

Maryland EXCELS Video

Tip 2

Transcript and Video Description

[Music]

TIP 2: INTERVIEWING CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

MARYLAND EXCELS

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Narrator: Once you make a list of possible Maryland EXCELS child care providers from the Find a Program directory, it's time to narrow your choices. A great way to start is with phone interviews. Schedule time to speak with each provider. These calls will help you find out more about the provider and what each program has to offer. Before you get on the phone, think about what you're going to ask.

TOPICS FOR PHONE INTERVIEWS:

- PROGRAM HOURS
- COST AND DUE DATES
- NUMBER OF CHILDREN
- AGES OF CHILDREN
- PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND
- CURRICULUM

Narrator: Some questions may include:

What time do you open and close?

How much do you charge and when are payments due?

How many children are in your program and what are their ages?

What is your professional background and what requirements are in place for other teachers or assistants?

Narrator: Do you follow a curriculum? If so, which one?

WHAT MAKES YOUR PROGRAM HIGH QUALITY?

Narrator: What do you think makes your child care program high-quality?

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM...

- ENGAGE CHILDREN
- SPARK IMAGINATIONS
- SUPPORT UNIQUE NEEDS

Narrator: This last question gives the provider an opportunity to share how they stand out— what they do to engage children, spark their imaginations and support their unique needs.

SAFE AND HEALTHY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Narrator: Throughout this process, remember that you are looking for someone to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for *your* child.

YOU SHOULD FEEL CONFIDENT YOUR CHILD WILL THRIVE

Narrator: You should feel the provider’s passion for nurturing children’s hearts and minds at all stages of development. The right provider will give you confidence that your child will thrive in their care.

VISIT

MARYLANDEXCELS.ORG

SEARCH “CHILD CARE TIPS”

Narrator: Visit Maryland EXCELS[dot]org [slash] and search child care tips for other helpful interview questions. After your phone interviews, it’s time to visit programs in person. Find out how to make your visits successful by watching video number three.

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OFFICE OF CHILD CARE

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