

## GMCAC FAQs

### **What is a Gold Medal Children's Activity Center?**

A Gold Medal Children's Activity Center (GMCAC) is an organization that is committed to providing a safe and fun child-centered environment promoting fitness, self-confidence, and life skills through physical, social, and moral development.

### **What is CHARACTER COUNTS!?**

CHARACTER COUNTS! is the character education framework that GMCACs, and thousands of schools and communities all over the country, use to teach kids about the Six Pillars of Character — trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

### **What is the relationship between GMCAC and CC!?**

GMCAC is the designation for your organization. CHARACTER COUNTS! is the character education framework you use to build good character in kids.

### **What does it mean to be a Gold Medal Children's Activity Center?**

As a GMCAC, you are communicating to your parents, staff, and kids that your organization is holding itself to a higher standard and will proactively work to build good character. You are also aligning yourself with the nation's leader in character education, CHARACTER COUNTS!, and gaining access to a variety of resources and support services to help you along the way.

### **How does the GMCAC program work?**

Once you apply to and become an official GMCAC, you can promote this special designation to your parents, staff, kids, community, and potential customers. You will also receive materials to help you get started, including a large banner for your gym that will communicate your commitment to character. Through training and consultation with the CC! staff, you will learn how to build a character education program that permeates the entire culture of your gym.

### **What kind of help and support does CHARACTER COUNTS! give to help build character in kids?**

CHARACTER COUNTS! provides training, support products, and ongoing consultation to make sure you are equipped and informed about what you can do to build character in your kids. Becoming a GMCAC will connect you with other activity centers across the country and allow you to share best practices.

### **Do I have to buy a bunch of products to do this?**

No. While we encourage you to purchase support products to help you in your efforts, they are not a prerequisite to becoming a GMCAC. There are many free resources available and things you can do on your own to build good character in kids.

### **Is training important?**

Yes. The key to any effective and sustainable character education program is professional development. Those who are trained in CHARACTER COUNTS! learn to be effective character educators by applying tools they already have available.

CHARACTER COUNTS! offers the nation's premier training program, the Character Development Seminar, that certifies individuals as character development specialists. Because the training is in a train-the-trainer format, you only need to get a couple of your key personnel trained and they can return to your gym to train the rest of your staff.

### **How do I become a GMCAC?**

Simply fill out the application found at [www.CharacterCounts.org/gmcac](http://www.CharacterCounts.org/gmcac) and send it to the CHARACTER COUNTS! National Office.