

Child Care and Development Fund Overview

Early Childhood Council Meeting

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CCDF Work Group Members

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What is CCDF reauthorization?

- A. The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act is the law that authorizes the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)
- B. CCDF is the primary Federal funding source devoted to providing low-income families that are working or participating in education and training with help paying for child care and improving the quality of child care for all children.
- C. On November 19, 2014 President Obama signed the act into law.
- D. This is significant because it hadn't been reauthorized since 1996 and it changed the focus of the CCDF program.

Purpose of the CCDF

- A. To assist states in improving the overall quality of child care services and programs by implementing the health, safety and licensing standards.
- B. To empower parents to develop their children by choosing quality childcare and to become self sufficient. (the ccdf helps parents obtain and maintain child care)

Key Reauthorization Changes

Eligibility Redetermination

A. States must continue eligibility for 12 months regardless of changes in parents working or financial status

-Delaware currently authorizes assistance for 12 months

B. At redetermination states must provide for the graduated phase out of assistance

-Delaware does not have a graduated phase out policy.

C. States must make efforts to ensure that the redetermination process does not unduly disrupt parents' work, education or job training

-parents do not need to come into the office they can reapply by phone and online

D. States must increase the supply and improve the quality of care for children in underserved areas, infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, children receiving care during non-traditional hours, English language learners and the homeless

-Delaware currently has the STARS program , Capacity and Infrastructure grants and we are exploring ways to ensure that services are immediately available to our vulnerable groups such as the homeless and those in foster care.

Key Reauthorization Changes

Eligibility Redetermination Continued

E. States must provide comprehensive consumer education to parents regarding their child care options, the quality and availability of child care, etc.

1. Delaware currently has this information on the websites of DSS, CFF, Delaware Stars, OCCL.
2. The OCCL has done some revisions on its website to come into compliance with the new legislation.

Key Re-authorization Changes Continued

Background Check Requirements

A. Providers must request comprehensive background checks prior to hiring staff and do them every 5 years

1. Delaware currently requests background checks and finger printing of all providers and staff serving children who receive CCDF funding
2. Delaware currently does not require the following:
 - criminal background check for each child care staff member, including prospective child care staff members every 5 years,
 - sex offender registry in the State where the staff member resides and each State where the staff member has resided over the past 5 years,
 - state child abuse and neglect registry where the staff member has resided over the past 5 years,
 - National Crime Information Center check (run by the FBI), and
 - National Sex Offender Registry check

What this means for Delaware

- changes in legislation regarding background checks
- The agency responsible (DSCYF) would need
 - additional funding for new staff, modifications and enhancements to
 - department computer system, updated forms and dept. website

Compliance date-9/30/2017

Key Re-authorization Changes Continued

Health, Safety and Fire Inspections ?

A. States must conduct one pre-licensure and one unannounced inspection for licensed providers and one annual inspection of license exempt providers

1. Delaware currently conducts pre-license and unannounced inspections.
2. Delaware currently does not conduct annual inspections of license exempt providers.
3. Delaware does not inspect license exempt providers

Compliance date – 11/19/2016

B. States must make full inspection reports available online

-Delaware currently does not publish full reports

Compliance date – 11/19/2017 or one year after monitoring is in place

C. States must establish qualifications and training for licensing inspectors and maintain a sufficient number of inspectors to conduct timely inspections

Key Re-authorization Changes Continued

Health, Safety and Fire Inspections-Continued

1 .Licensing staff

- bachelor's degree in Human Services
- training in the health and safety regulations for each facility type they monitor

2. Delaware currently meets the ratio of inspectors to sites

D. States must establish health and safety standards in specific areas (i.e. safe sleep, disaster preparedness) and mandate pre-service and ongoing training

1.Relative Care requires health and safety training as well as pre-service and on-going training.

3. **Family Child**

- CPR and First aid
- Attend OCCL information session and orientation
- 12 hours of training annually.

Key Re-authorization Changes Continued

Health, Safety and Fire Inspections Continued

Large Family Child

- must attend an orientation
- must take 15 hours of training a year.

Center Staff

Full-time staff (working more than 25 hours per week)
18 training hours annually.

Part-time staff
9 hours of training annually

Before center staff begin to work with children, they are required to receive an orientation in many topics including the new ones required by CCDF by January 1, 2016.

Key Re-authorization Changes Continued

Group Size

A. states must set group size for all age populations

-Delaware currently sets group size limits

Other Key Quality Provisions

A. Mandate to increase the amount of CCDF funds set aside for quality improvement activities

B. Mandate to reserve 3% of CCDF funds for the improvement of quality and supply of care for infants and toddlers

Key Dates

Criminal Background Checks- **compliance by 9/30/17**

Monitoring of Licensing requirements – **compliance by 11/19/16**

Posting Results of monitoring – **compliance by 11/19/17 or one year after monitoring is in place**

Minimum Quality Spending – **must be at 7% by FY '16, 8% by FY '18 ,etc.**

Infant and Toddler Spending – **must be at 3% by FY '17**

Child Care and Development State Plan **is due March 1, 2016**

Full implementation, if approved, is **June 2016 through September 30, 2018**

QUESTIONS ? / COMMENTS.

