



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Administration for Children & Families

Office of Child Care



On the Path to Child Care Reform: Implementing the CCDBG Act of 2014

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What is the Office of Child Care?

The Office of Child Care is the primary Federal agency with responsibility for child care.

- OCC administers the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) and works with States, Tribes and Territories to provide child care assistance for eligible working families;
- OCC promotes children's learning by providing support to improve the quality of early care and after-school programs;
- OCC establishes and oversees implementation of child care policies, and provides guidance and technical assistance to States, Tribes and Territories for administering CCDF programs.

History and Authorization

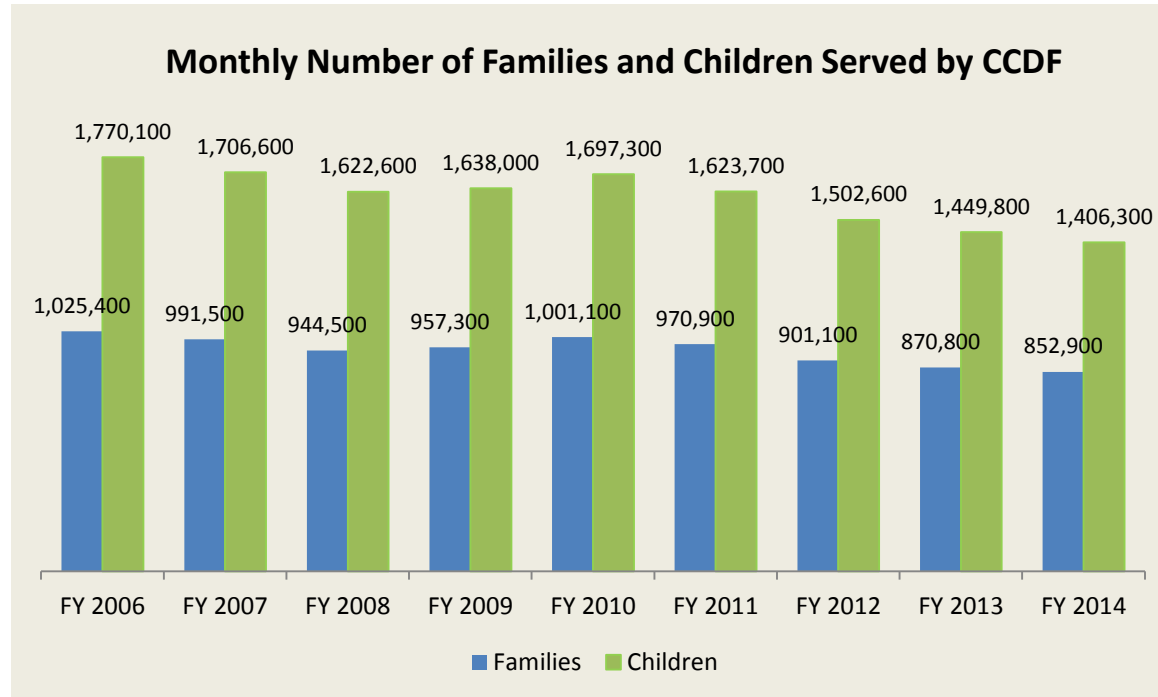
- CCDF is authorized under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG) which was enacted under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990. The CCDBG Act was amended and reauthorized by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunities Act of 1996, and again - *just recently*- by the CCDBG Act of 2014.
- CCDF made \$5.3 billion available to States, Tribes and Territories in FY 2014.

