

OUR MISSION

We want all children in Montgomery County to have equal access to high-quality early care and education and after-school programming. Our mission is to build a successful and knowledgeable child care workforce through professional development and individualized support.

ACHIEVING SUCCESS

Montgomery County is committed to supporting the child care community. All registered family child care providers and child care center staff who are working at least 20 hours a week in a full-day, licensed child care program in Montgomery County and who have a Maryland Child Care Credential are eligible to participate in the Quality Enhancement Awards.



“Pursuing a college degree allows individuals to have better career opportunities than those without a degree . I am excited to be the lead teacher in our preschool program, and look forward to taking our center to the next level...accreditation!”

Preschool Teacher



Montgomery
County Child
Care Resource &
Referral Center

Quality Enhancement Awards

Se habla español

Montgomery County Child Care Resource & Referral Center

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Professional growth is a personal journey.

It's time to take the next step in your professional journey. By doing so, you clearly demonstrate your commitment and expertise level to parents as well as potentially increase your future earnings as you become eligible for higher incentives and bonuses in the MD Child Care Credential Program. In addition, obtaining a CDA, Early Childhood Degree or pursuing program accreditation can help you earn a higher ranking in the Maryland EXCELS Program, which is a tool parents use to evaluate the quality of a program.

The Montgomery County Child Care Resource & Referral Center through its Quality Enhancement Awards has scholarships and reimbursements available to help you take your career to the next level at little or no cost to you. In addition, mentors are available at no cost to help you achieve your goal.



CHOOSE YOUR PATH TO PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

The Child Development Associate

The CDA is a nationally recognized professional credential awarded to child care providers who demonstrate a high level of training and expertise and meet the developmental, emotional and educational needs of children from birth to age five.

Obtaining a CDA is a multi-step process that includes successfully creating a professional portfolio, being observed with the children, completing a written exam, and having parents of the children in the program submit feedback about the program and the provider's skills. Child care providers will have access to a peer mentor to guide the process as well as funds to cover the expense of the process:

- Coursework Requirements (\$500)
- CDA Assessment Fee (\$425)
- CDA Renewal Fee (\$100)

Early Childhood Degree from Montgomery College

More and more positions require education beyond high school. Getting a college education is an investment that will pay back for a lifetime. People with a college education have better job opportunities, earn more money, and develop skills that can never be taken away. Our scholarship fund will help pay for your Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education at Montgomery College. The award will cover \$600 for a three-credit course or \$800 for a five-credit approved course as well as student fees at Montgomery College for the spring and fall semester.

Evaluation of Foreign Credentials

Universities and colleges that admit students with educational credentials/backgrounds from outside of the U.S.A. require that those educational credentials be evaluated in order to convert foreign educational credentials to equivalent U.S. semester credits and courses. The County will pay a one-time maximum of \$200 per applicant if the applicant uses one of the MSDE approved evaluating agencies and all required supporting paperwork and the application are submitted and approved.

Program Accreditation

Accreditation is the highest quality indicator for a child care program in the areas of environment, developmental learning activities, safety and health, professional and business practices and relationships. We will reimburse the costs for accreditation fees and materials. The Award covers:

- **NAFCC** reimbursement of \$950 (one adult) or \$1,050 (2 adults) per program for fees and/or materials, as well as a maximum of \$220 for annual renewal fees or materials to maintain standards.
- **MSDE**: up to \$1500 materials reimbursement with completion of program improvement plan.
- **NAEYC** and **NAA** are reimbursed at a maximum of \$1500 per year for fees and materials.

Learn more:

Email:

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Visit:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcccrrc

Inquiries:

240-777-1457



@MCCCRRC