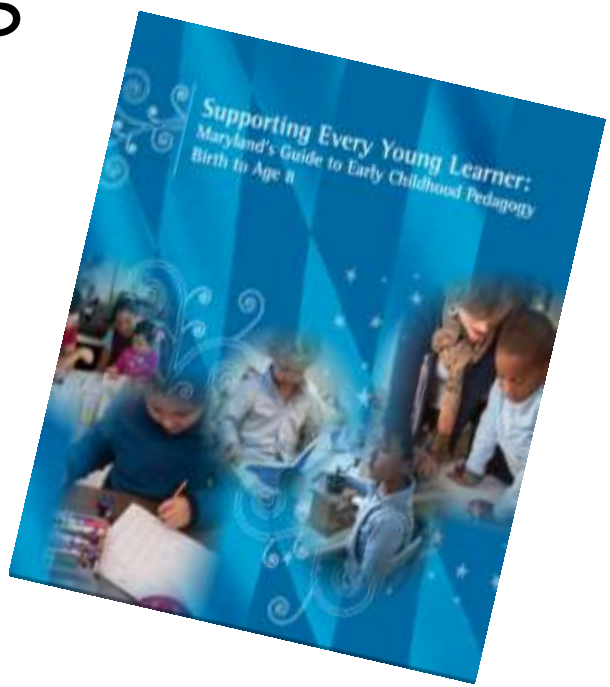
MSDE Updates

April 2016

Maryland State Department of Education
PREPARING WORLD CLASS STUDENTS

Race to The Top – Early Learning Challenge

- Wrapping – up and Transition
  - Project 2 – Maryland EXCELS
  - Project 4 – Early Learning Standards
    - Completion of *Supporting Every Young Learner: Maryland's Guide to Early Childhood Pedagogy (Birth to Age 8)*



*Available on the MSDE/DECD Home page in the Resource Library

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Preparing World Class Students

Race to The Top – Early Learning Challenge

- Project 6 – Kindergarten Readiness Assessment – Ready for Kindergarten (R4K)
  - Administered to all children entering Kindergarten (2014-15 and 2015-16 school years)
  - Modified based on feedback from teachers after year 1 to simplify administration and reduce the number of items
  - SB 794/HB 657 - Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Assessments – Administration
    - Limits administration - a representative sample - unless
      - A principal and teacher are in mutual agreement, or County Board decides to administer countywide
        - ✓ The assessment must be completed before October 1; and
        - ✓ The results are available within 45 days.

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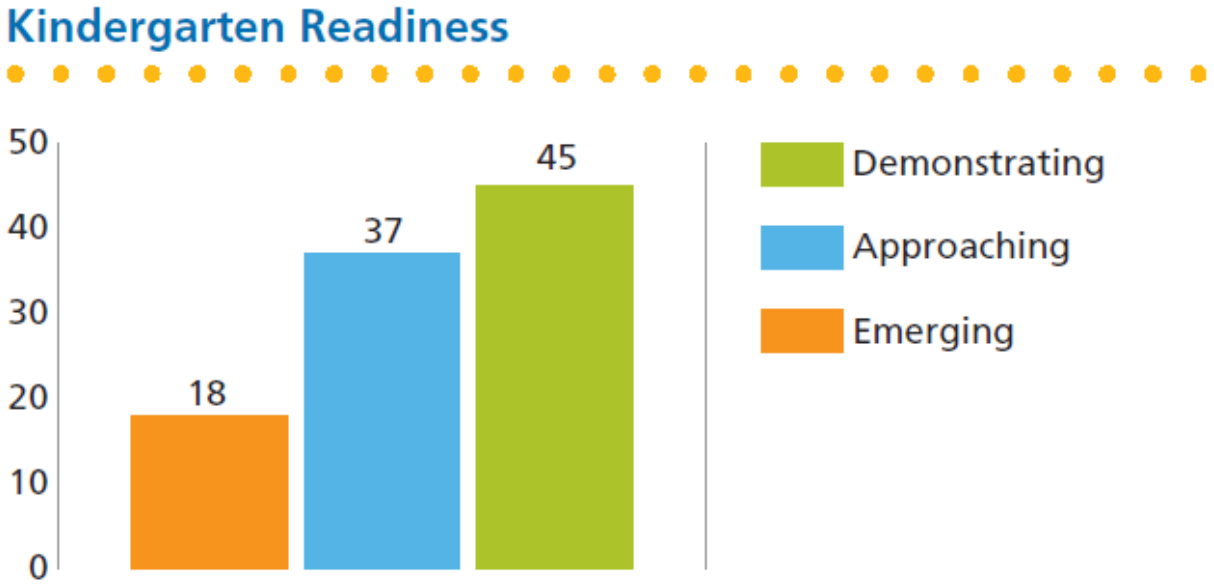
Kindergarten Readiness

