What is Exceed?

Exceed is the commitment of all of those in our state's early learning community who are working to help ensure that all of our young children have the opportunity to soar. Exceed is a partnership between the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE), the Department of Human Services (DHS), the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF), the Executive Offices of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), the Department of Health and Rhode Island's Early Learning Council.

Requesting Access

Access to the Early Care and Education Data System (ECEDS) is by invitation only. Child care administrators, public school educational leads and family child care owners will receive an invitation to create an account. Access is validated by the state agency governing the program. If you are a child care administrator, public school educational lead or family child care owner and have not received an invitation, please visit **exceed.ri.gov**, click the *LOG IN* button, then the *HELP* button to go to the ECEDS helpdesk.

Early Care and Education Data System

exceed.ri.gov

What is the Early Care and Education Data System?

Rhode Island's Early Care and Education Data System (ECEDS) is a centralized system to align data collection and use across programs and state agencies to provide state policymakers with a comprehensive picture of Rhode Island's young children, early care and education programs and the early childhood education (ECE) workforce. ECEDS will help stakeholders improve program quality, ECE workforce quality, access to high quality programs and understand child outcomes.

To make the data collection useful to providers we will develop a comprehensive web based parent search and provide programs with an efficient online application process for DCYF license renewal, BrightStars Quality Rating applications and RIDE Comprehensive Early Childhood Education (CECE) Approval, and a workforce registry. Each part of the ECEDS system benefits providers by collecting and storing data required by regulatory agencies and reducing duplication of data collection.

How do we keep the data safe?

The Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) is committed to ensuring that child and personnel data is collected and maintained in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations governing privacy and access to personnel data including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

The transmission and storage of all data within the Early Care and Education Data System (ECEDS) will adhere to generally accepted industry best practice standards related to information security, including, but not limited to, firewall implementation, virus scanning, security access control software, encryption of data and limitation of physical access to confidential information. User access to the data in ECEDS will use generally accepted best practices for authentication and authorization. Standard role based security will be used to control access to all data.

To protect the privacy of individual records, a unique number will be assigned to each child, workforce member and program whose information is contained in the ECEDS. These assigned numbers, which are computer-generated, will not contain any embedded meaning. ECEDS numbers will be checked for duplicates and then be permanently assigned to the relevant child, workforce member and program.

Who has access to the information in the Early Care and Education Data System (ECEDS)?

State agency users will have access to conduct work-related activities. Program administrators, educational leads and family child care owners will have access to review and update state data, submit applications for DCYF license renewal, BrightStars Quality Rating application and RIDE Comprehensive Early Childhood Education (CECE) Approval. In future releases, the early care and education workforce will have access to the workforce registry to maintain their professional profile.

Child and workforce data will be reported to the public in the aggregate. Program data will be made available to the public through a program search on the **exceed.ri.gov** website. Program quality data includes the name, location and telephone numbers of early care and education programs; the name of the program administrator/educational leader/family child care owner and contact information; DCYF license status and any final agency actions; BrightStars application status, overall quality rating, and ratings by standard; CECE approval status and quality information related to the CECE standards. Programs may choose to include additional information in their program profile.