

# Maryland EXCELS

The state's quality rating and improvement system for child care and early education programs

## Purpose

- Help licensed child care centers, family child care homes, and Public PreK increase their quality of child care and early education, with assistance from regional Quality Assurance Specialists.
  - Assists families with finding high quality child care and early education.

## Mission

- Connect with Maryland families and child care programs at various community events, professional conferences, via social media, email and direct marketing to educate about the importance of high-quality care.

## Background

- A branch of the Office of Child Care, Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood.
  - Consists of over 4,700 participating child care programs committed to high quality — which is more than 50% of all Maryland licensed programs.
  - Participation is free and voluntary, but required for Child Care Scholarship (Subsidy).

## Connect

- MarylandEXCELS.org, featuring the Maryland EXCELS child care search tool
- Quality Finder mobile app (download free from Apple and Android) @MarylandEXCELS (Facebook and Twitter)

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