



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

**December 5, 2023**

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Administration for Children and Families' Office of Early Childhood Development (ECD), in partnership with the Office of Child Care (OCC) and Office of Head Start (OHS), recently announced the release of a draft *Tribal Early Childhood Facilities Combined Application Guide* in the Federal Register. This draft resource aims to streamline application submission and review processes for Tribal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) and American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Head Start grant recipients that jointly apply to construct, renovate, or improve early childhood facilities using both CCDF and Head Start funds. ECD is soliciting public comment on the draft application guide during a 60-day comment period.

The draft application guide was developed to reduce burden for Tribal Nations seeking to combine CCDF and Head Start resources to build or renovate facilities in a manner that best meets the needs of the children, families, and early care and education providers in their Nations and communities, as part of the commitment to the principles of strong government-to-government relationships and Tribal sovereignty.

ECD, OCC, and OHS will host an informational webinar on **December 19, 2023, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. ET** to provide an overview of the draft application guide to support the submission of public comments. Please register for the webinar [here](#). A recording of the webinar will be posted on the [ECD website](#) following the webinar. ECD, OCC, and OHS will also host a virtual listening session on **January 11, 2024, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. ET** to hear feedback directly from Tribal Leaders or their designees on ways to clarify and strengthen the draft application guide for Tribes using both CCDF and Head Start funds, as well as what administrative processes and technical assistance resources and supports should accompany the guide. You can register for that virtual listening session [here](#).

You can obtain copies of the proposed collection of information and submit comments by emailing [infocollection@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:infocollection@acf.hhs.gov). Comments must be submitted by **January 29, 2024**.

Should you have any questions, please email [OCCTribal@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:OCCTribal@acf.hhs.gov), or visit <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/e cd/tribal-early-childhood-facilities>.

We look forward to working together to better meet the needs of Native children and their communities and promote access to high quality early learning settings.

Sincerely,



Katie Hamm  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
Early Childhood Development



Khari M. Garvin  
Director, Office of Head Start



Ruth Friedman  
Director, Office of Child Care