



## **Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG) of 2014 Basic FAQs**

### **WHAT IS CCDF REAUTHORIZATION?**

The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act is the law (along with Section 418 of the Social Security Act) that authorizes the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), which is the primary Federal funding source devoted to providing low-income working families with help paying for child care and improving the quality of child care. The CCDF program helps fund child care for over 1.4 million children each month throughout the United States, U.S. territories and tribal communities. Millions more benefit from investments in teacher training, child care programs meeting higher standards and consumer education to help parents select child care that meets their families' needs.

CCDBG was originally enacted in 1990 and was last reauthorized in 1996 as part of welfare reform. The authority for the program expired in 2002, but funding has been continued primarily through the annual appropriations process.

Reauthorization not only renews the authority and funding for the CCDF program through 2020, but makes important statutory changes focused on better balancing the dual purposes of CCDF: to promote families' economic self-sufficiency by making child care more affordable, and fostering healthy child development and school success by improving the overall quality of early learning and afterschool programs.

### **HOW WILL THE NEW LAW HELP CHILDREN AND FAMILIES?**

The law will help children and families through expansive changes and improvements to the CCDF program that focus on:

- Improving the health and safety of children in child care including increased training and monitoring;
- Making the program more family-friendly by streamlining eligibility policies and prioritizing the most vulnerable children and families;
- Increasing investments in quality child care including specific funds for infants and toddlers;
- Ensuring parents and the general public have transparent information about the child care choices available to them; and
- Improving the overall quality of early learning and afterschool programs.



## **WHO IS AFFECTED BY THE NEW LAW?**

The law impacts State, Territorial, and Tribal agencies that receive funds to administer the CCDF program, some of which will need to make changes to their child care programs in order to meet new requirements. Changes made by the new CCDBG statute will benefit the over 1.4 children receiving child care subsidies, as well as children cared for alongside them who receive no direct assistance from CCDF but benefit from increased health and safety requirements and quality investments. There are over 400,000 CCDF child care providers across the country, many of which will be subject to new requirements in the law, including monitoring requirements and health and safety trainings. In addition, all parents will benefit from increased access to information about the child care providers available to them.

## **WHEN WILL THE NEW LAW BECOME EFFECTIVE?**

The new law is effective on the date of enactment. However, the act includes a number of new program requirements, some of which have specific future effective dates. Detailed guidance on effective dates will be forthcoming.

## **HOW CAN I KEEP UP TO DATE WITH INFORMATION ABOUT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW LAW?**

Information on implementation of CCDF reauthorization, including links to guidance, webinars, technical assistance, and opportunities to provide stakeholder input will be posted on Office of Child Care's [Reauthorization Resource Page](#).

The resource page will be updated with new tools and resources, including responses to frequently asked questions, as they become available.

Questions regarding reauthorization and implementation can be submitted to [ccdf.reauthorization@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:ccdf.reauthorization@acf.hhs.gov).

