

# Pathways

## MAINE ROADS TO QUALITY

Early Care and Education Professional Development Network

PO Box 9300, 34 Bedford Street,  
Portland, ME 04104  
1-888-900-0055  
<http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads>

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### Updates on the \*NEW\*

#### Maine Early Learning and Development Standards

The new *Maine Early Learning and Development Standards* (MELDS) were released to the public in March. Over the summer, the Maine Department of Education (DOE) and the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) have convened an Advisory Committee tasked to make recommendations regarding a new MRTQ Core Knowledge Training on the MELDS to replace the current *Maine Early Learning Guidelines* training. Here is some key information that will help you understand how the introduction of the new training will apply to you and those in your program:

- **MRTQ will continue to offer the current *Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines* training through fall and winter.** This training will continue to meet the requirements at Steps 3 and 4 of *Quality for ME*. If you or a staff member at your program need this training in order to meet the qualifications for *Quality for ME* within the next six months, you are encouraged to take this training.
- **A new 30-hour training on the MELDS is scheduled to be available through MRTQ in the spring of 2016.** This training is currently being written and will be piloted during the fall in three areas of the state.
- **For those who have taken the original *Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines*, an abbreviated "bridge" training is also being developed to be available in spring 2016 (number of hours TBD).** Information about how the new MELDS training and the "bridge" training will be included in *Quality for ME* will be forthcoming.

Further information about the MELDS and the new training will be released in October. In addition, the Maine Association for the Education of Young Children (MeAEYC) will present information about the MELDS at their fall conference on October 3<sup>rd</sup> (information at <http://www.maineaeyc.org/events>).

For a copy of the MELDS and information from the DOE, please visit the website: <http://www.maine.gov/doe/publicpreschool/>.

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### How to reach us...

By phone:  
1-888-900-0055 (toll-free)  
207-780-5646 (TTY)

By fax:  
207-780-5817

By email:  
[mrtq-contact@usm.maine.edu](mailto:mrtq-contact@usm.maine.edu)

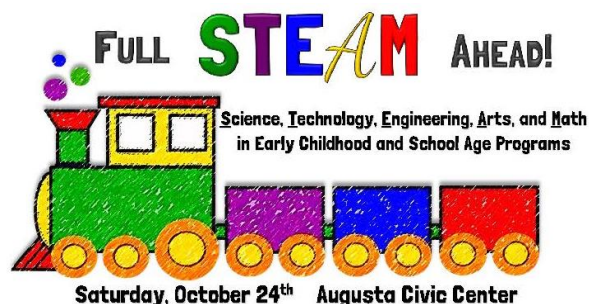
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### Save the Date: MRTQ Symposium 2015!

Registration is now open for MRTQ's Symposium 2015: Full STEAM Ahead! View the brochure with keynote and workshop descriptions on our website at <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu>. We hope to see you there!



A **cohort** is a group of individuals with at least one similar characteristic; at MRTQ, we form cohorts of practitioners who are pursuing the same goal – a credential or national accreditation, for example. This fall, we are excited to announce the formation of new cohorts for all of our statewide credentials. Read on to find the group that best meets your needs!

### New Maine Inclusion Credential

MRTQ has partnered with the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies to create the new Maine Inclusion Credential. Working with children who have special needs and/or disabilities can present unique opportunities and challenges to the early childhood education field. This credential is designed to help practitioners build skills, knowledge, resources, and attitudes to promote quality, inclusive practices in their programs. **Cohort applications due September 21<sup>st</sup>.**



To complete the cohort application or learn more about the credential, visit the MRTQ website at <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pd/inclusioncredential.htm>.

Contact Debora Schofield at [dschofield@usm.maine.edu](mailto:dschofield@usm.maine.edu) or 207-228-8144 with questions.

### Maine Director Credential

The Maine Director Credential is designed for child care center directors who are working toward the alternative pathway for NAEYC accreditation OR for those directors who would like to increase their competence in the administration of a child care program. **This credential has been recognized by NAEYC as meeting the requirements for a state credential in the alternative pathway.**



Complete information and the cohort application can be found on our website at <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pd/dircredential.html>. **Cohort applications are due November 12<sup>th</sup>.**

Contact Lee Lingelbach at [llingelbach@usm.maine.edu](mailto:llingelbach@usm.maine.edu) or 207-626-5204 with questions.

