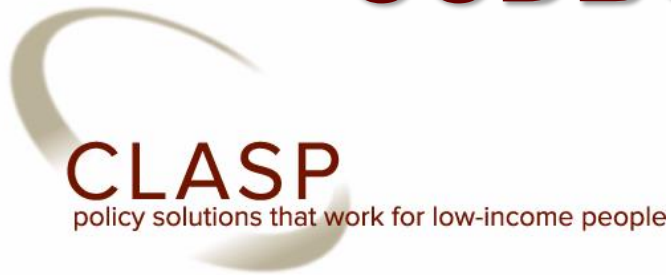


An Introduction to CCDBG Reauthorization



March 2015

CCDBG Overview

- The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) governs the use of state and federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) dollars for child care assistance and quality improvement initiatives.
- CCDBG reauthorization establishes many new requirements for states, but also maintains state flexibility in many areas.
- The reauthorization does not guarantee new funding to comply with new provisions.

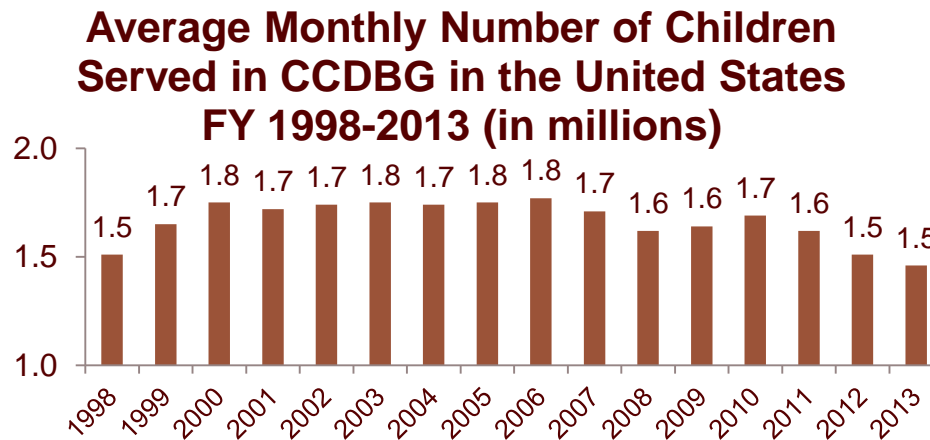
CCDBG in Context

- Federal and state spending on child care assistance through CCDBG and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is at an 11-year low.
 - Total CCDBG and TANF spending was \$11.3 billion in 2013, the lowest level since 2002.
 - Federal TANF funds used for child care are at the lowest level since 1998.

Source: CLASP analysis based on data reported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

CCDBG in Context

- The number of children receiving CCDBG-funded child care assistance is at a 15-year low.
- Only one in six children federally-eligible for child care receive assistance.



Source: HHS administrative data. FY 2013 data are preliminary.

Source: CLASP analysis based on data reported by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, *ASPE Issue Brief: Estimates of Child Care Eligibility and Receipt for Fiscal Year 2011, 2015*, http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/15/ChildCareEligibility/ib_ChildCareEligibility.pdf.

New Opportunities in the CCDBG Reauthorization

- Protect the health and safety of children in care through more consistent standards and monitoring of those standards.
- Allow families to more easily access child care assistance that supports stable and continuous child care, and that can be coordinated with other programs.
- Improve the quality of care, including through increased support for child care providers.

Select Provisions of the CCDBG Reauthorization

- Health and Safety of Children in Child Care
 - Establishes provider training requirements in 10 topic areas.
 - Requires background checks and on-site inspections for CCDBG providers.
- Access for Working Families
 - Establishes 12 month eligibility regardless of temporary changes in parent's work or income up to 85 percent of SMI.
 - Requires graduated phase out of subsidies for families whose income increases above state income eligibility limits.
 - Requires increased consumer education on child care options and other programs.
- Improving the Quality of Care
 - Increases the quality set-aside over five years.
 - Encourages better provider payment practices and timely payments and delinking of provider payments and attendance.

For links to detailed summaries and a side-by-side comparison of current and new law, see CCDBG Implementation Resources at www.clasp.org/CCDBG.

Health and Safety of Children In Child Care

- Minimum health and safety standards, including pre-service or orientation training and ongoing training for CCDBG providers in 10 topic areas.
- Comprehensive background checks and on-site inspections for CCDBG providers, including those who are license exempt.
- Training for licensing inspectors and appropriate inspector-to-provider ratios.
- Maintain group size limits and appropriate child to provider ratios.

Access For Working Families & Continuity of Care for Children

- Expanded consumer education requirements.
- Minimum 12-month eligibility for families regardless of temporary changes in employment or increases in income (up to 85 percent SMI).
- Continued assistance as families' income increases (as long as it remains below the federal eligibility limit) and in the event of permanent job loss.
- Redetermination processes must not require parents to unduly disrupt employment.

Improving the Quality of Care, Including Support for Providers

- Quality set-aside increases over five years to 9 percent and a 3 percent infant-toddler set-aside is authorized.
- Professional development and training requirements with pre-service or orientation requirements and annual training and ongoing progression to improve the skills of providers.
- Implementation of Early Learning and Development Guidelines.
- Supply building of quality care for underserved populations.
- Payment policies that reflect generally accepted payment practices for child care providers.

CCDBG Implementation Timeline

- State FY 2016-2018 CCDF Plan submission: March 1, 2016
- State plan effective: June 2016
- Select provisions have delayed effective dates, all others effective on enactment
 - States may submit state-specific implementation timelines in State Plan.

Moving Forward on Implementation

- Reauthorization is an **opportunity**
 - Reflect on program goals
 - Assess what's working and what's not in the current system.
 - Consult with parents, providers, case workers, advocates, and other stakeholders.
 - Envision a new system.
- New requirements require new federal and state resources—it's important to start building support now.

Additional Resources & Assistance

- CLASP CCDBG Reauthorization Resource Page:
www.clasp.org/CCDBG
- Office of Child Care Reauthorization Resource Page:
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ccdf-reauthorization

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