

# Professional Development System Overview: Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands



ADMINISTRATION FOR

**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**



National Center on Child Care Professional  
Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives (PDW Center)  
Jointly funded by ACF's Office of Child Care and Office of Head Start

Territory			Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Professional Development (PD) System	Title: N/A		
	Web site: <a href="http://gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/FY-2014-2015-Plan-Preprint-Draft-2-May-20-2013.pdf">http://gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/FY-2014-2015-Plan-Preprint-Draft-2-May-20-2013.pdf</a>		
Infrastructure/ PD System Governance	<p><b>Type of Governance:</b> Territorial agency with contracts with higher education and community programs The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DCCA) is the lead agency for the federally funded CNMI Child Care Program. The Child Care Program offers training and technical assistance to providers in partnership with Northern Marianas College (NMC).</p> <p><b>Key contact:</b> Laura T. Ogumoro, Secretary and Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Administrator, DCCA, <a href="mailto:laura.ogumoro@gov.mp">laura.ogumoro@gov.mp</a></p>		
Head Start (HS)/ Early Head Start (EHS)	<p><b>Territory HS Collaboration Director:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Territory HS Early Childhood Manager:</b> Shelley Weatherwax, <a href="mailto:shelley.weatherwax@stginternational.com">shelley.weatherwax@stginternational.com</a></p>		
Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workforce in Child Care, preschool, HS/EHS, school-age, and other programs that serve children and families</li> </ul>		
Early Learning Guidelines (ELGs)	<p><b>Ages Included in ELGs and Alignment with K–12</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birth–3 years</li> <li>3–5 years</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Notes</b></p> <p><b>Title:</b> Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Early Learning Guidelines CNMI has developed ELGs. Training and technical assistance related to the document is available to center-based providers. The ELG's are being updated and are not available online.</p> <p>Information on State ELGs references to dual language learners is available at: <a href="http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/cultural-linguistic/center/state-guidelines/dll_guidelines.html">http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/cultural-linguistic/center/state-guidelines/dll_guidelines.html</a></p>		

Core Knowledge and Competencies (CKCs)	Roles	<b>Notes</b> <b>Title:</b> N/A
Approval Systems	Trainer/Training	<b>Notes</b> <b>Title:</b> N/A The Child Care Program offers training and technical assistance for practitioners free of charge. These training and technical assistance opportunities are facilitated by the Child Care Program Staff, NMC instructors, or by community partner specialists. Practitioners are able to attain a certificate or degree through the Northern Marianas Community College. <b>Web site:</b> <a href="http://www.nmcnet.edu">http://www.nmcnet.edu</a>  Under the Child Care Program, all providers (whether licensed or licensed-exempt) must complete 20 hours of training and technical assistance annually. Training and technical assistance activities are held in licensed-exempt homes in an informal manner that is consistent with the culture of that group of providers. The DCCA strives to provide training that is culturally appropriate by ensuring that instructors are able to speak different languages. For example, licensed-exempt relative care providers are typically Chamorro and Carolinian. Therefore, facilitators for technical assistance activities for this group must be able to speak the language.
Workforce Registry/Data System and Career Pathways	System(s)	<b>Notes</b> <b>Title:</b> N/A Specific information regarding child care providers resides with the Licensing Program. The Child Care Program Office maintains some information regarding child care providers that receive CCDF funds, including annual training and technical assistance hours completed.