### Maine Infant Toddler Credential I



Another statewide cohort for the Maine Infant Toddler Credential I will begin this fall. This credential is designed for professionals working with infants and toddlers who would like to demonstrate their competence in caring for the youngest children.

The full manual and cohort application are available on our website at <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pd/itcredential.s.htm>. **Cohort applications are due October 28<sup>th</sup>. The first call will be held on November 10<sup>th</sup>.**

Contact Debora Schofield at [dschofield@usm.maine.edu](mailto:dschofield@usm.maine.edu) or 207-228-8144 with questions.

### Maine Youth Development Credential

Professionals working with children in before and after school settings are encouraged to sign up for the Maine Youth Development Credential cohort. You will work with MRTQ's Youth Development Coordinator and other youth development professionals from around the state.



The full manual and cohort application are available on our website at <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pd/ydcredential.htm>. **Cohort applications are due October 1<sup>st</sup>. The first call will be held in November; date TBA.**

Contact Diane Hancock at [dhancock@usm.maine.edu](mailto:dhancock@usm.maine.edu) or 207-626-5031 with questions.

*Our goal at Maine Roads to Quality is to ensure that all Core Knowledge Trainings are offered on a regular schedule and in formats that are accessible to all. As we assist you in planning professional development for yourself or for your staff, we hope to create a training calendar that is responsive to your needs. If you have specific training needs or questions, we want to hear from you!*

### FALL 2015 TRAINING SCHEDULE

For complete training descriptions, driving directions, instructor information, and the link to register, please visit the **Maine Early Care and Education Online Training Calendar** at:

<http://ecetrainingcalendar.muskie.usm.maine.edu>.

For a full list of MRTQ Training Policies, click:

<http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pdfs/TrainingRegistrationPolicies.pdf>

**Seeing Stars?** Training descriptions that include a star(s) will meet a requirement for the following MRTQ Credentials:



Director  
Credential



Youth Development  
Credential



Infant Toddler  
Credential I



Inclusion Credential

### Supporting Maine's Infants and Toddlers: Guidelines for Learning and Development (30 hours) – Online and Face-to-Face



This training is designed to guide providers through the history, creation, and use of this publication, which outlines learning and development from birth to age three. The modules focus on the document and on developing understanding relationships.

#### Online Options:

**Option 1 Dates:** September 9<sup>th</sup> – November 4<sup>th</sup>

**Option 2 Dates:** September 23<sup>rd</sup> – November 18<sup>th</sup>

#### Face-to-Face Option:

**Dates:** Tuesdays, September 15<sup>th</sup> – November 3<sup>rd</sup>; 6:00-9:00pm

**Location:** Downeast YMCA, Ellsworth

### Foundations of Health, Wellness, and Safety (18 hours) – Online



Participants will be introduced to the importance of health, wellness, and safety through personal care routines, nutrition education, and environmental hazards that could impact the health of children and families.

#### Two Options:

**Dates:** September 9<sup>th</sup> – October 21<sup>st</sup>

**Dates:** September 30<sup>th</sup> – November 11<sup>th</sup>

### Child Care Leadership Institute I: Building the Foundations for Quality in Early Childhood Settings (30 hours) – Hybrid



This training covers theory and legality as related to operating a child care center, the essential skills of staff hiring and supervision, family communication, professionalism and self-survival within the art of administering early childhood centers

**Dates:** September 16<sup>th</sup> – October 9<sup>th</sup>; face-to-face classes on Fridays, 9/25 and 10/9; 9:00am-4:00pm; online assignments due between class sessions

**Location:** Educare Central Maine, Waterville

**Note: When enrolling in this training, participants are expected to attend ALL face-to-face sessions.**

### Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines (30 hours) – Online



This training is an orientation to Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines that covers integrating the guidelines into your current curriculum, adapting the guidelines to children with special needs, observation and assessment of young children using the guidelines, and sharing them with families.

