

MARYLAND EXCELS

ADDITIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Maryland EXCELS recognizes child care and public prekindergarten programs that provide services *over and above* those outlined in the standards. Programs that attain these additional achievements will be acknowledged on the **Find a Program** portal and **Quality Finder** mobile App.

For more information on how to achieve these recognitions, please see below.



Asthma Friendly Child Care: Asthma is one of the most common chronic diseases of childhood. This program is designed to address environmental controls and asthma management and education. Becoming an Asthma Friendly Child Care site can be used as Professional Activity Units (PAUs) for child care center staff (1 unit), director (2 units), and family child care providers (2 units).

Contact: Rachel Hess-Mutinda, Asthma Program Coordinator
rachel.hess-mutinda@maryland.gov, 410-767-2196



Cultural and Linguistic Competency: Culture influences all aspects of a child's development and frames their experiences of early learning. When an early childhood or school-age program accepts "the legitimacy of children's home language, respects the home culture, and promotes and encourages the active involvement and support of all families including extended and nontraditional family units," it is exhibiting cultural and linguistic competence. (NAEYC, 1995)

Programs can achieve the Cultural and Linguistic Competency Achievement by:

- Reviewing the *Pathways to Cultural Competence Programs* at tinyurl.com/clcchecklist, and then
- Downloading and completing the "Guidance and Documentation Form for Using the Pathways to Cultural Competence Checklist for Programs" at tinyurl.com/clcdocform.

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Health and Wellness: The early years set the stage for healthy life-long habits. Making a commitment to serve healthy foods and promoting physical activity have a positive impact on child development.

Programs can achieve the Health and Wellness Achievement by participating in at least one of the initiatives below:

- **Let's Move! Child Care**
healthykidshealthyfuture.org
- **Nutrition & Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (NAP SACC)**
gonapsacc.org
- **Healthy Howard** (for programs in Howard County)
healthyhowardmd.org/healthy-howard/healthy-childcare



Program Administration Scale (PAS)/Business Administration Scale (BAS): In addition to providing quality child care and early education, successful programs have sound business practices and strong organizational structure. Program Administrators who complete the PAS (for centers) or BAS (for family child care) trainings are eligible for 2 Professional Activity Units (PAUs) for the participating director, staff, or family child care provider. **For more information on PAS/BAS, visit:** tinyurl.com/mdccpasbas.

Contact: Audrey R. Smith
audrey.smith@maryland.gov, 410-332-0816

Maryland EXCELS programs may contact the Quality Assurance Specialist (QAS) in their area for more information on applying for program improvement grants to attain these Additional Achievements.

Find a QAS contact list online at: tinyurl.com/QAScontact

Visit MarylandEXCELS.org for more information

