

Pathways

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Winter 2014

Are You Getting the Most out of Your Registry Membership?

The Maine Roads to Quality Registry was founded in 2000 to support and recognize the professional development of early care and education practitioners. In November of 2000, the Registry had 123 members and has since grown to more than 8,000 active members. You might already know that membership in the Registry allows you to track your own professional development on your chosen Career Lattice, but did you also know there are additional benefits?

For example, did you know that activating web access to your Registry record allows you to receive timely, email-only notification of training events, conferences, scholarship deadlines, and other services offered by MRTQ? **Going forward, Pathways will be distributed primarily via email, so establishing web access to your Registry record will ensure that you continue to receive our newsletter.** (See below for the link for setting up web access.)



Additionally, program directors are able to use their Registry membership to activate Director Access so they can view a staff list and keep program information current in our database and, subsequently, with Quality for ME. If you are a program director or administrator and are interested in Director Access, please visit http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pdfs/director_access.pdf to read more information and complete the Request Form.

If you are not already a Registry member, we encourage you to join the Registry by visiting our website: <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads> and clicking on "Registry Login" under the Quick Links section. That link will also allow you to enable web access if you are already a member, but do not yet have web access.

On-Site Technical Assistance

Maine Roads to Quality has trained staff and TA Consultants available to deliver on-site technical assistance to child care and pre-k programs. Our services can be designed to meet your program-specific needs, whether it's developing tools for authentic assessment or creating a parent handbook, and whether you're a center, family child care, pre-k, or before and after school program.

If you'd like to learn more about this service, please call Pam Soucy, Project Assistant at 1-888-900-0055 or 207-626-5258. You can also read more on our website at: <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/ta.htm>.

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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

On the web:
<http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads>

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Maine Roads to Quality's Child Care Leadership Institutes

This issue of *Pathways* highlights the three Maine Child Care Leadership Institutes. Each of the Institutes has undergone revision over the past year, and each has been adapted into a hybrid format, meaning that two of the modules are held face-to-face, while the remaining three modules are covered online. The Leadership Institutes are designed to be higher-level training for child care center directors to provide information on pertinent topics and connect directors with other professionals facing the same issues.

"All of the tools, resources and strategies that I have learned in this training will support me in my early childhood professional pursuits. This training was comprehensive in scope and was a constructive introduction to everything that being the director of a childcare facility requires, and more."

~ Leadership I participant

In Child Care Leadership Institute I: Building the Foundation for Quality in Early Childhood Programs, the focus is on the nuts and bolts of managing and leading a center-based child care program. Leadership Institute II: Leadership in Early Childhood Education Today sets the stage for the exploration of personal and historical perspectives on leadership, as well as management and supervision

styles that promote positive work and learning environments.

Leadership Institute III: Transforming Leaders and Programs inspires participants to think more globally about their leadership roles in order to extend themselves beyond the day-to-day operation of a child care program and become advocates in the field of early care and education.

"This training really made me dig deeper into myself as a leader and focus on defining what kind of leader I want to be."

~ Leadership II participant

The Child Care Leadership Institutes aim to build the capacity of early childhood professionals in their roles as leaders in early care and education settings. Multiple opportunities are provided to explore resources, tools, and the knowledge

"Throughout this workshop, I have come to realize that I can affect change. By enlisting the support of others in the field, and using my knowledge, passion and experience...I can take initiative to positively promote this change and...create a more rewarding professional environment for myself and others."

~ Leadership III participant

and experience of fellow participants, as well as to hear the perspectives and insights of Institute facilitators and guest speakers. Participants engage in discussions, group projects, and privately express their thoughts and ideas through journals and reflections in order to gain a deeper understanding of the topics presented. Participants earn a total of thirty training hours for each institute.

Completing all three Child Care Leadership Institutes can also prepare a practitioner for earning the Maine Roads to Quality

Director Credential. For more information about the Director Credential, please visit our website:

<http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pd/dircredential.html>.

Scholarship Updates

As of mid-November, Maine Roads to Quality has awarded over \$135,000 in scholarships for higher education and early childhood-related credentials. The deadline for Spring semester scholarships has passed, but the new application for the 2014-2015 academic year is now available! You can find it on our website at:

<http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pd/scholarship.htm>.

Maine Roads to Quality Makes Roads to YOU!

