



Office of Child Care

“FUN”DAMENTALS OF CCDF ADMINISTRATION



CHAPTER 5

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- Office of Child Care Training and Technical Assistance
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ta>



“FUN” DAMENTALS OF CCDF ADMINISTRATION



OVERVIEW OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Federal regulations [45 CFR Section 98.60(b)(1)] provide a set-aside of one-fourth of one percent (.25%) of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) for the purpose of providing technical assistance (TA) to CCDF grantees. In Fiscal Year 2012, approximately \$12 million was appropriated to meet the TA needs of State, Territorial, and Tribal CCDF grantees. The Office of Child Care (OCC) provides a variety of TA targeted at supporting CCDF administrators and their staff in identifying and implementing effective policies and practices that build integrated child care systems that help vulnerable families find high quality child care and promote the healthy development of young children.

OCC's TA services are provided through the coordinated efforts of a network of contractors and partners that comprise the Child Care Technical Assistance Network (CCTAN). Each member of the CCTAN provides TA to help States, Tribes, and Territories administer CCDF funds and improve the quality of early care and education and child care service. Projects in the CCTAN vary in scope and provide TA across the full spectrum of child care topics, ages, and care settings. The projects are subject to change as OCC's TA activities change, expand, and/or conclude.

Accessing TA

OCC has redesigned its TA system to better support CCDF Lead Agency (LA) needs. The new focus of TA is assisting LAs to reach the goals they set in their biennial CCDF plans. Additionally, these plan goals are strategically aligned with OCC's *Pathways and Partnerships for Child Care Excellence* work plan. TA projects specialize in core areas, including the following new projects: the National Center on Child Care Subsidy Innovation and Accountability, the National Center on Child Care Quality Improvement Systems, and the National Center on Child Care Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives (jointly funded with the Office of Head Start [OHS]). Regional Offices (ROs) serve as the point of contact for Grantee-level and Regional TA. LAs should contact the RO for TA requests.



CHILD CARE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NETWORK PARTNER LIST

OCC administers CCDF, a multibillion-dollar Federal and State partnership to support access to high-quality child care for working families. OCC helps States, Territories, and Tribes administer their CCDF programs through program support, policy guidance, TA, and research. The following CCTAN Partners are providing TA to improve the quality of early care and education (ECE) and school-age care and are helping the States, Territories, and Tribes reach their CCDF plan goals.

Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning

The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) promotes the social-emotional development and school readiness of young children from birth to age 5. CSEFEL serves as a national resource center to disseminate research findings and evidence-based practices to early childhood (EC) programs across the country and develops user-friendly materials to help EC educators meet the needs of the growing number of young children with challenging behaviors and mental health needs.

Phone: (615) 322-3978 or (866) 433-1966, E-mail: csefel@uiuc.edu, Web site: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel>

Grantee: Vanderbilt University (by cooperative agreement from OCC and OHS), Project Director: Mary Louise Hemmeter, Ph.D.

Child Care & Early Education Research Connections

Child Care & Early Education *Research Connections* (RC) promotes high-quality research in child care and early education and the use of research findings in policymaking. This easy-to-use Web site offers a free, comprehensive, and up-to-date collection of scholarly research, policy briefs, government reports, data, and instruments from a wide range of disciplines and sources. Interactive tools allow users to refine searches, download full text documents, build customized tables, and analyze research data on line. RC also compiles bibliographies, develops issue briefs, synthesizes research on key topics, and hosts data-training workshops.

Phone: (646) 284-9600, E-mail: contact@researchconnections.org,

Web site: www.researchconnections.org

Grantee: National Center for Children in Poverty, Project Director: J. Lee Kreder, Ph.D.

Child Care Communications Management Center

The Child Care Communications Management Center (CMC) coordinates logistical and communication services on behalf of OCC. CMC provides onsite TA delivery at OCC Central Office and RO meetings and events, such as the annual State and Territory Administrators Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Child Care Policy Research Consortium, and provides ongoing support for the development and distribution of OCC TA tools and materials, including interactive CD-ROMs, reports, and brochures. Additionally, CMC assists with the planning and coordination of TA delivery by OCC Regional Program Managers, State systems specialists, and other CCTAN Partners via Web-based technology, audioconference calls, exhibits, videoconferences, and onsite training and TA support.

Phone: (240) 399-8725, E-mail: occinfo@occ-cmc.org,

Contractor: BLH Technologies, Inc., Project Director: Rose Salton

Healthy Child Care America

The Healthy Child Care America (HCCA) program is coordinated by the American Academy of Pediatrics' Early Education and Child Care Initiatives and is funded by an intra-agency agreement with OCC and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This collaborative effort of health professionals and child care providers works to improve the health and safety of children in child care and provides the information and support necessary to increase children's access to health services and safe, nurturing, out-of-home ECE settings. HCCA also strives to increase pediatricians' participation and effectiveness in supporting high-quality child care and in promoting children's health and well-being.

