



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES



Prioritizing Vulnerable Families, Building Supply, and Partnerships

January 2015





U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Administration for Children & Families
*Office of Child Care



Prioritizing Vulnerable Families

Stable access to high-quality care buffers children and families from many challenges and risks by supporting children's learning and development in safe, stable, and nurturing environments.



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Serving Homeless Families

New law requires States to:

- Allow homeless children to receive CCDF assistance after an initial eligibility determination but before providing required documentation (including documentation related to immunizations);



Serving Homeless Families (cont.)

New law requires States to use CCDF funds on:

- Training and technical assistance on identifying and serving homeless children and their families; and
- Specific outreach to homeless families.



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Coordinating with McKinney-Vento

Per the McKinney-Vento Act, there are State Coordinators and local liaisons designated by all Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) in the State. Local liaisons identify homeless children and youth, and connect them to other programs and services such as Head Start, preschool, health care services, dental services, mental health services, and other appropriate services. CCDF Lead Agencies and Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies are encouraged to work with these State Coordinators and local liaisons to ensure that they have information on the full range of child care services available for families.



Resources

Resources from the Office of Early Childhood Development:

- [**Policies and Procedures**](#) to increase access to ECE services for homeless children and families
- [**Strategies**](#) for increasing ECE services for homeless children
- [**Promising Practices for Children Experiencing Homelessness: A Look at Two States**](#)
- The [**Early Childhood Self-Assessment Tool for Family Shelters**](#)

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ece/interagency-projects/ece-services-for-homeless-children>



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New Data Element

New law requires States to collect data on “whether the children receiving assistance under this subchapter are homeless children.” *(ACF-801)*



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Building Supply of Care

States must develop strategies for increasing supply and quality of services for:

- children in underserved areas,
- infants and toddlers,
- children with disabilities, and
- children in non-traditional hour care

Which may include use of grants/contracts and alternative payment.

State Plan Preprint

The State Plan is a tool for the State to show

- Administration of your program
- Details of your implementation plans
- Progress toward implementation of the new requirements

Preprint Topic: Expanding Service, Building Supply, and Partnerships

- Prioritizing homeless children and families (sections 1.4, 3.2, 6.1.6)
- Implementation Plan Compliance date for Section 6 - September 30, 2016
- Using grants and contracts to build supply of quality child care (4.1, 4.6, 7.3)
- Supporting key partnerships (1.4, 1.6, 2.3.6)
- Implementation Plan Compliance date for 2.3.6 – September 30, 2016
- Resources available

Example Implementation Plan – [Coordination with Other Partners to Increase Access to Developmental Screenings Question # 2.3.6]

a) Overall Goal/ Objective	b) Overall Status/ Justification	c) Overall Target Completion Date	d) Steps/ Activities	e) Activity Start Date	f) Activity End Date	g) Responsible Agency
Goal tied to requirement (e.g., implement policies, develop website, etc)	For example, not yet started In progress	Date for overall goal	List each step out	Identify start date for each step	Identify end date for each step	Identify agency responsible for each step
			Step 1			
			Step 2			
			Step 3			

Completion of the Implementation Plan

- Once completed, the State will submit an amendment that will allow certification that the requirement is complete.
- The plan must be complete no later than the effective date of the requirement.

Federal Register Posting

- Emergency clearance process
- 30 day public comment period
- Comments sent directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

Office of Management and Budget

Paperwork Reduction Project

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Attn: Desk Officer for the Administration for Children and Families



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Top 10 Ways CCDF Can Support EHS-CC Partnerships

1. Align Eligibility
2. Serve Vulnerable Populations
3. Job Search
4. Refer Eligible Families
5. Align Length of Eligibility



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Top 10 Ways CCDF Can Support EHS-CC Partnerships

6. Waive Parent Fees
7. Establish Grants or Contracts
8. Pay Rates Supporting Quality
9. Sustainable Payment Practices
10. Layer Funding



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General Discussion Questions

- What additional clarification (policy or otherwise) is needed?
- What additional TA supports would be useful for implementation?