

# Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF  

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HEALTH & WELFARE

# What is the CCDBG Act of 2014

- \* **CCDBG in Idaho is referred to as Idaho Child Care Program (ICCP)**
- \* Grant given to the states and territories by the federal government
- \* Primary source of federal funding for child care subsidies
- \* November 2014 - was signed into law after receiving bipartisan and bicameral support in Congress
- \* Fully authorizes the child care program for the first time since 1996 - historic re-envisioning of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program
- \* Law makes significant advancements by defining requirements in four key areas

# Main Topics

- \* Health and Safety Requirements for Child Care Providers
- \* Transparent Consumer and Provider Education Information
- \* Family-Friendly Eligibility Policies
- \* Activities to Improve Quality



# Health and Safety Requirements

- \* Requires states to establish health and safety requirements in 10 different topic areas.
  - \* See section 5.1.6 of Draft State Plan
- \* Child care providers receiving assistance through the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) also known as Idaho Child Care Program (ICCP) must receive and complete training on Health and Safety requirements during an orientation period.

# Health and Safety Requirements (cont.)

- \* Requires states to conduct criminal background checks for all child care staff members. (every 5 years)
- \* Requires states to confirm child care providers will comply with child abuse reporting requirements.
- \* Requires states to conduct an initial visit prior to becoming an approved ICCP provider and annual unannounced inspections of all regulated ICCP providers.
- \* Requires states to conduct annual inspections of license-exempt ICCP providers.

# Health and Safety Requirements (Cont.)

- \* Requires states to have standards for CCDF(ICCP) providers regarding group size limits and appropriate child-to-provider ratios based on the age of children in child care.
- \* Requires emergency preparedness planning and statewide disaster plans for child care.



# Transparent Consumer and Provider Education Information

- \* States must have an electronic system that makes available, provider-specific information showing results of monitoring and inspection reports.

## As well as:

- \* The number of deaths that occur in child care settings
- \* Serious injuries that occur in child care setting each year.
- \* Instances of substantiated child abuse that occur in child care settings each year.



# Transparent Consumer and Provider Education Information (cont.)

Requires states to have a website describing:

- \* Processes for regulating and monitoring child care providers
  - \* Processes for conducting criminal background checks
  - \* Offenses that prevent individuals from being child care providers.
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- \* Requires a national website for consumer education information that allows:
    - \* Search by zip code,
    - \* Referral to local child care providers,
    - \* A national hotline for reporting child abuse and neglect.

# Family Friendly Eligibility Policies

- \* Establishes a 12-month eligibility determination period for ICCP families, regardless of:
  - \* Changes in income:
    - as long as income does not exceed the federal threshold of 85% of SMI – state median income, or
  - \* Temporary changes in participation in an approved activity (work, training, or education activities)
- \* Allows states the option to terminate assistance prior to 12-month re-determination if a parent loses employment, however assistance (authorization) must be continued for at least 3-months to allow for job search



# Family Friendly Eligibility Policies (cont.)



Live Better

- \* Eligibility re-determination should not require parents to unduly disrupt their employment.
- \* Provides for a graduated phase-out of assistance for families whose income has increased at the time of re-determination, but remains below the federal threshold.
- \* Requires procedures for enrollment of homeless children pending completion of documentation, and training and outreach to promote access to services for homeless families.

# Activities to Improve Quality of Child Care

- \* Requires States to invest in quality initiatives related to Child Care Providers.
  - \* In addition, requires states to improve the quality of care for infants and toddlers.
- \* Requires states to spend quality funds on at least 1 of 10 specified quality activities, which include:
  - \* Developing tiered quality rating systems (QRIS)
  - \* Supporting statewide resource and referral services (CCR&Rs).



# Activities to Improve Quality of Child Care (Cont.)

- \* Requires establishment of:
  - \* Professional development and training requirements AND
  - \* Ongoing annual training and progression to improve knowledge and skills of CCDF providers
- \* Requires States to implement Early Learning and Development Guidelines describing what children should know and be able to do, appropriate from birth to kindergarten entry

# Activities to Improve Quality of Child Care (Cont.)

- \* Includes provisions on social-emotional health of children, including:
  - \* Providing consumer and provider education about policies regarding expulsions of children from early care  
and
  - \* Education programs and developmental screenings for children at risk of cognitive or developmental delays

# Timeline and Effective Dates

- \* States have been given effective dates for compliance with the CCDBG Act of 2014.
- \* Implementation dates span from September of 2016 through November of 2017
- \* Earliest implementation dates pertain to:
  - \* Quality Spending
  - \* 12-month eligibility
  - \* 3-month period before termination
  - \* Graduated phase-out
- \* Monitoring and Regulatory Requirements are to be implemented by November of 2016
- \* Background check requirements are to be implemented by September 2017
- \* IDHW may need to request an extension for provisions that will require additional time to implement
- \* Timeline of Effective Dates can be found on the ACF CCDF Reauthorization page at: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ccdf-reauthorization>

# Additional Information

- \* Idaho Department of Health and Welfare~ ICCP page
  - \* <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Children/ChildCareAssistance/tabid/292/Default.aspx>
- \* Administration for Children and Families~ Child Care
  - \* <https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/ccdf-reauthorization>
    - \* Full details