

## Response Summary:

Under the Blueprint for Maryland's Future (MD Code, Educ §7-1A-03), a county board shall ensure that: (1) Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, prekindergarten slots provided by eligible private providers shall account for at least 10% of the total prekindergarten slots provided by eligible prekindergarten providers in each county; (2) The proportion of eligible private provider prekindergarten slots in each county increases by 10 percentage points every school year, until, in the 2028-2029 school year, eligible private provider prekindergarten slots account for at least 50% of eligible prekindergarten provider prekindergarten slots in each county; and (3) In each year after the 2028-2029 school year, the proportion of eligible private provider prekindergarten slots in each county shall continue to constitute at least 50% of eligible prekindergarten provider prekindergarten slots in each county.

Waivers will be issued if:

- i) All families in the county who desire to enroll their eligible children with eligible prekindergarten providers are able to do so; or
- ii) After reasonable cross-jurisdictional or regional efforts, there are too few eligible private providers to meet the minimum requirements of this section.

Based on the data submitted in your Pre-K Data Collection Survey (and the private provider data entered by MSDE), it has been determined that the proportion of prekindergarten students enrolled in eligible private providers in your county is less than 10 percent for the 2024-2025 school year and a waiver is required.

This survey serves as the official waiver request per the above Blueprint for Maryland's Future requirements. Please complete the survey below by 12/15/2024.

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Nakeisha Savage, Director of Early Learning and Instruction, at [nakeisha.savage@maryland.gov](mailto:nakeisha.savage@maryland.gov) or Dr. Nykia Washington, Prekindergarten and Mixed Delivery Program Manager, at [nykia.washington@maryland.gov](mailto:nykia.washington@maryland.gov).

### Q2. Name

Beth Sorsby

### Q9. Email

bsorsby@ccboe.com

### Q3. Title

Coordinator of Early Childhood Programs

### Q4. Local Education Agency (LEA)

Charles County Public Schools

**Q8. Please elaborate on the strategies and efforts your agency plans to implement or is already implementing in order to increase the number of private provider Pre-K seats available. This response should include references and/or details from your Blueprint Implementation plan.**

In the March 2023 submission of the Blueprint Implementation Plan, CCPS identified priority areas for a mixed delivery system. These priorities included building capacity with private providers and partnerships with private providers. To build capacity with private providers, CCPS put out a needs survey through the Office of Child Care in the Spring of 2023. The survey's purpose was to see who was interested in applying for the prekindergarten grants and what other needs the childcare providers had, such as professional development or assistance with Maryland EXCELS. CCPS received responses from six childcare providers. In the responses, three providers expressed interest in applying for the state prekindergarten grant and requested assistance. CCPS Office of Early Childhood set up a virtual meeting with two providers. After learning more about the mixed-delivery system, neither provider decided to apply for the grant. All responses stated the providers were interested in professional development. Childcare providers have identified social-emotional learning as an area of need for professional development. CCPS hosted a certified trainer from Conscious Discipline in August 2023 with a two-hour session provided for childcare providers. There were 34 childcare providers in attendance. Each provider who attended received two core of knowledge hours. CCPS also partnered with the Charles County Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) to provide access to the Conscious Discipline e-course, Building Resilient Schools and Homes. A CCPS prekindergarten teacher held five reflection sessions with the childcare providers after they viewed components of the e-course. There were 16 childcare providers that participated with 12 of the participants earning the five core of knowledge hours. CCPS continues to offer professional development opportunities that are extended to childcare providers, including additional offerings from Conscious Discipline as well as including three private providers that are using the Frog Street Preschool curriculum in a training that was offered in August 2024 for the Frog Street Preschool Foundations of Implementation for three Core of Knowledge hours in the area of curriculum. CCPS will hold another mixed delivery system information session in late winter 2025. CCPS will continue to share information on the mixed delivery system during the Charles County ECAC monthly meetings. CCPS Title I Office continues to seek partnerships with childcare providers operating in Title I school zones or who are serving students who will attend a Title I school. CCPS Title I held a childcare collaboration meeting in October 2023 with twelve providers in attendance. Information on the mixed delivery system, Maryland EXCELS, and supports available to the providers through CCPS Title I were shared. For school year 2024-2025, CCPS Title I has a statement of understanding with ten private providers. Supports continue to include monthly training for childcare providers, supports in acquiring high-quality instructional materials, assistance with navigating Maryland Accreditation and Maryland EXCELS, and family engagement workshops for the students who attend childcare programs with the collaborating providers. CCPS Judy Center Early Learning Hub continues to have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with seven childcare provider partners. The MOU includes the Judy Center Early Learning Hub will provide professional development to childcare providers, market and refer parents interested in childcare services to the provider, help with technical assistance and curriculum materials to achieve or maintain Maryland Excels level and/or Maryland accreditation, provide behavior management services to Judy Center children at the request of the childcare partner with parent agreement, and work with the childcare partner on transitioning children into prekindergarten or kindergarten programs when applicable. Professional development has been offered for KinderMusik, Conscious Discipline, and CPR training. The technical assistance, materials, professional development, and support the Judy Center Early Learning Center Hub provides to their childcare provider partners, helps the partners move to a higher quality rating in Maryland Excels and/or achieve Maryland Accreditation thus the partners are moving toward meeting the eligibility requirements to participate in the mixed delivery system for prekindergarten. CCPS Office of Early Childhood is supporting our existing private providers in the mixed delivery system through offering technical assistance, sharing enrollment information with families for the private provider partners, and completing data dives with the private provider partners.

---

**Embedded Data:**

N/A