#### Two Options:

**Option 1 Dates:** September 9<sup>th</sup> – November 4<sup>th</sup>

**Option 2 Dates:** September 16<sup>th</sup> – November 11<sup>th</sup>

### Creating Inclusive Youth Development Settings (30 hours) – Online



This curriculum will take participants through ten modules that provide an overview and foundation of positive youth development practices, strategies and tools for working in school age programs supporting inclusive practices.

**Dates:** September 16<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Caring for Infants, Toddlers, and Their Families (30 hours) – Online



This training covers a wide range of topics with the objective of helping early care and education practitioners develop a deeper understanding of high-quality environments for children. Through this training participants will have opportunities to explore resources, share strategies and ideas, and consider ways to enhance the environments in which they work and play with children.

**Dates:** September 16<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Inclusive Child Care (30 hours) – Online



This training covers topics to fully include and support all children and families in center-based or family child care settings. It uses an interdisciplinary approach to support staff, families, and children and emphasizes the belief, attitudes, and values of inclusion.

**Dates:** September 16<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Working with School Age Children and Youth (30 hours) – Online



This training covers the aspects of caring for school age children in out-of-school time settings. Topics covered include developing positive relationships, planning curriculum, health and safety, and adolescent development.

**Dates:** September 23<sup>rd</sup> – December 9<sup>th</sup>

### Fostering the Social Emotional Development of Young Children (30 hours) – Online

This training focuses on helping all children, not only the children who fit in well, but those with “difficult” behaviors, develop social skills, self-confidence, and build their social-emotional intelligence. Participants will take an in-depth look at why children act out and how they can work preventatively to diminish social difficulties. The content covers building relationships, assessing the environment and curriculum, designing strategies to support children to maintain peer relationships, develop skills to improve self-regulation and conflict resolution, and identifying community resources when involving other specialists as needed.

**Dates:** September 23<sup>rd</sup> – December 9<sup>th</sup>

### Environments in Early Care and Education (30 hours) – Online

These ten interactive modules cover a wide range of topics with the objective of helping center-based and family child care providers develop a deeper understanding of high-quality environments for children. Every child care setting has its unique benefits and challenges, and through this training participants will have opportunities to explore resources, share strategies and ideas, and consider ways to enhance the environments in which they work and play with children.

**Dates:** September 23<sup>rd</sup> – December 9<sup>th</sup>

#### Please Note:

- Registration closes five business days before the start of the training to allow MRTQ and the trainer adequate preparation time. Many trainings fill quickly, so we advise you to register early!
- MRTQ is sometimes able to add additional training based on demand; if you try to register for a training that is full, we highly recommend that you place your name on the waiting list. If a second session is added, those on the waiting list receive priority registration!

### Laying the Foundations for NAEYC Accreditation (27 hours) – Online

Do you have some questions about working toward accreditation, but you are not quite ready to commit to the accreditation process yet?



Maine Roads to Quality will be offering an online training to help prepare child care center directors and lead staff for the process of pursuing accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

**Dates:** September 30<sup>th</sup> – December 9<sup>th</sup>

### Foundations of Inclusion: Relevant Laws, Featuring the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (6 hours) – Online



This training will give an introduction on the history of disabilities and inclusion in the United States as well as relevant laws governing the way inclusive services and supports are delivered. Participants will explore how belief and attitudes have historically influenced how services and supports are developed, their own values and beliefs about disability and inclusion.

#### Two Options:

**Option 1 Dates:** October 7<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>

**Option 2 Dates:** October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 11<sup>th</sup>

### Your Professional Development Portfolio: The How, When, and Why (9 hours) – Face-to-Face



This training is a brief exploration into how to create and utilize several of the portfolios found within the field of early childhood education. We will set the path towards a deeper understanding of a professional portfolio, how to create one, and why you might want to have one!

