February 2013
Maryland EXCELS: Recognition of Additional Achievements

Maryland EXCELS recognizes child care and public prekindergarten programs that provide services over and above those outlined in the standards. Programs that select these additional recognitions will be acknowledged on the Maryland EXCELS Parent Portal and Maryland EXCELS Mobile App (currently in development).

For more information on how to achieve these recognitions, please see the contact information 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 at rachel.hess-mutinda@maryland.gov or call 410-767-2196

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 Recognition by participating in at least one of the initiatives below:
- Let’s Move! Child Care Quiz and Action Plan: http://www.healthykidshealthyfuture.org/
- Nutrition & Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (NAP SACC) http://www.napsacc.org/
• **Healthy Howard** (for child care centers, family providers, and nursery schools in Howard County): [http://www.healthyhowardmd.org/healthy-howard/healthy-childcare](http://www.healthyhowardmd.org/healthy-howard/healthy-childcare)

**Program Administration Scale (PAS)/Business Administration Scale (BAS):** In addition to providing quality child care, successful programs have sound business practices and strong organizational structure. Program Administrators who complete the PAS or BAS trainings are eligible for 2 Professional Activity Units (PAUs) for the participating director, staff, or family child care provider and potential monetary awards. For information on PAS/BAS, visit: [http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/)

**More Additional Recognition(s) may be available soon.**

Providers who are participating in Maryland EXCELS and need assistance to achieve these Recognitions will be able to apply for grant funds to make certain program improvements.

*Maryland EXCELS Field test participants: Please email proof of completion directly to your Program Coordinator.*

Visit the Maryland EXCELS Website for more information [www.marylandexcels.org](http://www.marylandexcels.org).