# Educational Perspective: How Maryland Supports Education In High Poverty Areas
## Course Syllabus

## Course Description

A student's zip code should not determine their outcome in school. However, when analyzing high-stakes testing, it is evident that there is a significant difference in scores between students living in poverty and students living in middle to upper-class neighborhoods. In this course, you will identify the counties and surrounding areas in Maryland with significant poverty rates and examine the correlation between those schools and ESSA/MCAP scores. In part two, participants will research the five pillars of The Maryland Blueprint to determine how it will improve the quality of education for students who live in high-poverty areas. The third and final part of this course will examine the resources and policies of Maryland to determine how they support educators, parents, and students who work and live in high-poverty areas.

This course enhances classroom teaching effectiveness and supports improved student outcomes by introducing new knowledge in educational equity and the impact of poverty on learning, with a focus on Maryland's high-poverty schools, ESSA, and MCAP data, empowering educators to implement equity-focused strategies and support underserved communities.

## Course Objectives

At the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Identify the areas in Maryland with the highest poverty rates and compare them to their surrounding neighborhoods.
2. Examine the correlation between counties with a high concentration of poverty and high stakes testing including strengths and areas of need on the assessments.
3. Describe the five pillars of the Maryland Blueprint.
4. Describe how The Maryland Blueprint intends to improve the quality of education for students living in poverty.
5. Identify state policies/resources available in Maryland to support students, families, and educators living and working in areas with high poverty rates.
6. Identify federal policies/resources that have been implemented in Maryland and surrounding areas to solve the issues faced by students, families, and educators living/working in areas of high poverty.

## Modules

- Module 1: Areas in Maryland with the highest concentration of poverty, Quiz 1
- Module 2: Correlating high-stakes assessment scores and median income in Maryland schools, Quiz 2

- Module 3: The Maryland Blueprint is designed to ensure all students in Maryland graduate college and career ready, Quiz 3
- Module 4: The Maryland Blueprint is designed to ensure all students in Maryland graduate college and career ready, Quiz 4
- Module 5: Beyond the MD Blueprint, there are many other state policies and resources aimed at supporting schools with a high concentration of poverty, Quiz 5
- Module 6: Beyond the MD Blueprint, there are federal policies and resources aimed at supporting schools with a high concentration of poverty, Quiz 6

## Grading:

Each quiz must be passed at an 80% or higher (three attempts allowed).

## Format

This is a self-paced, asynchronous (no required live meetings) course. Throughout the PD course, you will find it helpful to take notes along the way to assist with the quizzes. Within each module, you will find reflection assessments that are not graded but will help in your journey through the course. There is an interactive forum in the course to help you connect with peers and instructors, share ideas, and collaborate on best practices throughout your learning journey.