



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES



Quick Facts: State/Territory Coordination Plans and Designated Coordination Entities

Early childhood/school-age coordination plans and designated entities responsible for program coordination within a State/Territory can help Child Care and Development (CCDF) Lead Agencies better coordinate funds and service delivery. Early childhood/school-age coordination plans can help CCDF Lead Agencies fulfill requirements of other programs, while helping stakeholders identify gaps and implement solutions to promote healthy child development. Coordination plans can also be useful tools for driving public policy in the State/Territory.

Designated coordination entities can further support CCDF Lead Agencies' efforts of building comprehensive early childhood systems, by encouraging collaboration from a wide array of programs and services in the State/Territory. Coordination entities can facilitate public awareness, including support, by encouraging more public and legislative engagement. These entities can also help establish defined goals to achieve policy change.

This quick facts document provides an overview and counts of States/Territories that have early childhood/school-age coordination plans and/or designated coordination entities.

State/Territory Overview

The following information was gathered from the CCDF Plans for FY 2012-2013, State/Territory Web sites, and the State Early Childhood Advisory Councils section of the National Governors Association Web site at <http://www.nga.org/cms/home/nga-center-for-best-practices/center-issues/page-edu-issues/col2-content/main-content-list/state-early-childhood-advisory-c.html>.

State/ Territory [†]	Has a State/Territory-wide early childhood and/or school-age cabinet/advisory council/task force/commission	Has a State Advisory Council (as described under the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007)	Has local coordination/council	Has other type of coordinating entity	Has a formal early childhood and/or school-age coordination plan
Alabama	X	X			
Alaska	X				X [‡]
American Samoa		X			
Arizona		X*			X
Arkansas	X [§]				X
California				X	
Colorado		X			X
Connecticut	X	X		X	X
Delaware		X			X
District of Columbia		X			
Florida	X	X			X
Georgia		X			
Guam		X			X

[†] CNMI and SD do not have a designated coordinating entity and a formal early childhood and/or school-age coordination plan.

[‡] Another government agency is responsible for the coordination plan.

* State Advisory Council is responsible for the coordination plan.

[§] Entity is responsible for the coordination plan and operates as the State Advisory Council.

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Hawaii		X			
Idaho	X				
Illinois		X			
Indiana				X	
Iowa		X			X
Kansas	X				X [†]
Kentucky		X			X
Louisiana		X			X
Maine		X			X
Maryland	X	X	X		X
Massachusetts	X	X		X	X
Michigan		X		X	X
Minnesota	X	X		X	X
Mississippi		X			
Missouri	X	X			X
Montana		X	X		X
Nebraska		X			

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Nevada		X	X		
New Hampshire		X			X
New Jersey		X			X**
New Mexico		X			X
New York		X			
North Carolina		X			X
North Dakota	X	X			X*
Ohio		X	X		
Oklahoma		X			X
Oregon	X	X			X
Pennsylvania		X	X		X
Puerto Rico		X			X
Rhode Island	X	X			X
South Carolina		X		X	
Tennessee		X			

** A private foundation is responsible for the coordination plan.

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Texas	X				X
Utah	X				
Vermont		X	X	X	X
Virgin Islands	X	X		X	X
Virginia	X	X			X*
Washington		X			X
West Virginia		X			X
Wisconsin		X			X
Wyoming		X			
Total	18 States/Territories	46 States/Territories	6 States	9 States/Territories	36 States/Territories

Links to Coordination Entities/Advisory Councils

- In **Alabama**, the Department of Children's Affairs (DCA) is the designated coordinator of children's programs (birth through 19). DCA also houses the State Advisory Council (Early Childhood Advisory Council), which makes recommendations to the Governor and Legislature on how to create a high quality childhood system to improve the outcomes of children and families. <http://children.alabama.gov/>
- The **Alaska** Department of Health and Social Services has designed the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Project as the entity responsible for the coordination plan, <http://hss.state.ak.us/ocs/ECCS/>. The Early Childhood Advisory Council promotes positive development, improved health outcomes, and school readiness for children (prenatal through eight) by creating culturally responsive, comprehensive, and accessible service delivery systems, <http://hss.state.ak.us/ocs/AECCC/default.htm>.

