funding, effective **June 30, 2024**, the Maryland State Department of Education will stop accepting applications. Additionally, bonuses for credentialing or reimbursements for training (or training vouchers) will not be available after this date.

Programs participating in Maryland EXCELS will be able to maintain current quality ratings and achieve increased quality ratings without current Maryland Child Care Credentials.

We invite you to join us for virtual [information sessions](#) scheduled for:

- June 5, 2024, 11:30 AM
- June 12, 2024, 11:00 AM
- June 21, 2024, 2:00 PM
- June 25, 2024, 6:00 PM

During these sessions, we will share updates and discuss how best to strengthen the program in the future.

Additionally, to address your questions, we are developing a list of FAQs, which will soon be available on our website. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email us at earlychildhood.msde@maryland.gov or call us at 410-767-1664 between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm and someone will be able to assist you.

Thank you for your understanding and continued dedication to providing quality care to the children of Maryland. We look forward to working with you to create a stronger and more sustainable credentialing program.

Sincerely,



Dr. Shayna Cook
Assistant State Superintendent