Basic Information on CCDF Child Care

CCDF Quick Graphics

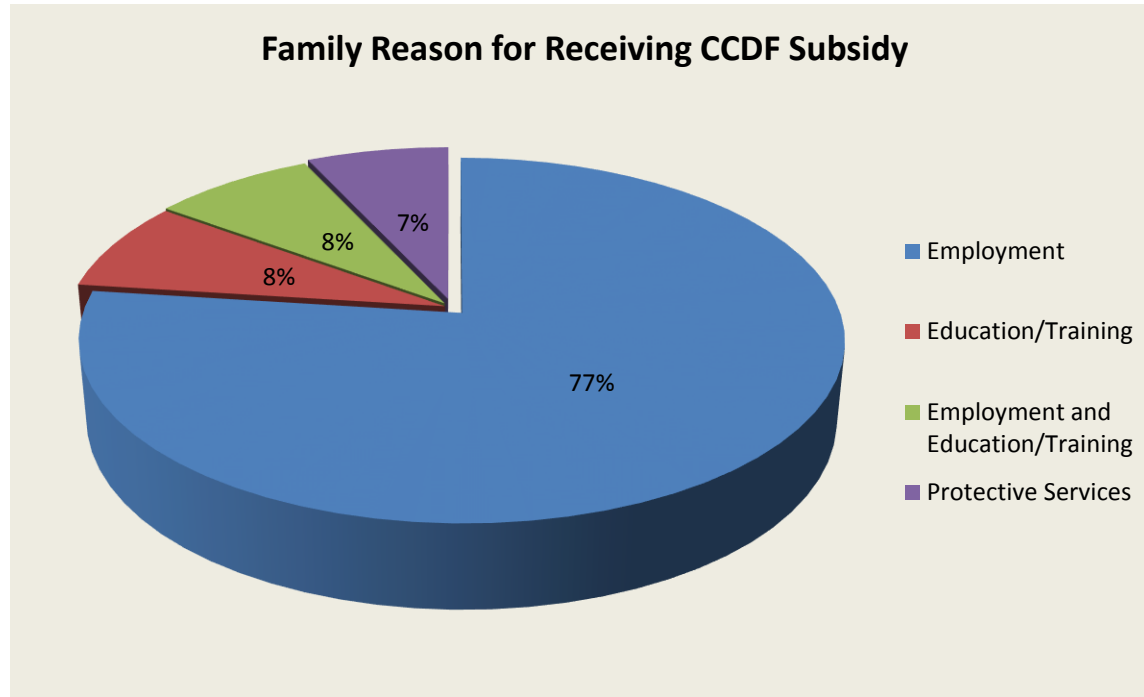
**Based on ACF-801 and ACF-800
Preliminary FY 2014 Data**

Families and Children Served by CCDF



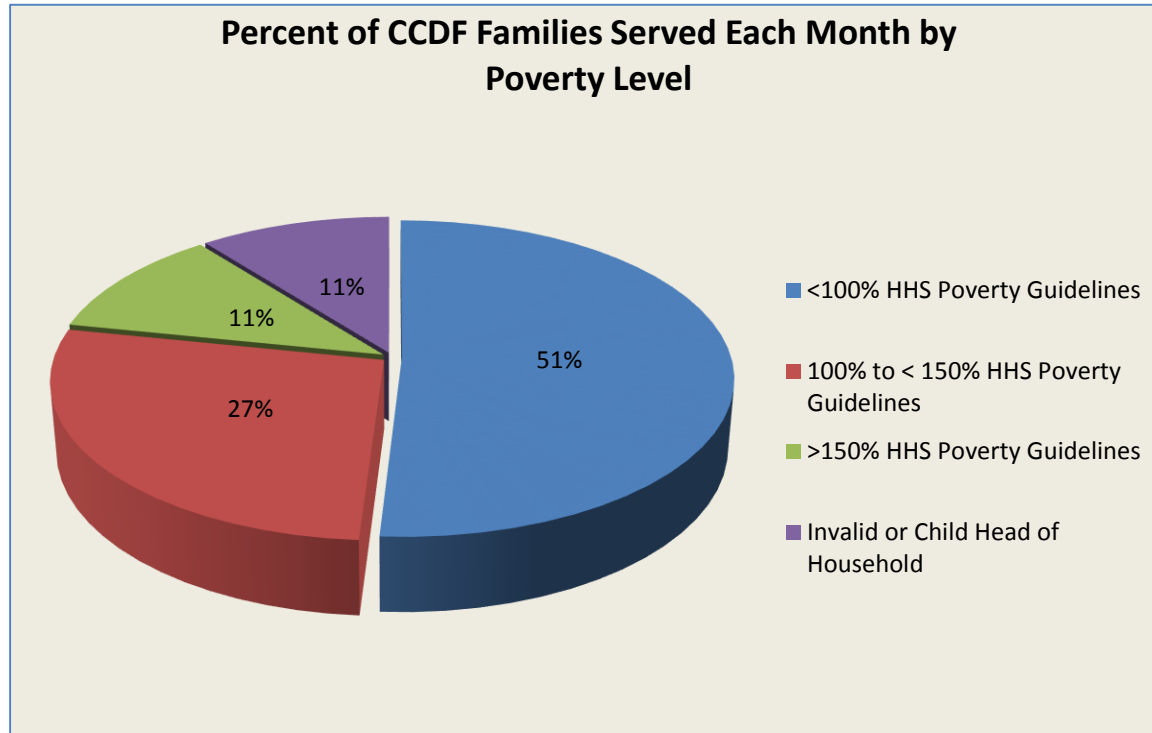
The monthly number of families and children served by CCDF has declined over time. In FY 2006, CCDF served 1.03 million families and 1.77 million children every month; in FY 2014, CCDF served 0.85 million families and 1.41 million children.

