



## Maryland State Child Care Association

2810 Carrollton Road  
Annapolis, MD. 21403  
Phone: 410-820-9196  
Email: [info@mscca.org](mailto:info@mscca.org)  
Website: [www.mscca.org](http://www.mscca.org)

***Caring For Maryland's Most  
Important Natural Resource™***

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Greetings Member!

It is with immense pleasure that we welcome you to the Maryland State Child Care Association for the 2024 calendar year. MSCCA is delighted to have you as a member and is most grateful for your commitment to professional, licensed, quality child care and education!

MSCCA understands your issues and helps to elevate your voices at the local, state, and federal levels. We have worked hard to share the concerns, barriers and challenges of the industry as well as highlight the successes to impact change when we can. We are so proud to stand for child care programs and early childhood educators because you have proven what we already know, how critical your services/businesses are to children, families, and the economy of our state.

WE are here to help advocate, support professional development and be a strong voice for you in Maryland. MSCCA's Priorities Agenda include, expanding access to quality child care through direct family investments, especially related to Child Care Scholarship Program and child care business tax credits. MSCCA prioritizes reducing barriers related to regulations, addressing the critical workforce shortages, identifying strategies to improve compensation. We know the workforce continues workforce development, and ensuring the community-based programs are recognized and supported related to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future expansion of universal PreK.

It is our goal to supply superior membership benefits and expand benefits for members to best serve your needs and interests. The 2024 annual dues reflect an overall increase of 5% from 2023.

The required monthly fee for the Professional Advocacy Government Relations Lobbyist has increased to meet the costs of the lobbying fees of Compass Advocacy in Annapolis Maryland, which are \$44,000 annually. We divide the number of members by the annual cost to determine the required advocacy fees.

Your membership also includes membership of our national affiliate, the National Child Care Association. The annual fee has stayed the same at \$16.00. The membership certificates for 2024 will include both MSCCA state and NCCA national logos.

Advocacy is an important part of MSCCA's membership benefits and mission. We enjoyed important legislative successes in 2023 that directly impact your businesses. The need for an Executive Director, for Board Members, member leaders and our legislative task force along with a dedicated, professional lobbyist is important to represent child care programs, businesses throughout the year and especially during legislative session. MSCCA has increased the advocacy benefits to include a new muster platform which will allow our members and families to engage with legislators, policy, and decision makers in an impactful way. Advocacy and support from professional lobbyists have proven a successful investment. Please visit [mscca.org](http://mscca.org) to review testimony, recap of all legislation and related advocacy efforts MSCCA has engaged in for our members and community. MSCCA is contracted with a woman owned, local Compass Advocacy and Government Relations in Annapolis, Maryland.

MSCCA is hosting the Evening in Annapolis for Child Care /ECE on Monday, February 12, 2024. Members will receive an invitation to register and join us to elevate your voices at the state capital.

MSCCA will continue to offer the Passion for Excellence grant annually for members only and the two professional development statewide conferences offering over 24 hours of Core of Knowledge approved training with discounts for MSCCA members only! MSCCA is also working on grant writing support for our members to access. Stay tuned. Members in 2023 received two white

Also, membership benefits include:

Eligibility for one Professional Activity Unit for each of your staff working within your programs when the program joins,

Consistent communication through Constant Contacts and social media,

Discounts for members to statewide professional development conference/symposium,

State MSCCA members only Passion for Excellence grants up to \$5,000 offered annually,

Professional advocacy with a dedicated Compass lobbyists/government relation team,

Finally, National membership with affiliation to NCCA/NECPA for continued advocacy and national accreditation support.

Please reach out to the MSCCA Chapters throughout Maryland to engage at the local and community level because as state members, you are also welcome to take part in your local MSCCA chapter. All contact information for our Chapters is available on our website at [www.mscca.org](http://www.mscca.org).

Please check out our MSCCA Business Members at [mscca.org](http://mscca.org)! The MSCCA Business members are dedicated to serving MSCCA members and embrace our vision and mission. The opportunity to find products and services you may need or want and develop a relationship with the businesses who have gone beyond to be a part of our organization is an exciting part of the membership benefits we offer.

Please feel free to contact myself, Chuck Wainwright or Lisa Ann Dickinson, MSCCA Membership Co-Chairs at [info@mscca.org](mailto:info@mscca.org) should you need assistance or have questions related to your membership.

MSCCA recognizes the importance of social justice as a necessary addition to our vision and mission as an organization. We included the following commitment statement to guide our work:

*Our mission at MSCCA is to promote the growth and development of professional licensed childcare and learning centers in Maryland. It is our goal to embrace diversity in our membership, our programming, and our resources. We are disheartened to see the violence and continued oppression of people of color and the long-term negative effects this has on their health and well-being. As such, we believe that issues of race, equity, and social justice are an integral part of the learning environment. For educators and childcare providers, equity means access to quality professional development, earning a living wage, and bringing their home cultures into the learning environment. By creating antiracist learning environments, we empower children to embrace diversity in all its forms so they can become compassionate citizens of a global community.*

MSCCA appreciates your membership, and we look forward to working productively together to understand and make progress in meeting the needs of the child care/ECE professional community.

Maryland State Child Care Association Board of Directors and Christina Peusch, *Executive Director*

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