- Results for 2015-16



Demonstrating Readiness – a child demonstrates the foundational skills and behaviors that prepare him for curriculum based on the kindergarten standards
Approaching Readiness – a child exhibits some of the foundational skills and behaviors
Emerging Readiness – a displays minimal foundational skill and readiness

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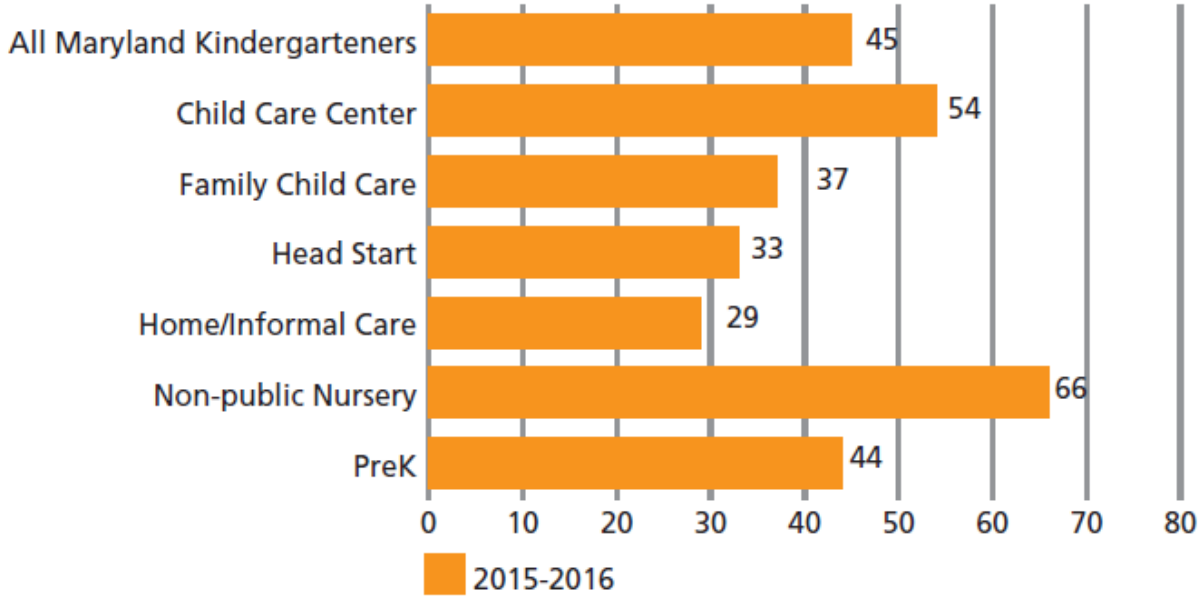
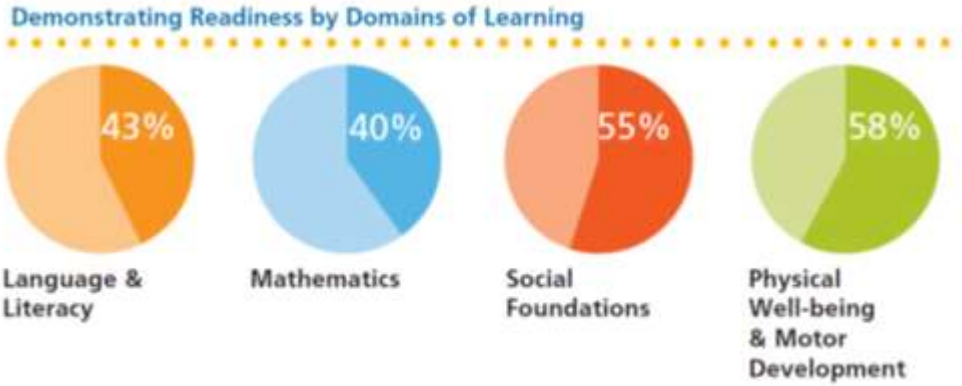
Kindergarten Readiness

- Prior Care



The full Report is available on the MSDE website



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Race to The Top – Early Learning Challenge

- Project 7 – Developmental Screening
  - Proposed regulation date: July of 2017
  - Training Completed
    - Online: 9,603
    - Face-To-Face: 3,470
    - Total: 13,073
  - Tools were offered for free until January 31, 2016
    - Total ordered: 4,935
    - ASQ-3 - 3,826 Print and 222 Online
    - 205 Best Beginnings Developmental Screen
    - 87 ESI-R
    - 101 Speed DIAL-4
  - Child care providers that didn't order can order direct from publisher at their own cost.
  - Questions on developmental screening: msde.devscreen@Maryland.gov