- In **American Samoa**, the Governor issued an executive order designating the Children’s Cabinet on Early Learning and Education as the entity responsible for coordination across the Territory. No link available.
- The **Arizona** Early Childhood Development and Health Board (First Things First) acts as the State Advisory Council and focuses on children birth through five. <http://www.azftf.gov/Pages/default.aspx>
- The **Arkansas** Early Childhood Commission is the responsible entity for ensuring coordination of early childhood services. <http://humanservices.arkansas.gov/dccece/Pages/ArkansasEarlyChildhoodCommission.aspx#Arkansas Early Childhood Commission>
- The **California** Department of Education has promoted extensive coordination across different program types, funding streams, and State agencies.
- In **Colorado**, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor is responsible for the coordination plan, <http://www.colorado.gov/ltgovernor/>. The State Advisory Council (Early Childhood Leadership Commission), also housed in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, focuses on improving outcomes for young children (birth through eight) and their families by advancing the alignment, coordination, and efficiency of programs and services, <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/LtGovGarcia/CBON/1251592929261>.
- The **Connecticut** Early Childhood Education Cabinet focuses on developing high quality, comprehensive early childhood systems, <http://www.ctearlychildhood.org/index.html>. The State has other local councils, such as the Child Day Care Council (<http://www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2345&q=304858>), Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance (<http://www.earlychildhoodalliance.com/>), and Connecticut After School Advisory Council (http://www.ctafterschoolnetwork.org/resources/after_school_advisory_council.html).
- The **Delaware** Early Childhood Council was established by the Interagency Resource Management Committee to meet the needs of children age birth to eight. http://www.doe.k12.de.us/infosuites/students_family/earlychildhood/decc.shtml
- The **District of Columbia** has established the State Early Childhood Development Coordinating Council to ensure coordination across early childhood programs in the District. No link available.
- The **Florida** Children and Youth Cabinet ensures that all State agencies and programs serving children and youth work in a coordinated and comprehensive fashion. This Cabinet was also tasked with developing a strategic plan to achieve the goals of this shared vision, http://www.flgov.com/child_advocacy_cyc/. The Early Learning Advisory Council makes recommendations to the Department of Education and the Office of Early Learning on early learning policies throughout the State, <http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/ELACOnline/index-1.html>. The Governor also established Florida’s Advisory Council as the State Advisory Council, http://www.flgov.com/child_advocacy_cyc_saceec/.
- The **Georgia** State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care was created to be the advisory council and Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning was designated to be the lead/fiscal agency for the Council. <http://www.dec.state.ga.gov/BftS/GAStateAdvisoryCouncil.aspx>
- The **Guam** Early Learning Council was established to enhance, improve, support, and strengthen coordination and collaboration among agencies and organizations serving young children (birth through eight) and their families. http://alleyesonfive.guam.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=59:guam-early-learning-council-directory&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=59