#### Two Options:

**Option 1 Dates:** Wednesdays, October 7<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>; 6:00-9:00pm (no class 10/14)

**Location:** Greater Portland location TBA

**Option 2 Dates:** October 8<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>; 6:00-9:00pm

**Location:** Kittery Community Center, Kittery



### Stepping Up with Quality for ME (12 hours) – Online

This training will help child care professionals understand the indicators of quality defined in *Quality for ME*. This training will also provide resources to help child and youth care professionals meet the quality standards and move forward as part of *Quality for ME* in providing quality early care and education programs that are accessible to all children and families. **Options for center-based, family child care, and school age programs.**

**Dates for All Programs:** October 7<sup>th</sup> – December 9<sup>th</sup>

### Teaching Adult Learners (18 hours) – Online

This six-module, eighteen hour train-the-trainer gives the participant an understanding the adult learner, self-reflection on who the trainer is as an educator of the adult learner, and the role the trainer plays in present and future professional development of the adult learner. This training is required for all participants who wish to apply to be a MRTQ approved Core Knowledge trainer.

**Dates:** October 14<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Child Care Leadership Institute II: Leadership in Early Childhood Education Today (30 hours) – Hybrid



Leadership II builds on the concepts from Leadership I, focusing on building leadership skills, supervision, communication, and organizational climate.

**Dates:** October 14<sup>th</sup> – November 6<sup>th</sup>; face-to-face classes on Fridays, 10/23 and 11/6; 9:00am-4:00pm; online assignments due between class sessions

**Location:** University of Southern Maine, Portland

**Note:** When enrolling in this training, participants are expected to attend ALL face-to-face sessions.

### Collaborating with Others to Support Inclusion (12 hours) – Hybrid



Have you ever been confused by the alphabet soup of all the team members working with families: CDS, IEP, IFSP, CBHS, CSHN, Section 28, etc.? Working as a team to support children with disabilities can sometimes be a challenge and we might sometimes wonder about the right things to say and do. In this 12-hour training we will discuss:



**NEW!**

- Strategies for collaborating with both families and other professionals when it comes to caring for children with disabilities.
- Team building strategies.
- Communication styles.
- Conflict resolution skills.

**Dates:** October 14<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>; face-to-face classes on Thursdays, 10/22 and 10/29; 6:00-9:00pm; online assignments due between class sessions

**Location:** Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, Augusta

**Note:** When enrolling in this training, participants are expected to attend ALL face-to-face sessions.

### Creating Peace and Honoring Diversity (18 hours) – Hybrid

This training will inspire educators to provide children opportunities to experience the topics of peace and diversity as they start to develop their own self-perceptions in relation to the world around them. Participants will learn how to empower children and families to be proud of who they are, while opening their hearts to those different from themselves.

**Dates:** October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 21<sup>st</sup>; face-to-face classes on Saturdays, 11/7 and 11/21, 9:00am-3:30pm; online assignments due between in-class sessions

**Location:** Augusta location TBA

**Note:** When enrolling in this training, participants are expected to attend ALL face-to-face sessions.



### Linking Assessment to Curriculum in the Preschool Classroom (9 hours) – Online

**Center-based providers only.** This course has been designed to help increase your knowledge and level of comfort with the process of assessment and curriculum planning in the preschool classroom.

**Dates:** October 14<sup>th</sup> – November 4<sup>th</sup>

### Partners in Caring: Families and Caregivers (12 hours) – Online



Children experience the best quality of care when families and caregivers are partners with the same goals for the child. This training will offer caregivers information about families today – varieties, characteristics, stresses, challenges, and trends.

**Dates:** October 21<sup>st</sup> – November 18<sup>th</sup>

## The Registry Goes Paperless!

To become more efficient and eco-friendly, MRTQ will be digitizing all documents.

**What does this mean to you?** When possible, please scan and email your documents to [mrtq-registry@usm.maine.edu](mailto:mrtq-registry@usm.maine.edu). You can still send paper copies of documents. Upon receipt, they will be digitized and the paper copies will be destroyed. MRTQ will not retain copies of verified trainings. If submitting documents through the mail, keep a copy for your records.

