

What is the Maryland Child Care Workforce Survey?

A 20-minute online survey designed by the [University of Virginia](#) to better understand the experiences and challenges of early caregivers in Maryland and to help the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) retain child care employees in their jobs.

What does the survey ask about?

The survey asks early educators about whether they are still employed at their site/program or moved/left, challenges to teaching, staffing, compensation, and other factors that may relate to site/program satisfaction. The survey also includes questions about early childhood educators' well-being.

Who is eligible to take the survey?

The survey will be distributed to a sample of current and former early educators who worked in MSDE child care in October 2023.

Why did I not receive a survey invite?

- Survey invites will not be sent out until early August 2024.
- First, check your email spam folder for an 08/05/2024 email with the subject line, "You're Invited: MSDE 20-Minute Survey for Current and Former Early Educators with Thank You Reward"
- Not all employees will receive a survey invitation. There is limited funding for the survey rewards for this survey, and so not all employees will be invited to participate.

How will I get the survey?

Invitations will be sent to eligible early childhood educators via email or text. That email will contain a unique link connected to your email address to take the survey. The subject of the email will be "You're Invited: MSDE 20-Minute Survey for Current and Former Early Educators with Thank You Reward" The email will come from Alexis Washington (noreply@surveys.virginia.edu).

Do I get anything for participating?

To thank early educators for participating, invitees who complete the survey will instantly receive a \$35 gift card via email. In addition to the guaranteed \$35, those who complete the survey will also be entered into a lottery to win an additional \$50 gift card. About 1 in every 50 survey respondents will win \$50.

What kind of thank you reward?

Invited survey completers will receive a \$35 electronic gift card, provided by [TangoCard](#). You will have the option to choose either a Mastercard cash card, or a gift card to Amazon, Target, or

Walmart. Gift cards will be provided electronically over email. You will be given the option to receive a physical card via regular mail.

What kind of identifying information is collected and will it be shared?

- The UVA-administered survey will ask you to confirm your contact information (name, phone number, email, and employment site). Changes in contact information may be provided to MSDE to update their existing contact records.
- UVA will never share your individual responses to other survey questions with anyone outside the UVA study team. This includes MSDE, employers, or other survey participants.
- No individual employees, employers, or sites will be identifiable when we summarize and share survey results publicly. We will aggregate the data collected in this survey above the site level to large categories such as “Large Family Child Care” or “Child Care Center.” This will ensure that your identity could ever be inadvertently identified. The UVA research team will provide MSDE with any updated contact information (i.e., name, email address and phone number) from this survey to replace that they have on file; however, this contact information will not be linked with your other survey responses.

Do I have to participate?

No. Participation is voluntary.

Where can I read more?

Click [here](#) to read about the survey on the University of Virginia website.

Click [here](#) to read about the survey on the MSDE website.