- In **Hawaii**, the Early Learning Council is the advisory council and has the responsibility of creating an early learning system for children ages birth through five years old. No link available.
- The **Idaho** Early Childhood Coordinating Council is responsible for coordinating programs and resources for young children and their families, <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Children/EarlyChildhoodInfo/tabid/80/Default.aspx>. The Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Council provides advice to the Lead Agency on the activities, policies, and processes for all initiatives funded through CCDF. <http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Providers/IdahoChildCareProgram/tabid/300/ctl/ArticleView/mid/913/articleId/332/strongfont-faceVerdana-size2Idaho-Child-Care-Program-Advisory-Panelstrongfont-faceVerdana-size2.aspx>
- The **Illinois** Early Learning Council focuses on developing a quality early learning system for all children (birth through five) with the ultimate goal of ensuring children are safe, healthy, and ready to succeed by the time they enter school. <http://www2.illinois.gov/gov/OECD/Pages/EarlyLearningCouncil.aspx>
- In **Indiana**, the Bureau of Child Care has taken the lead planning the coordination efforts of early childhood care and education and out-of-school time care. No link available.
- The Early Childhood **Iowa** Stakeholders Alliance serves as the State Advisory Council, addressing the needs of children ages birth through five. <http://www.state.ia.us/earlychildhood/>
- The **Kansas** Department of Health and Environment is responsible for coordination plan, <http://www.kdheks.gov> . The Kansas Children’s Cabinet coordinates across early childhood program, <http://www.kschildrenscabinet.org/index.htm>.
- The **Kentucky** Early Childhood Advisory Council will work to unite stakeholders on common strategies, standards, and goals for an early childhood system and advocate for quality early childhood services and improved school readiness. <http://educationcabinet.ky.gov/eceadvisorycouncil.htm>
- BrightStart is **Louisiana's** Early Childhood Advisory Council and focuses on creating and implementing a comprehensive early childhood system for children (birth through five) and their families. <http://www.brightstartla.org/about-brightstart>
- In **Maine**, the Children's Growth Council is responsible for developing, maintaining, and evaluating plans for sustainable investments (social and financial) in healthy development of young children and their families. This body provides advisement to the State and has no authority. <http://www.maineccgc.org/>
- The **Maryland** Department of Education is responsible for convening and staffing the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care, which is charged with facilitating a strong and steady improvement in early care and education, http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/msde/divisions/child_care/planning. The State Coordinating Council for Residential Placement of Disabled Children and the Local Coordinating Councils were established in the 1980’s because of the State’s long-standing concern for children who are placed in residential treatment, <http://goc.maryland.gov/scclcc.html>.
- In **Massachusetts**, the Board of Early Education and Care (Board) is required to review/approve all federal grant applications, including the CCDF Plan, meet monthly to decide high-level policy issues, and oversee and supervise the administration of a system of public and private early education and care. Governor Patrick designated the Board to serve as the State Advisory

Council, <http://www.mass.gov/edu/government/departments-and-boards/department-of-early-education-and-care/eec-board-members.html>. The Patrick Administration Education Action Agenda created the Massachusetts Birth to School Age Task Force to establish a statewide birth-to-school-age strategy to ensure the healthy development of children, <http://www.mass.gov/edu/researchers/early-education-and-care/early-education-task-force-and-presentations/birth-to-school-age-task-force/birth-to-school-age-task-force.html>.

- The Early Childhood Investment Corporation convenes and leads the **Michigan** State Advisory Council, which provides advice on collaborative efforts to coordinate, improve, and expand existing early learning programs and services for children birth through school entry, <http://greatstartforkids.org/>. Michigan Afterschool Partnership is another statewide coordinating body that develops a shared vision and influences others to believe in the power of after-school programs to help all children and youth succeed, <http://miafterschool.org/>.
- In February 2011, Governor Dayton announced his intent to reestablish the **Minnesota** Children’s Cabinet to coordinate cross-agency programs and initiatives for children birth through high school. The Early Learning Council, as the advisory council, makes recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature, including proposed legislation on how to effectively create a high-quality early childhood system to improve the educational outcomes of children. The State also has a local council, Minnesota’s Statewide Afterschool Alliance, which focuses on the core components of after-school issues and expanding learning opportunities, <http://www.statewideafterschoolnetworks.net/node/25>.
- The State Early Childhood Advisory Council of **Mississippi** was established by the Governor to develop a strategic plan to coordinate efforts, programs, and resources supporting children birth through five and to identify opportunities and barriers among programs and agencies. <http://msecac.wordpress.com/>
- Under **Missouri** statute, the Children’s Services Commission was established to serve as a statewide advisory body on all children’s issues. The Coordinating Board for Early Childhood (CBEC), was established as a subsidiary of the Children’s Services Commission in 2004, and has the responsibility to coordinate services for families and children up to age five. CBEC is also the State’s advisory council. <http://dss.mo.gov/cbec/>
- In **Montana**, Best Beginnings Advisory Council serves as the early childhood advisory council and collaborating entity for the early childhood system. In addition, the State has community councils (Best Beginnings Advisory Community Council) that are organized and formally attached to the council. <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/childcare/advisorycouncil.shtml>
- In **Nebraska**, the Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council serves as the State Advisory Council, advises, and assists the collaborating agencies in carrying out the provisions of the Early Intervention Act, the Quality Child Care Act, and other early childhood care and education initiatives. <http://www.education.ne.gov/ecicc/>
- The former **Nevada** Governor established the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council to strengthen State level coordination and collaboration among the various sectors and settings of early childhood programs, http://www.dhhs.nv.gov/HeadStart_NECAAdvisoryCouncil.htm. The Child Care Advisory Board, a local council, is made up of representatives from the public/private sector to provide comments on new policies and procedures. No link available.
- The **New Hampshire** Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) is a partnership contracted to a nonprofit agency, Early Learning NH, to provide leadership to promote a comprehensive, coordinated, sustainable early childhood system, <http://www.earlylearningnh.org/>. The NH Child Care Advisory Council (<http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dcyf/ccac.htm>) and the NH Interagency Coordinating Council (<http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bds/icc/index.htm>) are standing committees that appoint members to serve on ECAC.

