



Community Navigation Forum

June 20, 2023

The Universities at Shady Grove



Accessing Child Care and Child Care Subsidy





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Child Care LOCATE – How to Find Child Care Providers in Maryland



The (Maryland) statewide LOCATE: Child Care service (formerly Child Care Resource and Referral Center or LOCATE) can assist parents in choosing their own child care provider. The State wide LOCATE can discuss child care needs and send a list of licensed child care providers to interested persons. LOCATE Child Care can assist finding child care programs that accept child care subsidy vouchers, or child care programs that offer other financial assistance through scholarships, sibling discounts or other methods as well as offer assistance finding evening and/or weekend care. Assistance with the Maryland Child Care Scholarships application and Working Parents Assistance (WPA) Program are also provided. Information is also available to children with disabilities or special needs. For further information, please call **1.877.261.0060**. For an online search of child care programs, click links below: [Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services - Department Snap Shot - Locate Child Care \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](#).

The State of Maryland Child Care (CCS) Scholarship Program

The Child Care Scholarship (CCS) (formerly known as Child Care Subsidy) Program provides financial assistance with child care cost to eligible working families in Maryland. For more information please visit: [Money4childcare.com](https://www.money4childcare.com).

Documents you will need to apply:

- **Proof of Activity** can include work, school, or job training.
- **Proof of income** such as your most recent pay stubs for the past 30 days and employment verification letter.
- **Proof of all unearned income** such as benefits, SSDI, unemployment, etc.
- **Proof of Identity** such as a copy of driver's license, government issued ID, Maryland State ID, or passport)
- **Proof of Residency** such as utility bill or rental agreement with current address.
- **Birth Certificate** for each child in household.

*Children must be U.S. Citizens, U.S. Legal Residents or have documentation to prove their Refugee or Asylum status. Parents don't need to be documented to qualify.

*Must be a State of Maryland Resident

Eligibility Requirement for the Child Care Scholarship (CCS) Program

Families in the following income categories may be eligible for a Child Care Scholarship:
(Updated May 23, 2022)

Maximum Annual Income

	Child Care Scholarship Program	
Family Size	Initial Income Scale* Maximum Annual Income	Continuation Income Scale** Maximum Annual Income
	Table used for new applications	Table used for Changes/Redeterminations
Family of 2	\$61,222	\$73,899
Family of 3	\$75,627	\$91,287
Family of 4	\$90,033	\$108,675
Family of 5	\$104,438	\$126,063
Family of 6	\$118,843	\$143,451
Family of 7	\$121,544	\$146,712
Family of 8	\$124,245	\$149,972
Family of 9	\$126,946	\$153,232
Family of 10	\$129,647	\$156,492
Family of 11	\$132,348	
Family of 12	\$135,049	



To Apply

All applications must be submitted through the Child Care Scholarship Family Portal. CCS is no longer allowing paper applications. The Family Portal can be accessed at: https://family.childcareportals.org/s/?language=en_US

The Working Parent Assistance Program

Montgomery County's Working Parents Assistance Program (WPA) Program is a County-sponsored program that is committed to helping eligible county residents pay for child care. While parents are at work or school, they can feel confident that their children are in a safe and caring environment. For more information on how to apply you can contact the WPA program at: **(240) 777-1177** or

wpa@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Documents you will need to apply

- **Proof of earned income** such as paystubs or letter from employer
- **Proof of all unearned income**
- **Proof of enrollment** in vocational training or undergraduate school attendance
- **Proof of identity** such as a driver's license, Maryland ID, or passport
- **Proof of address** such as a lease, driver's license, or utility bills with current address
- **Birth Certificates** – copy of birth certificate for all children in the household
- **Proof of child support** – single parents must provide child support documentation
- **Copy of previous year's federal tax return**

Eligibility Requirements for the Working Parent Assistance Program (WPA)

Families who meet the following incoming categories may be eligible for the Working Parents Assistance Program (WPA):

Family Size	Minimum Annual Income*	Maximum Annual Income**
Family of 2	\$61,223	\$ 82,395
Family of 3	\$75,628	\$103,635
Family of 4	\$90,034	\$124,875
Family of 5	\$104,439	\$146,115
Family of 6	\$118,844	\$167,355
Family of 7	\$121,545	\$188,595
Family of 8	\$124,246	\$209,835
Family of 9	\$126,947	\$231,075
Family of 10	\$129,648	\$252,315
Family of 11	\$132,349	\$273,555
Family of 12	\$135,050	\$294,795
Updated 7/12/22		

**WPA Maximum Annual Income - Teen parents and non-parent custodians on the Working Parents Assistance Program (WPA) will have \$5,000 deducted from their annual gross income for each child enrolled in child care; if you applied for WPA subsidy and your income falls at or below the applicable minimum income, you must then apply for the State of Maryland Child Care Scholarship Program (SCCSP).

PreK and Headstart Program

You may still apply for Prekindergarten/Head Start for this school year 2022-2023. Apply online or visit Rocking Horse Road Center, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Applications for Fall 2023 and the school year 2023-2024 will be accepted after MARCH 1, 2023. You may apply online or visit one of our convenient locations:

- Rocking Horse Road Center, 4910 Macon Rd, Rockville, MD 20852. Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Plum Gar Community Center, 19561 Scenery Dr, Germantown, MD 20876. Monday, May 22 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Contact: MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Call: 240-740-3000 | Spanish Hotline: 240-740-2845

E-mail: ASKMCPS@mcpsmd.org

Judy Center

The Judith P. Hoyer Early Care and Education Enhancement Learning Hubs, or "Judy Centers," are state grant and locally funded early childhood and family learning hubs. Collaboration and partnerships with the community lie at the heart of Maryland's Judy Center Early Learning Hubs. Judy Centers are not childcare centers but a comprehensive hub where families can participate in family learning experiences and receive services and support. In Title I and high-needs elementary schools in every Maryland jurisdiction, Judy Centers empower a child's first teachers – their families – by supporting child development and early learning skills for our youngest learners from birth through kindergarten.

