IDEALS Institute

Innovation in Development, Engagement, And Learning Systems (IDEALS)

IDEALS at a Glance

At the IDEALS Institute, we aim to ensure that all people have access to quality care and education throughout their lives, from birth through adulthood. Quality leads to improved development, increased learning and engagement, and has lifelong positive effects for individuals and the community.

We approach quality improvement holistically. Sustainable improvement comes through refining the entire ecosystem – from understanding and better serving people’s needs to improving the standards and quality of service providers and creating systems to encourage, track, and reward positive change.

Let’s make a difference together!

Contact us at
idealsinstitute@jhu.edu

Our Areas of Expertise

- Early childhood systems
- Competency-based workforce development
- Training, coaching, and technical assistance
- Birth-12 care and teaching practices
- Technology development, integration, and alignment
- Community outreach and stakeholder engagement
- Persuasive marketing strategies and communications campaigns
- Policy development, implementation, and sustainability planning
- Applied research capabilities

Our Partners

- Maryland State Department of Education
- Dover Area School District
- MARC Mid America Regional Council
- PBS Kids
- QRIS National Learning Network
- Thread - Connecting Early Care Education to Alaska
- Tennessee State University, Center of Excellence for Learning Sciences
Our Impact

- Increased access to high-quality child care for more than 227,000 children from birth to age 16
- Built and operated the fastest-growing voluntary QRIS in the nation, with more than 5,000 providers
- Connected with 33 states, territories, and agency members of our system level shared services community of practice
- Reduced costs of public policy initiative implementation by 83% of federal estimates

Our Work

Data Systems
- EC Workforce Registry
- EDCeRT
- Improving Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)

Apps
- Maryland EXCELS QualityFinder
- Responsive Healthy Outcomes Promotion & Engagement (R-HOPE) model

Websites
- Maryland Families Engage
- GT Discover
- Healthy Beginnings
- Maryland Learning Links
- Maryland’s Child

Training & Collaboration
- Alaska Workforce Compensation Study
- BELIEVE - PreK Suspension & Expulsion Reduction
- Delaware Special Education Transformation Project
- Improving Quality System Level Shared Services
- Maryland Accreditation
- School Safety & Community Health Initiative
- Social-Emotional Infused STEM Education
- TC2: Transformational Learning for Early-Ed Workforce