Family Reason for Care



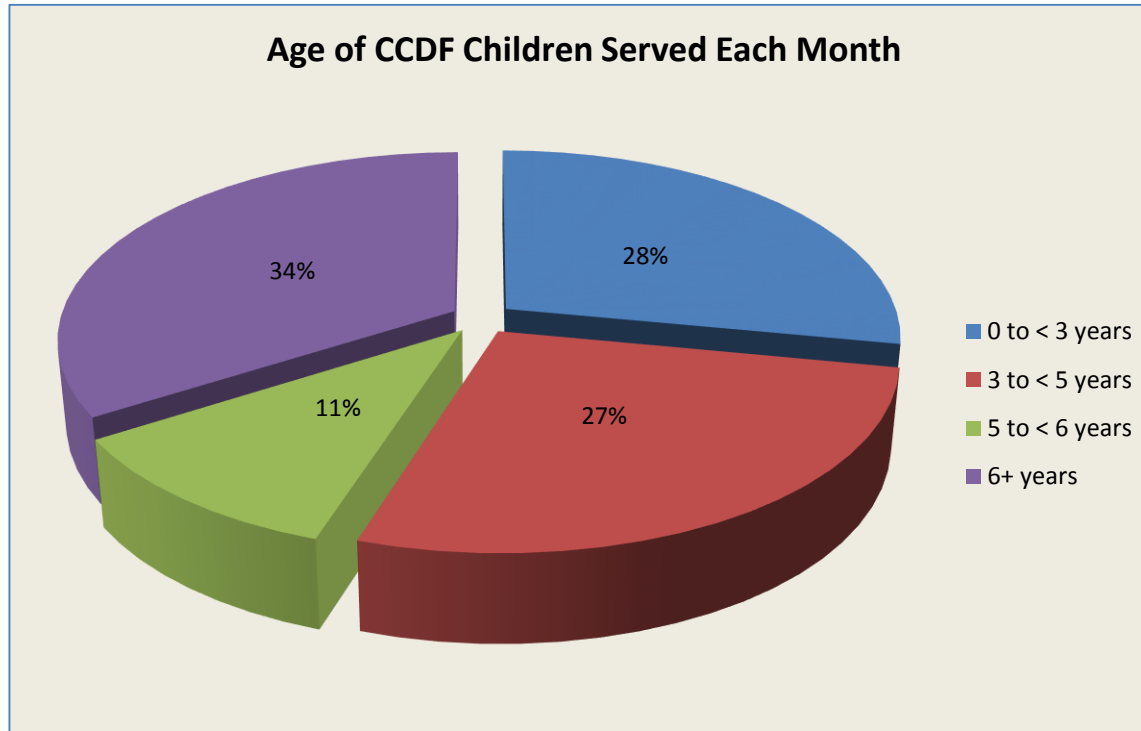
In FY 2014, 93% of families cited either employment or education and training (or both) as the reason for needing child care. The percent of families with employment only as a reason for care ranged from 96% in Kansas to 22% in Mississippi.

