



Locations

MRTQ PDN supports the development of CoPs in all regions within Maine and all MRTQ PDN-sponsored CoPs have a trained facilitator. Groups have opportunities for networking, topical information sharing, and/or elective training.

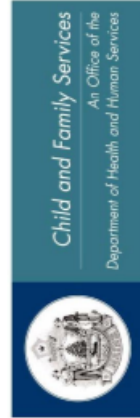
There are CoPs in all regions of Maine and several that meet virtually (via Zoom). There are also CoPs for specific audiences, including infant and toddler teachers, out-of-school time programs, directors, and family child care practitioners.

A complete, updated list of CoPs sponsored by MRTQ PDN can be found on our website: <https://mrtq.org/cops>.



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Peer-to-Peer Networks: Communities of Practice





Why Should I Participate in a Community of Practice?

There are a number of reasons to participate, including to:

- Build relationships with peers
- Share and exchange knowledge
- Support each other to use evidence-based practices
- Identify internal and external expertise
- Problem solve issues from the field
- Receive professional growth hours

All MRTQ PDN communities of practice are FREE.

If you are interested in joining an MRTQ PDN-sponsored community of practice, visit our website to view a current listing of groups around Maine.



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What Are Communities of Practice?

According to educational theorist Etienne Wenger, communities of practice are “groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.” Communities of practice (also known as “CoPs”) are not training; they are a different type of professional development where the content of the discussion is driven by the participants.

Most communities of practice meet monthly for approximately two hours. Practitioners are invited to join at any time. During the meetings, group participants share ideas and skills with their peers and brainstorm together about their professional learning needs.

Communities of Practice and Training Hours

Attendees at CoP meetings will receive professional growth hours as an acknowledgement of their attendance. These professional growth hours can be used toward the requirement at Steps 3 and 4 with *Quality for ME* and are accepted by the Maine Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services (child care licensing) to meet yearly training requirements.

Occasionally, elective training will be a part of a CoP meeting, in which case, MRTQ PDN will enter the appropriate training hours into your Professional Development Profile in the MRTQ Registry.

Contact Us

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