**Maryland Early Childhood Leadership Program (MECLP)**

**2022-2023 APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN COHORT IV**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**County of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**In which county do you work? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What is your job title and/or position? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please describe the type of program in which you work (family or center-based child care, Head Start, Judy Center, Pre-K in school system, community-based Pre-K; Infant and Toddler Program, other): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Please provide brief information about your role and responsibilities in your program/school, etc., including, if applicable, the number of staff you directly supervise.**

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**How long have you been in the early childhood field?**

☐ 0-5 years

☐ 6-10 years

☐ 10-15 years

☐ 15+ years

**What are the ages of children you work with? If you do not directly supervise children, what are the ages of the children your work focuses on?**

☐ 0-3 years

☐ 0-5 years

☐ 6-12 years

☐ Birth-Grade 3

☐ K-12

☐ Other - please describe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe all the degrees you hold?**

☐ Bachelor’s Degree, Concentration: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_

☐ Master’s Degree, Concentration: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_

☐ Post-Master’s Degree, Concentration: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_

☐ Ed.D., Concentration: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_

☐ Ph.D., Concentration: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_

*Please note that enrollment at UMBC Graduate School requires a minimum of 3.0 GPA in your bachelor’s degree.*

**Have you participated in a formal leadership program in the past? If yes, please describe below. Please include ways your program, school system, agency, etc. supports your leadership development – either at staff meetings; direct leadership training; higher education courses and/or with coach or mentor support.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

MECLP/UMBC does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. In order to track the effectiveness of our recruiting efforts and ensure diversity among our participants, please consider answering the following demographic questions:

**Race/Ethnicity (check all that apply):** ☐ Alaska Native, ☐ American Indian, ☐ Black or African American, ☐ Hispanic, ☐ Non-Hispanic, ☐ Native Hawaiian, ☐ Pacific Islander, ☐ White,

☐ Prefer not to say, ☐ Prefer to Self-Describe: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Gender:** ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Non-binary/third gender ☐ Prefer not to say ☐ Prefer to self-describe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Within the MECLP program we focus on the following seven leadership skills:**

1. Vision (long-term view; ability to see the larger system; establish shared understanding of complex problems with others; leverage diversity; fostering reflection and generative discussions)
2. Personal leadership skills & values (strong ethics; communications skills; continual learner; resilience; adaptive behavior)
3. People management/leadership (build teams/workforce; set direction; nurture growth and professional development; identify stakeholders including families, educators, funders, legislators, etc.; build networks internally and externally; manage performance; nurture broad array of working relationships; politically savvy)
4. Organizational capacity (effective use of data and research to inform decisions and areas of focus; lead others through change; conflict management skills)
5. Results/outcomes (achievement orientation; planning & execution; create & model accountability; measure and evaluate)
6. Creativity/innovation (new insights; questions status quo & conventional approaches; entrepreneurship; co-creating change and vision)
7. Public policy knowledge (understanding of policy and legislative environment, at local, state and federal levels)

More information about MECLP can be found on our [website](https://meclp.umbc.edu/). **After reading about the MECLP program and considering the skills listed above, please answer the following questions. (Please limit each answer to 375 words.)**

1. **Why do you want to be part of MECLP? How will it help you enhance your leadership effectiveness?**
2. **Which of these important leadership skills and knowledge do you think are most needed for performing your current role?**
3. **Please describe which of the above leadership skills you currently exhibit.**
4. **Which of these seven leadership skills do you hope to gain from participation in the *Leading for Change in Early Childhood Education* course and the other components of the MECLP Program?**

1. **Below is a list of leadership attributes. Which of the skills and knowledge in your opinion are most important to being an effective leader? Please use 1-8 to rank them.**

* Visioning – leading development of new policies or initiative
* Change management – leading implementation of new policies or initiatives
* Leadership style and practices – helping others make complex decisions
* Working collaboratively – gaining consensus among different perspectives
* Engaging new partners – establishing relationships and trust with leaders outside your program/school
* Group dynamics and effective communication
* Shared decision making and distributed leadership
* Commitment to equity and addressing disparities

1. **Describe your short-term (two years) and long-term (five years) professional goals (include how your participation in MECLP will help change your program or improve outcomes for Maryland’s children).**
2. **Describe an example of when you exercised leadership. Please indicate what you were trying to accomplish, why you think you were successful or unsuccessful, and what you think you could have done differently. (Please limit your response to 500 words).**
3. **Please share examples of how you strive to be inclusive and promote social justice and equity in your program, job, community, etc.**
4. **Please share additional information about yourself that is relevant to your MECLP application that you would like us to know.**

Note: Face to Face in Person sessions\* will be held on Saturdays from 9:30 AM- 2:30 PM at University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250 -

unless indicated otherwise.

Note: Pending sufficient applicants, we may offer a second cohort at the *University of Maryland, Southern Maryland Regional Center,* 44219 Airport Road, California, MD 20619. The class dates indicated below may differ at the Southern Maryland location. Please choose your preferred location for face to face classes: \_\_\_\_UMBC \_\_\_\_Southern Maryland Regional Center.

UMBC Location class and event dates:

December 10, 2022 (Orientation and Cohort III Capstone Project Presentation, 9:30am – 3:30pm, (**on the UMBC main campus ONLY.**)

January 28, 2023

March 5, 2023

May 20, 2023

July 8, 2023

October 14, 2023

December 9, 2023

Applicants who are accepted into MECLP are expected to attend all in-person sessions as well as participate in all online learning and homework. **Please indicate if you are willing to make this commitment: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No**

\*MECLP will follow UMBC and CDC guidelines relative to COVID.

**I have secured the approval of my supervisor to participate in MECLP.**

Supervisor’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Note: If you need to opt out of securing approval, please provide an explanation.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Participation as a MECLP Fellow requires two professional Letters of Reference**. Please list the following information for your references. *Please provide your references with the link to the* [*Reference Template*](https://meclp.umbc.edu/files/2022/04/Reference-Form-for-Cohort-IV-final.docx)*.* You are welcome to use your supervisor as one of your references.

Reference #1:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is your relationship to or in what capacity do you know this individual? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reference #2:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Please include your current resume with your application.**

**Unofficial transcripts from all completed degree programs should be emailed to:**

[meclp@umbc.edu](mailto:meclp@umbc.edu)

**Applicants considered as finalists will be invited for an interview with members of the MECLP Advisory Committee and will be asked to provide a writing sample following the interview.**

\_\_\_\_ I agree

**Applications are due by June 24, 2022.**

**Interview window is August 1st through August 23nd, 2022.**

**Decisions are expected to be made by the end of September 2022.**

**Course Fees:**

The Sherman Center for Early Learning in Urban Communities covers the SHER 601 course tuition estimated at $2,500 for 3 graduate credits. Selected cohort members are expected to pay $275 to cover the costs of Instructional Materials (course binder, books and instructional materials.)  (If you participate in the Maryland Credentialing program, we encourage you to submit the $275 Instructional Materials contribution for reimbursement.)

SHER 601 is an elective course in the Community Leadership Program in the Department of Professional Studies at UMBC.

The Division of Early Childhood, Maryland State Department of Education, the Trust for Learning and the Sherman Center for Early Learning in Urban Communities at UMBC support the MECLP Program.

Thank you for your interest in MECLP and for applying to become a MECLP Fellow. If you need an accommodation to complete this application, please contact [meclp@umbc.edu.](mailto:meclp@umbc.edu)