



Locations

Communities of practice currently operate in the following areas:

- Androscoggin (Lewiston/Auburn)
- Aroostook (Caribou, Fort Kent, Houlton, and Presque Isle)
- Cumberland
 - * Naples
 - * Portland (options for Director focus, Infant/Toddler focus, or Preschool focus)
- Franklin (Farmington)
- Hancock (Ellsworth)
- Kennebec (Augusta, out-of-school time focus)
- Knox (Rockland)
- Oxford (Oxford)
- Penobscot (Brewer)
- Piscataquis (Dover-Foxcroft)
- Sagadahoc (Bath)
- Somerset (Skowhegan)
- Washington (Calais and Machias)
- York (Kennebunk and Kittery)
- Statewide virtual CoP for family child care practitioners

Dates and locations of all CoP meetings are updated regularly on our website:

<https://goo.gl/W5FpxZ>



PO Box 9300

Portland, ME 04104-9300



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 Child and Family Services
 2 Anthony Avenue
 11 State House Station
 Augusta, Maine 04333-4011
 Tel: (207) 624-7900
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Peer-to-Peer Networks: Communities of Practice





Why Should I Participate in a Community of Practice?

There are a number of reasons to participate, including to:

- Build relationships with peers
- Share and exchange knowledge
- Support each other to use evidence-based practices
- Identify internal and external expertise
- Problem solve issues from the field
- Receive professional growth hours

All MRTQ PDN communities of practice are FREE.

If you are interested in joining an MRTQ PDN-sponsored community of practice, visit our website to view a current listing of groups around Maine.

What Are Communities of Practice?

According to educational theorist Etienne Wenger, communities of practice are “groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.” Communities of practice (also known as “CoPs”) are not training; they are a different type of professional development where the content of the discussion is driven by the participants.

Most communities of practice meet monthly for approximately two hours. Practitioners are invited to join at any time. During the meetings, group participants share ideas and skills with their peers and brainstorm together about their professional learning needs. Communities of practice sponsored by Maine Roads to Quality Professional Development Network (MRTQ PDN) receive support from a trained facilitator.



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Communities of Practice and Training Hours

Attendees at CoP meetings will receive professional growth hours as an acknowledgment of their attendance. These professional growth hours can be used toward the requirement at Steps 3 and 4 with *Quality for ME* and are accepted by the Maine Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services (child care licensing) to meet yearly training requirements.

Occasionally, elective training will be a part of a CoP meeting, in which case, MRTQ PDN will enter the appropriate training hours into your Professional Development Profile in the MRTQ Registry.

Contact Us

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