Phone: (888) 227-5409, E-mail: childcare@aap.org, Web site: www.healthychildcare.org

Grantee: American Academy of Pediatrics, Project Director: Jeanne VanOrsdal

National Center on Child Care Data and Technology

The National Center on Child Care Data and Technology supports State, Territory, and Tribal CCDF grantees in collecting, managing, analyzing, and reporting child care administrative data. The Center's TA efforts are available to help build or enhance grantees' capacity to improve the quality of administrative data and are provided

through a toll-free help line; trainings at national conferences and Regional Office events; customized, onsite TA activities; and specialized data tools.

Phone: (877) 249-9117, E-mail: ncdt@childcaredata.org, Web site: TBD

Contractor: General Dynamics Information Technology, Project Director: Helen Papadopoulos

National Center on Child Care Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives

The National Center on Child Care Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives will build State capacity to produce qualified child care professionals across age ranges, program settings, as well as the EC and school-age sectors. All TA activities will be integrated into a TA plan customized for each CCDF lead agency based on its plan goals and in partnership with all CCTAN Partner projects. OHS is a co-funder and serves as a key partner. In addition, the Center will convene a national consortium to assess and establish equivalencies and to promote the reciprocity of EC education credentials across States and Territories.

Phone: (202) 638-1144, E-mail: pdwcenter@zerotothree.org, Web site: TBD

Contractor: ZERO TO THREE, Project Director: Sarah LeMoine

National Center on Child Care Quality Improvement

The National Center on Child Care Quality Improvement delivers TA to support State and Territory CCDF grantees in their efforts to develop and enhance quality improvement efforts, including quality rating and improvement systems, which are built on a foundation of strengthening licensing and health and safety standards. Expert staff members work with CCDF grantees to help them reach their State and Territory plan quality goals. They also identify and share research-based promising practices and work with CCTAN

Partner staff and OHS personnel to address EC-related cross-sector system issues and to identify knowledge gaps and leading-edge questions.

Phone: (703) 225-2296, E-mail: occqualitycenter@icfi.com, Web site: TBD

Contractor: ICF International, Inc., Project Director: Julie Shuell

National Center on Child Care Subsidy Innovation and Accountability

The National Center on Child Care Subsidy Innovation and Accountability provides technical support to CCDF lead agencies to help focus their efforts on subsidy administration and strong accountability practices in a manner that supports providing quality child care services. The Center will promote continued progress toward

innovation and improvement in child care subsidy systems and other CCDF-supported programs.

Phone: (301) 881-2590, x273; E-mail: ncccsia@wrma.com;

Web site: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ccdf/ipi/ipi.htm>

Contractor: Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc., Project Director: Carol Pearson, Ph.D.

National Center on Tribal Child Care Implementation and Innovation

The National Center on Tribal Child Care Implementation and Innovation supports Tribal communities in their efforts to coordinate EC and school-age care delivery by promoting improvements in child care delivery systems. Targeted TA services support more than 539 Federally recognized Tribes, either directly or through Tribal consortia. These TA activities include a peer learning and leadership network, a biannual national conference, an annual Tribal CCDF administrators training event, Regional TA events, specialized trainings, consultations with program administrators, and the promotion of Tribal-State collaboration and linkages between States, Tribes, and local EC and school-age care education programs. Distance-learning technologies, including webinars, and a toll-free information and referral line will enhance TA support options.

Phone: (800) 388-7670, E-mail: TriCEN@cditeam.org, Web site: TBD

Contractor: Community Development Institute, Project Manager: Linda Kills Crow

State Child Care Systems Specialist Network

The State Child Care Systems Specialist Network delivers expert consultation, TA support, and informational products to support Administration for Children and Families' priorities and State and Territory goals. These experts work collaboratively with the 10 OCC Regional Program Managers and State and Territory CCDF lead agencies to develop customized TA plans to help grantees reach CCDF plan goals and meet Federal reporting and accountability requirements. They provide TA support and informational products to CCDF lead agencies via collaborative cross-system work with the OCC centers as well as ECE and school-age partners, including programs administered by Early Head Start, OHS, and the U.S. Department of Education.

Phone: (703) 225-2250, E-mail: occtanetwork@icfi.com, Web site: TBD

Contractor: ICF International, Inc., Project Director: Rose Ribeiro