Family Poverty Level



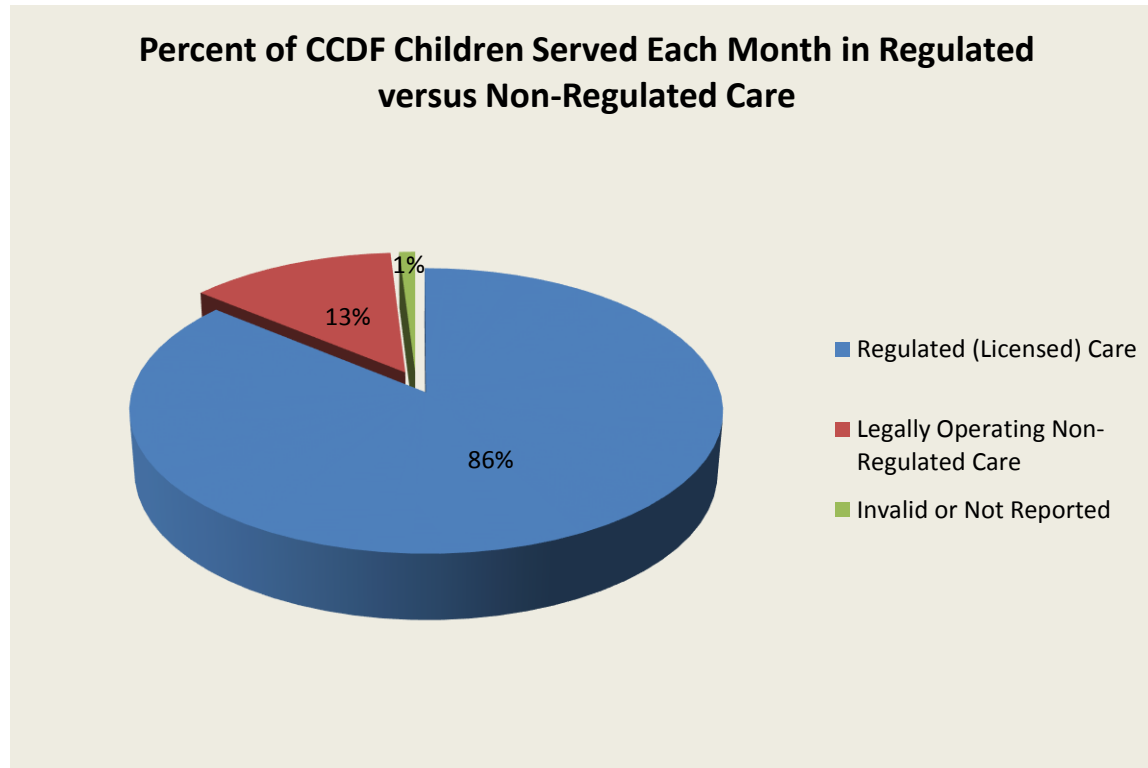
In FY 2014, 51% of the families served by CCDF reported incomes below the HHS Poverty Guidelines; 27% reported incomes between 100% and 150% of the Guidelines, and 11% reported incomes above 150%. The percent of families with income below 100% of the HHS Poverty Guidelines ranged from 85% in Mississippi to 25% in Wyoming.

Age of Children



Of the children served by CCDF in FY 2014, one-third were School-Aged children, 28% were Infants and Toddlers, 27% were Pre-Schoolers, and 11% were between the ages of 5 and 6 (Kindergarten-aged). The percentage of School-aged children ranged from 42% (North Carolina) to 18% (Arkansas).

Children Served in Regulated (Licensed) versus Non-Regulated Care



In FY 2014, 86% of CCDF Children received care in regulated (licensed) settings. In five States (Arkansas, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, West Virginia, and Wisconsin), 100% of the children were in regulated settings; at the other end of the spectrum, 26% of the children in Hawaii received care in such settings.

What is Reauthorization?

- Congress updated the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-186) on a bipartisan basis and President Obama signed it into law November 19, 2014.
- States have until March 1, 2016 to submit new three year CCDF plans (application for funding) and to describe their implementation plans.



