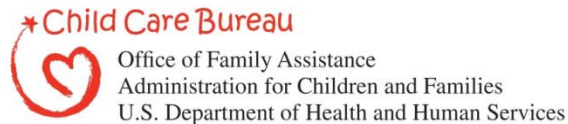


Overview of the Child Care & Development Fund

(a.k.a. Child Care & Development Block Grant)

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Child Care Bureau
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The Child Care Bureau

The Child Care Bureau supports low-income working families through child care financial assistance and promotes children's learning and development by improving the quality of early care and education and afterschool programs.



The Child Care & Development Fund

- \$5 Billion of Federal funding annually
 - Additional \$2 Billion in Recovery Act funds in 2009
- Grants are administered to CCDF agencies in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Territories, and 260 Tribal agencies representing approximately 500 Tribes nationwide
- Flexible block grants allow States, Tribes, and Territories to set their own policies for eligibility, payment rates, and service priorities.



Early Care and Education Programs

- There are approximately 12.3 million children, ages birth to 5, in child care in the US
- Care for approximately 1.6 million children is subsidized by CCDF each month.
- There are approximately 1,118,000 children in state funded (non-Head Start) Pre-K.
- During FY 2007, 908,412 children were enrolled in Head Start.



Who does CCDF Serve?

- Of children in CCDF-funded child care,
 - 29 percent are younger than 3 years old,
 - 36 percent are 3, 4, or 5 years old, and
 - 35 percent are 6 or above
- CCDF largely serves families with incomes at or below the poverty level. In FY 2007:
 - 49 percent had incomes below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL);
 - 29 percent had incomes between 100-150% of the FPL;
 - 13 percent had incomes above 150% of FPL.





Parental Choice

- Approximately 85 percent of services are offered via vouchers. The average annual subsidy is approximately \$4,700 per child.
- Approximately 60 percent are served in center-based care and 30 percent in family child care homes.



State Flexibility

States have flexibility in determining **Eligibility Criteria**

- Income eligibility (up to 85 % of State Median Income)
- Continued eligibility during job search periods
- Whether/how to serve parents in secondary education
- Eligibility re-determination (ranges from 2 - 12 months)



State Flexibility

States have flexibility in determining:

Sliding Fee scales

- Usually payment fee as a percent of family income
- Waiving co-payment for families at or below poverty or special categories of at-risk children



Systems to Support Quality

States spend about \$1 billion each year to support quality.

Key priorities for the coming year:

- Licensing
- Quality Rating and Improvements Systems
- Professional Development Systems



Obama Administration Priorities

- Investments in Early Learning
 - \$2 B in CCDF ARRA- States spending it on eliminating waiting lists, supporting families through longer periods of job search, quality improvements such as a focus on professional development and care for infants and toddlers.
 - Alabama and Arkansas have reduced their waiting lists by 3,000 and 8,000 respectively
 - \$2.1 B in Head Start and Early Head Start expansion



Obama Administration Priorities

- Systemic Infrastructure for early care and education
 - Early Learning Challenge Fund
 - Proposed to fund Quality Pathways Grants and Development Grants with \$8-10 billion over eight to ten years
 - State Early Childhood Advisory Councils
 - Inter-Departmental Initiatives



CCB and Head Start Collaboration

- Ways that you can help
 - Participate in Community-wide and Statewide planning and quality initiatives
 - Find a child care partner in your community
 - Share your training and TA resources, curricula, or comprehensive services whenever possible



Thank You!

Contact the Child Care Bureau

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