Do you coordinate or participate in a local group focused on issues facing early care and education professionals? Would you like to know more about what MRTQ does and what we can do for you and your group? We'll come to you! Call Pam Soucy, Project Assistant, at 207-626-5258 or psoucy@usm.maine.edu to get connected to an MRTQ staff person who can come to your event!

<p>WINTER 2014 TRAINING SCHEDULE</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Seeing Stars? Training descriptions that include a star(s) will meet a requirement for one or more of the following Maine Roads to Quality Credentials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Director Credential  Youth Development Credential  Infant Toddler Credential I
<p>Working with School Age Children and Youth (30 hours) – Online </p> <p>This training covers the aspects of providing child care for 5-13 year old children and youth in a child care center, before and after school program, or family child care setting.</p> <p>Dates: January 8th – March 21st</p>	<p>Foundations of Health, Wellness, and Safety (18 hours) – Online  </p> <p>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.</p> <p>Dates: January 15th – March 14th</p>
<p>Foundations of Center-based Care (30 hours) – Online</p> <p>This orientation is geared toward professionals who are new to center-based care. Topics to be covered include: licensing, health and safety, working with families, professionalism, developmentally appropriate practice, child development, and more.</p> <p>Dates: January 15th – March 28th</p>	<p>Partners in Caring: Families and Caregivers (12 hours) – Online </p> <p>Children experience the best quality of care when parent(s) and family 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.</p> <p>Dates: January 15th – February 14th</p>
<p>Supporting Maine’s Infants and Toddlers: Guidelines for Learning and Development (30 hours) – Online </p> <p>This training is designed to guide providers through the history, creation, and use of this publication, which outlines learning and development from birth to three. The modules focus on orienting providers to the document and on developing understanding relationships.</p> <p>Dates: January 15th – March 14th</p>	<p>Caring for Infants, Toddlers, and Their Families (30 hours) – Online </p> <p>This training covers unique aspects of providing child care for infants and toddlers in a home or center-based setting. Focus will be given to establishing the parent/provider relationship, understanding temperament, curriculum, and setting up and maintaining developmentally appropriate environments.</p> <p>Dates: January 22nd – April 4th</p>
<p>Curriculum and Development for Preschool (30 hours) – Online</p> <p>This curriculum is designed to introduce participants to planning, developing, and implementing curriculum to meet the unique needs of preschoolers. Even though they are all individuals, preschoolers follow a predictable pattern of development. In this training participants will study these commonalities.</p> <p>Dates: January 22nd – April 4th</p>	<p>Maine’s Early Childhood Learning Guidelines (30 hours) – Online</p> <p>This training covers: an orientation to the Early Childhood Learning Guidelines, 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.</p> <p>Dates: January 22nd – March 21st</p>

Laying the Foundation for NAEYC Accreditation (27 hours) – Online

This course is designed for directors and teaching staff who are interested in learning more about accreditation, self study, and program quality improvement through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The course will introduce you to the self study process, the ten Early Childhood Program Standards, relevant websites, and helpful tools.

Dates: January 29th – April 4th

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 system, developmental and environmental aspects and influences on parent and child's sense of self and developing competencies

Dates: Saturdays, February 1st, 8th, and 22nd; 9:00am-3:00pm

Location: ACAP Main Office, Presque Isle

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.

Two Options:

Dates: February 5th – 21st **OR** March 5th – 21st

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

This online 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.

Two Options:

Dates: February 5th – 21st **OR** March 19th – April 4th

Operating a Family Child Care Business (24 hours) – Online

This eight-part curriculum is designed to develop and improve basic business management skills. Learning activities and take-home action steps encourage participants to practice what they learn to improve the bottom line.

Dates: February 26th – April 25th

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: March 5th – May 16th

Links to Learning (45 hours) – Face-to-Face 

This training will provide tools for creating afterschool programs that effectively connect children's multiple worlds (home, school, afterschool, peers, and community), building on the latest research on topics such as resiliency, homework support, and youth engagement.

