

MARYLAND EXCELS

Choosing Quality Child Care with Maryland EXCELS

Highlights of Each Quality Rating



Basic Health and Safety Training



At least 45 hours of training



At least 90 hours of training + 1 year of work experience or college coursework



At least 135 hours of training and 2 years of work experience



Program is accredited or staff are pursuing a college degree



Activities support your child's individual needs



Activities are guided by and early learning curriculum



Activities reflect children's interests, home language, and culture



Families are included in planning activities that reflect their traditions and cultures



Children's learning and developmental progress are routinely assessed



Family-provider conferences are offered



Materials are age-appropriate and supportive of all abilities



Program provides healthy meals and snacks



A State-approved curriculum is used to support healthy child development



Lesson plans are culturally competent and based on children's assessments



Children are redirected to positive choices



Children are provided with clear rules and expectations



Children are encouraged to reflect and problem solve



Children have input in creating rules and expectations



Learning and play opportunities are expanded by rotating materials



A family handbook, written agreement, or contract is provided



Family engagement events are offered



Children are supported through transitions to home and school



Program uses community resources like libraries and parks



Program demonstrates commitment to improvement through accreditation