**Please do not send original copies**, as we will not be able to return them to you. We generally discourage faxing your documents to us, as there seems to be a much higher rate of the faxed documents never reaching us, and some documents do not fax well and are impossible to read. Thank you for your assistance in helping us become paperless!



**Teambuilding with Staff: The Collective Wisdom of Teams (6 hours) – Online**

This training will allow staff to learn how to best work as a team. Participants will explore the definition of a team, as well as team basics.

**Date:** October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 11<sup>th</sup>

**Stress Happens: Distress or Eustress – Which Will You Choose? (6 hours) – Online**

Stress can be all around us – as individuals and professionals. This 6-hour training is a brief journey in exploring and defining those stressors and how to manage the stress in our lives.

**Dates:** November 18<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Early Childhood Education: Theory to Practice (9 hours) – Face-to-Face**

This training covers the historical perspective of early childhood education in the U.S., major types of ECE programs, a survey of major theorists who have contributed to the field, and an overview of common terminology. (This training was formerly called “Introduction to Early Childhood Education.”)

**Dates:** Wednesdays, November 4<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>; 6:00-9:00pm (No class on 11/11 or 11/25)

**Location:** John F. Kennedy School, Biddeford

**Foundations of Universal Design and Individualizing (12 hours) – Hybrid**

In this training, participants will gain knowledge about the concept of Universal Design (UD) and how to individualize for all children. Topics will include the philosophy of UD as a way of creating communities, the “what” and “how” of establishing a community so that all children can benefit, and practicing simple modification and adaptation strategies to support children’s success.

**Dates:** October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 25<sup>th</sup>, face-to-face sessions on 11/10 and 11/17; 6:00-9:00pm; online assignments due between class sessions

**Location:** Freeport Middle School, Freeport

**Note:** *When enrolling in this training, participants are expected to attend ALL face-to-face sessions.*

**Introduction to Infant Mental Health: Issues and Practice (18 hours) – Face-to-Face**

This training covers topics concerning personality development, the balance between attachments systems and exploratory systems, developmental and environmental aspects, and influences on parent and child’s sense of self and developing competencies.

**Fall training dates and locations TBA. Updates will be available on the MRTQ Online Training Calendar.**

**Trainings Upcoming in 2016:**

- Curriculum and Development for Preschool Children (online)
- Caring for Infants and Toddlers at Educare Central Maine, Waterville
- Child Care Leadership III: Transforming Leaders and Programs (hybrid/central Maine location TBA)

**Look for our Winter edition of Pathways on December 1<sup>st</sup>!**

**Please Note:**

**Most of MRTQ’s fall trainings will NOT meet face-to-face or have online assignments due during the week of Thanksgiving. The individual trainers will provide a detailed outline of class meetings and/or assignment due dates during the first session.**

**Please contact MRTQ at 1-888-900-0055 with questions about specific dates.**



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## Maine Roads to Quality Scholarship Program Updates

Thinking about going back to college? Maine Roads to Quality has scholarship funds to help you meet the unmet financial needs of college tuition and fees. Not sure of the first step? Visit our website <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pd/scholarship.htm> to learn more about our program, including a list of Maine colleges with Early Childhood Education and other related degree, as well as a video featuring MRTQ scholarship recipients!



Questions about each college's individual program and course should be directed to the college; our website lists a contact phone number and email of the Chair of the Early Childhood department (and other related programs). Start the conversation today!

MRTQ can also support the application fee for a Child Development Associate credential (CDA). Please review the website for full information about receiving a scholarship for the CDA application fee.

**The next deadline for scholarships is November 1<sup>st</sup> for Spring and Summer semesters of 2016.**

The application is available on our website at the link above. Please make sure you have included all documentation required that is listed on the application. *Insufficient postage is the number one reason for delays; applications after the deadline will not be considered.*

Questions about the scholarship program can be directed to Pam Soucy at [psoucy@usm.maine.edu](mailto:psoucy@usm.maine.edu) or 207-626-5258.

Non-Discrimination Notice: The University of Southern Maine does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status and gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information or veterans' status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Director of Equity & Compliance, 209 Deering Avenue, Portland campus, 207-780-5510.

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