Two Options (no classes during April vacation):

Dates: Fridays, March 7th – May 23rd; 10:00am – 1:00pm

Location: Bangor location TBA

Dates: Thursdays, March 6th – May 22nd; 6:00-9:00pm

Location: Casco Bay YMCA, Freeport

Early Childhood Education: Theory to Practice (9 hours) – Online

This training covers the historical perspective of Early Childhood Education (ECE) 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. (Formerly “Introduction to Early Childhood Education”)

Dates: March 12th – April 4th

Please note that online registration for all MRTQ trainings ends **three business days** before the published start date. In addition, most MRTQ trainings fill quickly, so it's important to register early!

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: March 19th – April 11th

“I had a child climb up into my lap the other day and fall asleep in my arms...I sat there holding her after everyone else had gone and got to thinking about all the little ones who had done this before. They have come and gone from my home, but they leave a part of themselves with me. I love all of those who have been in my care...I have the greatest job!”

~ Mary Pike, a family child care provider in Caribou

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

These online trainings are intended to guide programs through the requirements of Maine’s quality rating and improvement system, Quality for ME. Trainings are available for a variety of settings – family child care, center-based programs, and school age programs. The series includes training for moving from Step 1 to Step 2 and a second training for moving from Step 2 to Step 3. **More information and registration can be found on the Training Calendar.**

Dates: Step 1 to Step 2, family child care, center-based programs, and school age programs, begins February 5th
Step 2 to Step 3 (all settings) begins February 26th

Additional Upcoming Training Opportunities:

- Inclusive Child Care online (March)
- Fostering the Social Emotional Development and Competence of Young Children hybrid (March)
- Foundations of Health, Wellness and Safety online (April)
- Supporting Maine’s Infants and Toddlers: Guidelines for Learning and Development online (April)
- Maine’s Early Childhood Learning Guidelines online (April)
- Child Care Leadership Institutes I, II, and III hybrid (spring)

More information will be available in our next newsletter, to be published the first week of March!

Are You New to Online Learning?

Are you a bit nervous about taking an online training? Maine Roads to Quality now has a “Moodle Quick Guide”

Moodle is the online learning management system that MRTQ uses to host our training. Through Moodle, MRTQ offers trainings that are completely online and hosts the online components of “hybrid” trainings that meet both online and in a traditional classroom.

The Moodle Quick Guide has been developed to introduce potential students to Moodle and to help them feel more comfortable with the online learning experience. Anyone who wants to learn more about online training in general, or more about Moodle specifically, can benefit from reading over the Moodle Quick Guide.

The Moodle Quick Guide can be found on the MRTQ website. Under the Quick Links section, choose Forms and Publications, or use this link: http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pdfs/Moodle_Quick_Guide.pdf.

Maine Roads to Quality staff are also available to answer your questions. You can speak to Jenn Wiles at jwiles@usm.maine.edu or 207-228-8331 or Nick Curlew at ncurlew@usm.maine.edu or 207-780-5841.



MAINE ROADS TO QUALITY

Early Care and Education Professional Development Network

MAINE ROADS TO QUALITY
 PO BOX 9300
 PORTLAND, ME 04104-9300

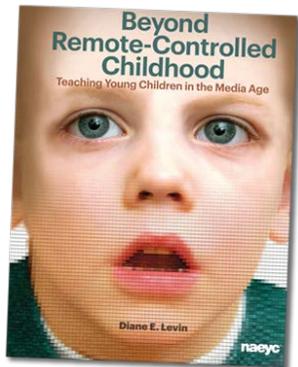
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Save the Date!

Maine Roads to Quality and the Maine Association for the Education of Young Children (MEAEYC) are co-sponsoring a spring training event with author Diane Levin! Diane will be speaking about her book *Beyond Remote-Controlled Childhood: Teaching Young Children in the Media Age*.



Date: Saturday, April 5th, 2014; 9:00am-12:00pm
Location: University of Southern Maine, Portland
FMI: Visit MEAEYC's website at <http://www.maineaeyc.org/events> or <http://dianeelevin.com> to read more about Diane.

Family Child Care Providers: Have You Considered Attending NAFCC's National Conference?



The National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) holds a national conference every year – this year's will be held July 11th & 12th in Orlando, Florida!

For more information to help you plan your trip, visit NAFCC's website at <http://nafcc.org>.

"This year, the NAFCC national conference was held in Scottsdale, Arizona. I was able to attend the conference...it was a great experience. I met a lot of very nice people who live across the country. Hope to see you at the 2014 conference!"

~ Becki Yahm, 4 Seasons Preschool and Childcare

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