CCDF Reauthorization Opportunity

- Re-envision child care to better support two generations
- Think across early childhood systems
- Engage federal, state and local partners
- Advance the goals of reform

New Purposes for CCDF

The Act provides a two-generational approach to promote child development and parents' pathways to financial stability. New language added by Congress includes:

- Promoting involvement by parents and family members in the development of their children in child care settings;
- Delivering high-quality, coordinated early childhood care and education services to maximize parents' options;
- Improving the overall quality of child care services and programs;
- Improving child care and development of participating children;
- Increasing the number and percentage of low-income children in high-quality child care settings.

Key Features of New Child Care Law

- Minimum 12-month Eligibility Policies
- Payment Rates & Provider Payment Practices
- Supply-building for Underserved Populations
- Training & Professional Development
- Increased Quality Spending
- Infant & Toddler Quality Set-aside
- Health & Safety Minimums in Licensing/Training
- Criminal Background Checks
- Monitoring
- Consumer Education & Family Engagement
- Tribal Provisions

Promote Health and Safety

- **Training**
 - 10 health and safety topic areas (e.g., prevention of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), first-aid, and CPR) for CCDF providers.
- **Monitoring**
 - Pre-licensure and annual unannounced inspections of licensed CCDF providers and annual inspections of license-exempt CCDF providers.
- **Publicly available monitoring reports**
 - Provider-specific information showing results of monitoring and inspection reports available by electronic means.
- **Criminal background checks**
 - Required for all child care providers, staff, and those with unsupervised access to children.

Pathways to Professional Development & Quality

- Must establish professional development and training requirements to improve knowledge and skills of CCDF providers and the child care workforce.
 - Including ongoing, annual training and a progression of professional development (which may include postsecondary education) and;
 - A focus on social-emotional behavioral intervention models.
- Requires States to describe how payment rates will be established based on results of the survey or alternative methodology, taking into account cost of providing higher quality services.
- Increase in quality set-aside.
 - Must establish outcome measures and evaluate progress of quality activities.
- Infant Toddler 3 percent set-aside to improve quality of care.

