



OFFICE OF CHILD CARE

MISSION STATEMENT

Through the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), the Office of Child Care (OCC) works to ensure more low-income children have access to high quality child care.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Services

The Office of Child Care oversees the CCDF program, which supports low-income working families through child care financial assistance. CCDF also improves the quality of care and supports children’s healthy development and learning by funding child care licensing, quality improvements systems to help programs meet higher standards, consumer education to help parents make informed decisions, and support for the training and education of child care professionals.

Administration

CCDF is a block grant, and OCC partners with state, territory, and tribal governments to manage the program. OCC establishes and oversees the implementation of child care policies, provides program guidance, and offers training and technical assistance to CCDF grantees. Working within the federal regulations and guidelines, states, tribes, and territories use the flexibility of the block grant to build a program that best fits the needs of the children, families, and child care providers in their jurisdiction.

Expected Goals

The dual goals of CCDF are 1) supporting low-income parents while they work, go to school, or search for a job; and 2) improving the quality of child care to best support children’s healthy development and learning.

Children and Families Served

In fiscal year 2014, CCDF funds served approximately 1.4 million children and approximately 853,000 families per month. In addition, nearly 370,000 providers per month received CCDF funds in that year.

OCC Director

Shannon Christian

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FY Appropriations (\$B)

2014	\$5.30
2015	\$5.30
2016	\$5.68



BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM

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 Opportunity Act of 1996, and again by the CCDBG Act of 2014. The Office of Child Care, formerly the Child Care Bureau, administers the program.

Law

CCDF is governed by the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014. The law made significant changes to the CCDF program by defining health and safety requirements for child care providers, outlining family-friendly eligibility policies, expanding quality improvement efforts, and ensuring parents and the public have transparent information about the child care choices available to them.

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