



Prior Early Care Experience Form

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) requires the Howard County School System to collect information about the early care experiences of all newly enrolling kindergarten students. Please provide the following information and return it to the school in which your child is (or will be) enrolled.

Student's Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Elementary School _____

In what kind of care did your child spend most of their time since September of the previous year? **Place one check in the correct box for full day OR two checks in the correct half day boxes.** Please include the name of the school, center, or provider.

Prior Care	Full Day	Half-Day 1	Half-Day 2
Home or Care by a Relative (Informal Care)			
Head Start _____			
HCPSS Pre-K Elementary School _____			
Child Care Center _____			
Family Child Care Center _____			
Non-Public Nursery School _____			
Kindergarten (Repeated) _____			

MSDE Defined Categories of Early Care Experiences

Informal Care	Care provided in a home by a relative or non-relative.
Head Start Program	A federal pre-school program for 3 to 5 year olds from low income families: funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and licensed by the Maryland Department of Education, Office of Child Care.
Prekindergarten in a public school	Public school prekindergarten education for four-year olds. Administration by local boards of education and regulated by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) according to COMAR 13A.06.02 Prekindergarten Programs school (general education or special education in a public school)
Child Care Center	Child care provided in a facility, usually non-residential, for part or all of the day that provides care to children in the absence of a parent. The centers are licensed by the Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Child Care.
Family Child Care	Regulated care given to a child younger than 13 years old, in place of parental care for less than 24 hours, in a residence other than the child's residence and for which the provider is paid. Family child care is regulated by the Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Child Care.
Non-public Nursery Schools	Pre-school programs with an "education" focus for 2,3, or 4 year olds; approved or exempted by MSDE; usually part-day, nine months a year.