



Be a Maryland ECE Leader

Improve school readiness and related outcomes for early learners

The Maryland Early Childhood Leadership Program (MECLP) is a workforce initiative aimed at filling the early childhood leadership gap that exists in Maryland. It accelerates cross-sector leadership and career advancement in early education. It develops and supports strong leaders who will generate positive change in communities by significantly improving school readiness and related outcomes for early learners, particularly for disadvantaged and vulnerable children.

Who?	MECLP strives to build diverse cohorts of leaders who represent various roles, ethnicities, geographic locations, and ECE settings throughout Maryland. This could be you! Visit https://meclp.umbc.edu/meclp-fellows/		
Where?	University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250		
What?	<p>SHER 601 - <i>Leading for Change in Early Childhood Education</i> A three-credit, cohort-based graduate course taught by highly experienced faculty and thought leaders. Participants will build skills, knowledge, and dispositions in seven core leadership competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Visioning -Values -People management -Organizational capacity -Results and outcomes -Creativity and innovation -Policy advocacy 	<p>SHER 602 - <i>Policy and Advocacy in Early Childhood Education</i> A three-credit, cohort-based graduate course that features an emphasis on building participants' capacity to act as advocates, leaders, and innovators for high-quality practices and research informed policies in early childhood education at the local, state, and national levels.</p> <p><i>Students completing SHER 601 and SHER 602 will receive UMBC's Endorsement in Early Childhood Leadership.</i></p>	<p>A rich Community of Practice of like-minded professionals is available to all former and current <i>Fellows</i>, as well as future and potential <i>Fellows</i>! It includes opportunities for networking, dialogue, problem-solving, coaching, professional learning, and more.</p> <p>You are invited to visit our website, subscribe to our newsletter, and/or attend professional webinars on a variety of relevant ECE topics. https://meclp.umbc.edu</p>
When?	<p>SHER 601 - <i>Leading for Change in Early Childhood Education</i> A 12-month course that runs January to December. It consists of six in-person full-day class sessions and six asynchronous online sessions.</p>	<p>SHER 602 - <i>Policy and Advocacy in Early Childhood Education</i> A one-semester course that will be offered in Fall 2023. Participants must successfully complete SHER 601 to qualify.</p>	<p>Our Community of Practice is ongoing and continuing to grow!</p>
How?	<p>Applications for Cohort V will be available in early May 2023. Tuition for the courses is grant-funded. Visit https://meclp.umbc.edu/how-to-apply/ for more information.</p>		