

Military Families, Welcome to Maryland!

General Education Information:

- ✓ Our State Education Agency is the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) [Maryland State Department of Education \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](http://marylandpublicschools.org)
- ✓ Maryland has more than 1,400 public schools in 24 public school systems serving all of the State's **23 counties** plus [Baltimore City](http://www.baltimorecity.gov)
- ✓ Information about charter schools in Maryland can be found here: [MAPCS Programs & Resources Site \(mdcharters.org\)](http://www.mdcharters.org)
- ✓ MD Public Schools receive annual [Report Cards](https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov).
<https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov>
- ✓ MD schools follow the College & Career Ready (CCR) Standards [Maryland College and Career Ready \(MCCR\) Standards for English Language Arts/Literacy \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org)

Special Education Services in Maryland

The MSDE Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services (DEI/SES) provides leadership, accountability, technical assistance, and resource management to local school systems, public agencies, and stakeholders through a seamless, comprehensive system of coordinated services to children and students with disabilities, birth through age 21, and their families.

[A Parent's Guide to Understanding Your Individualized Education Program \(IEP\) Rights and Responsibilities in Maryland, October 2016 \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org)
[Family Advocacy Resources – Maryland State Department of Education \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org)



The **Parents' Place of Maryland** is the Parent Center. The Parents' Place Family-to-Family Health Information Center (F2F HIC) provides a central source for families of children and young adults with disabilities and special health care needs to obtain support, advocacy, and information about health care. We have a strong commitment to promoting and supporting the needs of families from racially, culturally, and linguistically diverse communities.

For More Information:

[Family-to-Family Health Information Center | Parents' Place of Maryland \(ppmd.org\)](http://www.ppmd.org)

Some questions you can ask Parents' Place of MD...

- How can I be sure my child is receiving "comparable services" when we get to Maryland?
- What should I do if I think my child might need special education services? How does the process work here?
- What are my rights if I hear my child is receiving interventions through MTSS, and I want an evaluation by the school?
- How does reevaluation work when we move from another state?
- What do I need to know about the roles and responsibilities at the state and local level?
- Who should I talk to if I'm not satisfied with my child's IEP or his/her progress in academic or functional areas?
- How can I make sure that my high school child stays on track for graduation even though some MD requirements are different?

Maryland may differ from other states in these areas:

- Your child's school is zoned and dictated by your home address.
- Federal law (the [Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act](#)) and Maryland state laws require that all students with disabilities be provided a “free, appropriate public education” that helps them learn and prepares them for employment and daily living. This means local public school districts will provide individualized or special education and related services to students with disabilities from birth until they leave high school. Students who leave high school prior to their 22nd birthday will no longer be eligible for these services.
- Early childhood special education services are offered through the Infants & Toddlers Program [Maryland's Infants and Toddlers Program \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](#) Pre-K services are offered through the Child Find office [Preschool Special Education \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](#)
- Any disputes can be handled through the Family Support & Dispute Resolution Branch at Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) [Family Support & Dispute Resolution Branch \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](#)
- A sample of a Maryland IEP form can be found here [Maryland IEP Form July 1 2019.indd \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](#)
- The guidelines for determining special learning disabilities can be found here [Rti MD 5-5-08 Final version.pub \(Read-Only\) \(hcpss.org\)](#)
- IEP guidelines and process' in Maryland can be found here [MarylandIEPProcessGuide.pdf \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](#)
- Information on the Maryland Autism Waiver [Autism Waiver Fact Sheet.pdf \(maryland.gov\)](#)
- The many programs embedded within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) can be found here [MSDE Programs \(marylandpublicschools.org\)](#)
- Maryland's state Medicaid agency is called Maryland Health Connections and their website is [Home - Maryland Health Connection](#).