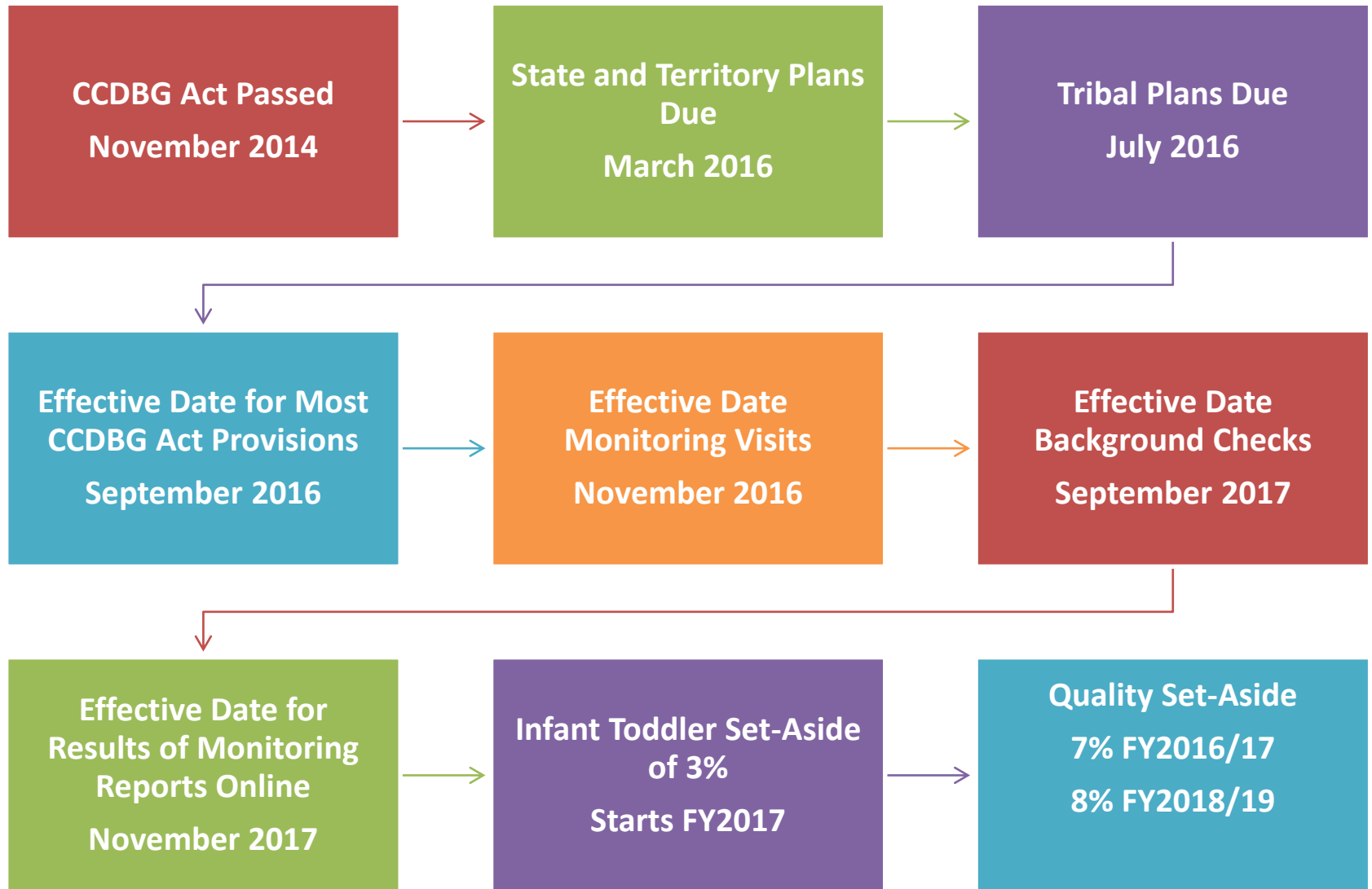
Provide Stable Access to Child Care Assistance

- Minimum 12-month eligibility periods.
 - Regardless of temporary changes in work, education, training status as long as income doesn't exceed 85 percent of SMI.
 - Option to terminate assistance prior to re-determination if a parent loses employment or ceases education, but must allow for a 3-month period for job search.
- Graduated phase-out of child care assistance.
- Redetermination must not unduly disrupt parental employment.
- Provider payment rates must take into account the cost of quality and follow generally accepted payment practices.
- Promote access for homeless families.

Outreach and Information for Parents and Consumers

- Requires information be provided to parents receiving CCDF, the general public, and, where applicable, child care providers.
 - Availability and quality of providers (if available)
 - Other financial assistance programs for which families may be eligible
 - Background check, licensing and monitoring processes and reports
 - Research and best practices concerning children’s development
 - Policies regarding the social-emotional behavioral health of young children, expulsion policies
 - Programs carried out under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)
- Information on developmental screenings
 - A description of how a family or provider may use these resources to obtain developmental screenings for children who may be at risk of developmental delays.

Implementation Timeline for the New Law



Considerations for State Legislators

- Consider how reauthorization opportunities can further state goals for school readiness and economic development.
- Partner with Governor, CCDF State Administrators, State Advisory Councils, and other stakeholders
- Review the State CCDF Plan due March 1
- Identify changes needed in state law
- Estimate costs and need for additional resources

Resources and Tools

- Policy resources and tools
 - IM on Children’s Social-Emotional and Behavioral Health
 - IM on Building the Supply of High Quality Child Care
- Videos
 - The Importance of Continuity of Child Care
 - The Benefits of Monitoring Child Care Settings
- TA Redesign and National Centers
- New technical assistance materials
 - Monitoring license-exempt providers issue briefs
 - Consumer education issue briefs
 - Family Friendly Policies to Improve Program Integrity



Thank you for your continued work!

For more information:

- Child Care Technical Assistance Resources
 - <https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/ccdf-reauthorization>
- OCC Reauthorization Policy Resources
 - <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ccdf-reauthorization>