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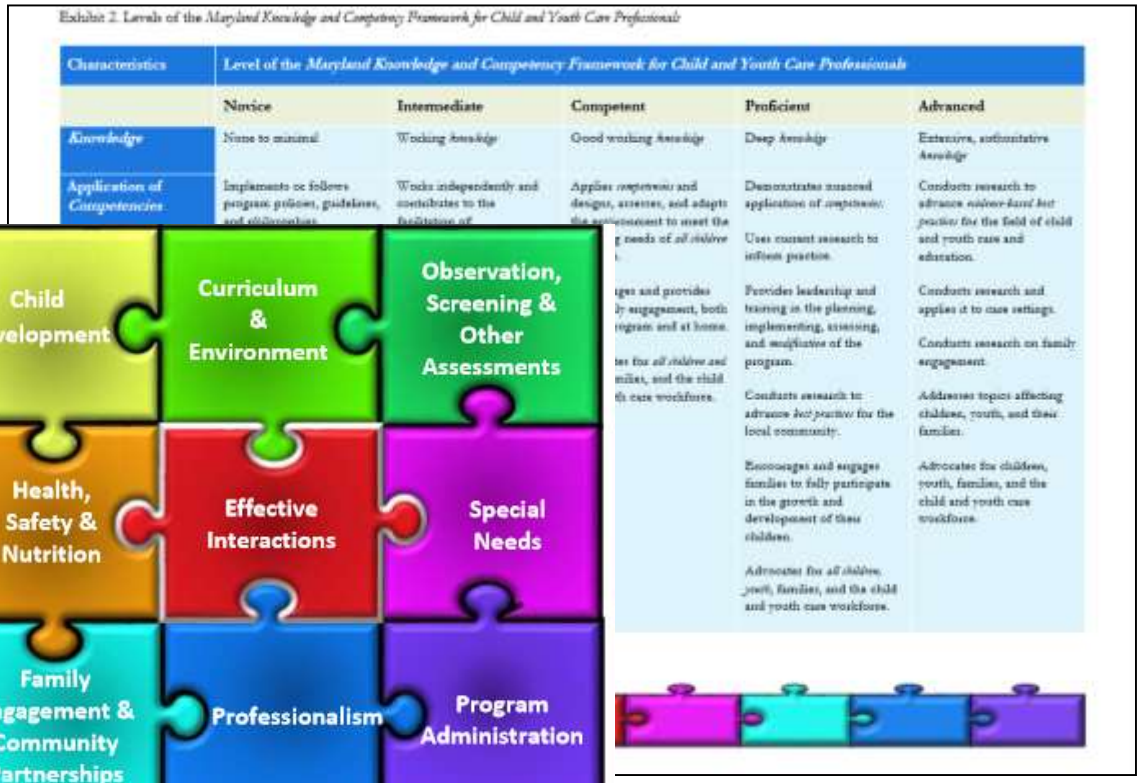
Race to The Top – Early Learning Challenge

- Knowledge and Competency Framework
  - Available on the MSDE/DECD website in the Resource Library



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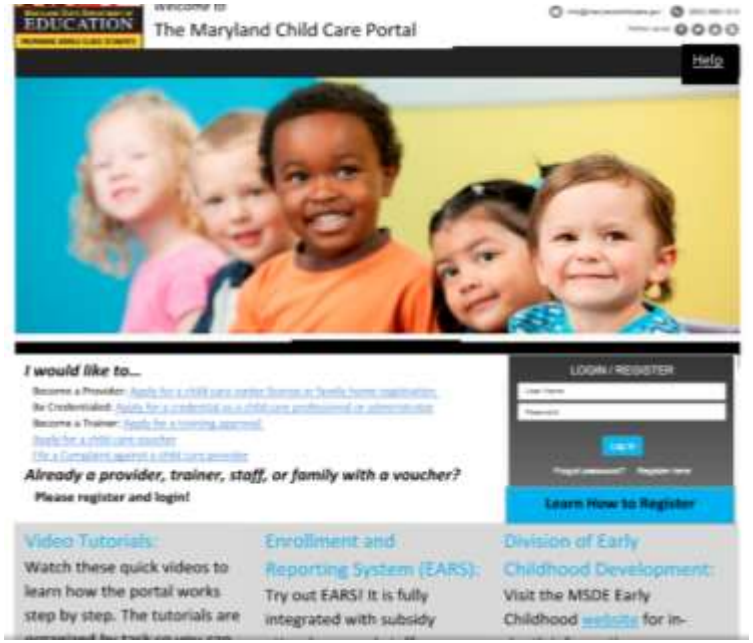
Race to The Top – Early Learning Challenge

