

Chapter 469

(House Bill 664)

AN ACT concerning

Child Care Programs – Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program – Information and Assistance

FOR the purpose of requiring a child care program to provide certain information and assistance to parents or guardians regarding the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program; requiring the State Department of Education to provide certain information to child care programs; and generally relating to child care programs providing information and assistance regarding the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program.

BY adding to

Article – Education
Section 9.5–115
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Education
Section 9.5–301(a), (e), and (g) and 9.5–401(a) and (c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

~~BY adding to~~

~~Article – Education~~
~~Section 9.5–310.1~~
~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
~~(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)~~

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education

9.5–115.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “CHILD CARE PROGRAM” INCLUDES:

(1) A CHILD CARE CENTER, AS DEFINED IN § 9.5–401 OF THIS TITLE;

(2) A FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME, AS DEFINED IN § 9.5-301 OF THIS TITLE; AND

(3) A LARGE FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME, AS DEFINED IN § 9.5-301 OF THIS TITLE.

(B) (1) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023, AT LEAST ONCE EACH CALENDAR YEAR, A CHILD CARE PROGRAM SHALL MAKE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF EACH CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 3 YEARS:

(I) INFORMATION ABOUT THE MARYLAND INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAM; AND

(II) CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE LOCAL LEAD AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MARYLAND INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAM.

(2) A CHILD CARE PROGRAM MAY PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION BY:

(I) A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO A PARENT OR GUARDIAN, INCLUDING BY AN E-MAIL;

(II) A DOCUMENT FOR WHICH A PARENT OR GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT; OR

(III) A TEXT MESSAGE.

(C) ON REQUEST OF A PARENT OR GUARDIAN, A CHILD CARE PROGRAM SHALL ASSIST THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN WITH SCHEDULING A TIME AND CONVENIENT LOCATION FOR THE LOCAL LEAD AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING THE MARYLAND INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAM TO PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE SCREENING.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE EACH CHILD CARE PROGRAM WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE MARYLAND INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAM SUFFICIENT FOR THE CHILD CARE PROGRAM TO CARRY OUT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE LOCAL LEAD AGENCY.

9.5-301.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(e) “Family child care home” means a residence in which family child care is provided for up to eight children.

(g) “Large family child care home” means a residence in which family child care is provided for at least nine children, but not more than 12 children.

~~9.5 310.1.~~

~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, “CHILD CARE PROGRAM” INCLUDES:~~

~~(1) A CHILD CARE CENTER, AS DEFINED IN § 9.5 401 OF THIS TITLE;~~

~~(2) A FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME, AS DEFINED IN § 9.5 301 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND~~

~~(3) A LARGE FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME, AS DEFINED IN § 9.5 301 OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~(B) (1) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023, AT LEAST ONCE EACH CALENDAR YEAR A CHILD CARE PROGRAM SHALL MAKE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF EACH CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 3 YEARS:~~

~~(I) INFORMATION ABOUT THE MARYLAND INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAM; AND~~

~~(II) CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE LOCAL LEAD AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MARYLAND INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAM.~~

~~(2) A CHILD CARE PROGRAM MAY PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION BY:~~

~~(I) A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO A PARENT OR GUARDIAN, INCLUDING BY AN E-MAIL;~~

~~(II) A DOCUMENT FOR WHICH A PARENT OR GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT; OR~~

~~(III) A TEXT MESSAGE.~~

~~(C) ON REQUEST OF A PARENT OR GUARDIAN, A CHILD CARE PROGRAM SHALL ASSIST THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN WITH SCHEDULING A TIME AND CONVENIENT LOCATION FOR THE LOCAL LEAD AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR~~

~~ADMINISTERING THE MARYLAND INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAM TO PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE SCREENING.~~

9.5–401.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(c) (1) “Child care center” means an agency, institution, or establishment that, for part or all of a day, or on a 24–hour basis on a regular schedule, and at least twice a week, offers or provides child care to children who do not have the same parentage except as otherwise provided for in law or regulation.

(2) “Child care center” shall include a nonpublic nursery school in which an instructional program is offered or provided for children who are under the age of 5 years.

(3) “Child care center” does not include:

(i) A nonpublic kindergarten in which an instructional program is offered or provided for children who are at least 5 years old;

(ii) A nonpublic elementary school in which an instructional program is offered or provided for children who are in grades 1 through 8;

(iii) A child care home, a child care institution, or other child care facility that offers or provides a residential placement for a child and is established, licensed, or registered under this title, Title 9 of the Human Services Article, or Title 10 of the Health – General Article; or

(iv) A family child care home or large family child care home that is required to be registered or is registered under this title.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2022.