There are two Judy Center Locations in Montgomery County:

- 1. Gaithersburg Judy Center: (301) 284-4170**
- 2. Silver Spring Judy Center: (240) 740-1940**

Early Head Start



Early Head Start vision is to build a strong foundation of school readiness and family well-being. To support school readiness goals, EHS uses a framework for effective practice. As a foundation to build children's social and emotional development, all direct services staff are trained in best practices in instructional interactions, and children are provided developmentally appropriate and well-organized classrooms. EHS uses research-based curricula, best practices, and ongoing child assessment that supports individualized teaching and learning. EHS has a center-based program where children can attend a developmental classroom environment full time, as well as a home base program in which pregnant women and children up 3 years of age receive home visiting services that focus on school readiness, parent-child attachment, and encourage parents to be their children's first teacher.

Specific family support services can fall into a number of categories. Provider referral list is extensive with opportunities to direct families to resources across the community to reinforce and support the goals of the program.

Early Head Start Qualifications

2023 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	
Persons in family/household	Poverty guideline
1	\$14,580
2	\$19,720
3	\$24,860
4	\$30,000
5	\$35,140
6	\$40,280
7	\$45,420
8	\$50,560

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$5,140 for each additional person.

A pregnant woman or a child is eligible if:

- For Early Head Start a child must be an infant or a toddler younger than three years old.
- At the time of application, the child must be 28 months or less.
- The family's income is equal to or below the poverty line; or
- The family is eligible for or, in the absence of child care, would be potentially eligible for public assistance; including TANF child-only payments; or
- The child is homeless or in foster care.

If the family does not meet a criterion, a program may enroll a child who would benefit from services, provided that these participants only make up to 10 percent of a program's enrollment.

Early Head Start Programs in the County

Early Head Start programs in Montgomery County *

Lourie Center – Rockville

Must reside in Rockville

FSI/Sheppard Pratt Discovery Station – Gaithersburg

20832	20833	20837	20838	20839	20841
20842	20850	20851	20852	20853	20855
20860	20872	20873	20874	20876	20877
20878	20879	20880	20882	20886	20871
20895					

CentroNia - Takoma Park

20853	20912	20901	20902	20903	20904
20906					

* Also offers Head Start



Special Education Support Services

Birth to Age 3: Infants & Toddlers

A collaboration of Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Montgomery County Public Schools, private community agencies, and Maryland Infants and Toddlers, this program provides early intervention services to families with children, birth to three years old, who have or are at risk of having developmental delays and who live in Montgomery County.

Providers can make a referral online: <https://referral.mditp.org/>

Call: 240-777-3997

Age 3 through 5: Child Find

Child Find provides free developmental screenings for children from three years of age until kindergarten. It is also the single point of entry for families moving into Montgomery County whose preschool-aged child has been previously identified with a disability.

Parents must self-refer. Intake line: 301-947-6080

Providers may call for more information: 240-740-2170

School Age: access Elementary and Secondary Services through home school

Early Literacy and Healthy Development

Imagination Library: provides free, high-quality, age-appropriate books to children from birth to age 5.

The program currently registers children in the 20850, 20851, 20876, 20877, 20879, 20886, 20895, 20992, 20903, 20906 and 20912 zip code areas. Parents/Legal Guardians can enroll online: <https://www.imaginationlibrarymcmd.org/sign-up-now>

The Basics: The Basics Campaign supports community-level initiatives to improve early childhood outcomes, including kindergarten readiness. The Basics provides handouts, videos, and implementation guides to help communities to teach parents/caregivers about the five parenting/caregiving principles that promote high-quality cognitive and social-emotional development among children 0-5. Primarily focused on children 0-5 in zip code 20877.

Montgomery County Public Libraries:

- **Hatchlings:** This program helps expectant and new parents build the skills they need to be their child's first teachers. It uses songs and fun activities to help expectant parents learn about their baby's brain and body development, and how to set their child up for success by encouraging reading from the start. Attendees receive a free book, early literacy activity calendar, and Spanish/English song sheets.
- **The Jan Jablonski Early Literacy Training Center** at the Noyes Library for Young Children provides professional development and access to current early literacy materials, programs, and activities for parents and professionals (including early childhood educators).
- Baby Storytime, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, and more available at local libraries

Family Discovery Center: (Sheppard Pratt – Family Support Center Network) provides comprehensive adult education and English as a Second Language classes and concurrent child development services for families who are pregnant or have children birth to age 3. Located in Rockville.

For more resources

DHHS Child Care Support Services (also known as ChildLink) Information and Referral

Service: Callers may receive simple referrals, consultation on child development or parenting issues, or linkages and follow up for families presenting more complex or at-risk situations which require early intervention services. Also assists families and providers in accessing mental health consultation on-site in child care programs.

Call: 240-777-4769

MCPS Community Resource Guide: This guide provides descriptions and contact information for a variety of community resources available to preschool age children and their families. It is updated every school year and can be accessed

here: <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/dtecps/earlychildhood/prek/>

Direct Link to the

Guide: https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/siteassets/district/departments/dtecps/earlychildhood/prek/0024.23_2022-23_communityresourceguide_english_web.pdf