- Project 10 – Early Learning Data System
  - Development of the Enrollment and Attendance Reporting System (EARS)
    - Ability for child care programs to report enrollment and associate the children in the program with their teacher
    - Report children's attendance and submitting invoices for child care subsidy reimbursements
    - Ability to generate staffing patterns
    - Ability to record information concerning screening administration (hearing, vision, developmental, etc)
  - Currently being tested
  - Expected release later this year



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Pre-K Expansion

- State PreK Expansion: $4.3 million
  - Income Eligibility - at or below 300% of FPL
  - FY 16 funding served 957 PreK students
    - 17 community-based child care programs and 3 county school districts
  - Also enabled approximately 125 students ages 3-4 years in three county school districts to access Judy Center comprehensive services.
- Federal PreK Expansion: $15 million
  - Income Eligibility: at or below 200% of FPL
  - FY 16 funding served 2,486 PreK students
    - 37 public school classrooms in 12 school districts,
    - 20 Judy Centers,
    - 27 community-based high-quality child care programs, and
    - 5 Head Start programs

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Child Care Subsidy

- Case Management/Invoicing
- December 18, 2015 Revision
  - Local departments of social services handle TCA cases
  - CCS Central responsible for:
    - ✓Processing all applications for Non-TCA cases
    - ✓Receipting Vouchers
    - ✓Processing Invoices

Call 1-866-243-8796 for information and status

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Credentialing

- Contract awarded for Credentialing case management August 2015
- Processing began November 2015
- Backlogged applications being processed – expected completion July 2016

Call 1-866-243-8796 for information and status

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MARYLAND EXCELS

As of April 22, 2016:

- 5,456 programs participating (50%)
- 3,286 programs have published a rating

Percentage of Eligible Programs Participating			
	Family Child Care Homes	Child Care Centers	Public Pre-Kindergarten
% Participating	50%	76%	10%

Check Level	Published	UnPublished	Total
0 Checks	0	2,085	2,085
1 Checks	2,510	72	2,582
2 Checks	356	7	363
3 Checks	227	6	233
4 Checks	27	0	27
5 Checks	166	0	166
Total	3,286	2,170	5,456

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Licensing – Regulation Revisions

- Breastfeeding support
  - Designated space requirements
  - Training Requirements
- ADA Training
- Screen Time Activities
- Nutrition
  - Food and beverages must comply Child and Adult Care Food Program
  - Must furnish all beverages, including milk with all meals for children
  - No added sweeteners or caffeine, unless prescribed for a child by a health care provider.
  - Milk
    - Supplied or approved by the parent if the child is younger than 2 years old
    - 1% fat milk or nonfat milk if the child is 2 years old or older, unless otherwise ordered by a health care provider or requested by the child's parent.

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Licensing – Regulation Revisions

- Lead Testing
  - An appropriate lead screening for a child younger than 6 years old and born prior to January 1, 2015;
  - A lead test at age 12 months and 24 months regardless of where the child resides, for any child born on or after January 1, 2015.
- Immunization
  - Effective September 1, 2016 - Immunized against measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis
  - An individual is exempt if:
    - The individual submits a written statement from a licensed physician declaring that because of the person's physical condition or medical circumstances, immunization is not safe; or
    - The individual submits a written declaration stating a bona fide religious belief and practice.

CCDF Reauthorization

- Implications

Child Care Subsidy

- 12 month authorizations, eligibility, vouchers

Licensing

- Training requirements
  - ✓ 10 specific training topics required
    - Prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunization)
    - Prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices
    - Administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent
    - Prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions
    - Building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic
    - Prevention of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma
    - Emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster, or a man-caused event
    - Handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants - Precautions in transporting children (if applicable)
    - First aid
    - Cardiopulmonary resuscitation

CCDF Reauthorization

- Implications

Website

- Post:
  - Description of the licensing process and monitoring procedures
  - Substantiated Complaint Inspections
  - Aggregate number of deaths by provider type
  - Aggregate number of serious injuries by provider type
  - Aggregate number of incidents of child abuse by provider type

Background Checks

- Conducted at least once every 5 years
- For each State where the staff member has resided over the past 5 years, must include a search of:
  - State criminal and sex offender registry
  - State child abuse and neglect registry
  - National Crime Information Center
  - FBI fingerprint check using Next Generation Identification; and
  - National Sex Offender Registry.

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What's Next

- Responding to Legislation
  - Illegal child care
- Implementing changes based on CCDF Reauthorization
  - Website postings
  - Training requirements
  - Criminal background check protocol
  - Develop policy on Early Childhood Retention and Expulsion
  - Develop continuity of operations (COOP) plan for the State

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