- The **New Jersey** School Age Care Coalition is responsible for the coordination plan, <http://www.njsacc.org/>. The New Jersey Council for Young Children is the State's advisory council and focuses on improving the coordination and quality of programs and services for children from birth through school entry. <http://www.state.nj.us/education/ece/njccyc/>
- The **New Mexico** Early Childhood Care and Education Act established the Early Learning Advisory Council by the Children, Youth and Families Department and charged it with creating an aligned early learning system for children birth through third grade. <https://www.newmexicokids.org/content/elac/>
- The **New York** Early Childhood Advisory Council was established to serve as the State's advisory council and focuses on addressing the structural issues that have impeded the development of a comprehensive system of early childhood supports and services. <http://ccf.ny.gov/ECAC/index.cfm>
- The **North Carolina** Governor created the Early Childhood Advisory Council to serve as the State's advisory council and develop, encourage and support initiatives to strengthen the early childhood system. <http://www.governor.nc.gov/default.aspx?cat=Education>
- The Healthy **North Dakota** Early Childhood Alliance was created to carry out the requirements of the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant and to develop an early childhood systems plan, http://www.healthynd.org/HND_Early_Childhood_Alliance.html. The ND Early Childhood Education Council serves as the State's advisory council, http://governor.nd.gov/boards/boards-query.asp?Board_ID=162.
- The **Ohio** Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) coordinates the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) in partnership with the Ohio Head Start Collaboration Office. ECAC gives advice to the Governor and the Early Childhood Cabinet on policy and resource development priorities, <http://www.build-ohio.org/ecac.html>. The Child Care Advisory Council is a local council that serves as an advisor to ODJFS/BCCD [Bureau of Child Care & Development] in planning program activities and makes recommendations that support and promote child care policy for children birth through age thirteen, <http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/advisorycouncil.stm>.
- The Governor designated the **Oklahoma** Partnership for School Readiness, housed in Smart Start Oklahoma, as the statewide advisory council. This entity is responsible for the coordination plan and serves in an advisory capacity to the Governor on early childhood system issues. <http://www.smartstartok.org/opsr>
- The **Oregon** Education Investment Board, Early Learning Council (ELC) is a new statutorily created entity in the early stages of development. The ELC is responsible for the coordination plan and serves as the State's advisory council. http://cms.oregon.gov/gov/pages/oeib/oregoneducationinvestmentboard.aspx#Early_Learning
- In **Pennsylvania**, the Local Education and Resource Networks (LEARN) Teams serve as local councils that bring together early childhood programs, families, school districts, and organizations to assess and promote the availability of quality early learning programs, http://paprom.convio.net/site/PageServer?pagename=EEin_ceg. The Early Learning Council (advisory council) advises the Office of Child Development and Early Learning on the successes and challenges of the State's early learning programs and makes recommendations for new directions in early education. No link available.
- In **Puerto Rico**, the Administration for the Integral Child Care and Development is responsible for the coordination plan, <http://www.acuden.pr.gov/>. The Early Childhood Council will conduct needs assessment about the quality and availability of early childhood education services, identify opportunities/barriers to collaboration among programs and services, and develop recommendations for increasing

program participation, professional development, and career advancement. The Council will also evaluate government programs, assess higher education institutions' capacity/effectiveness, and work towards improving the early learning standards. No link available.

- The **Rhode Island** Department of Health is responsible for the coordination plan, <http://www.health.ri.gov/>. The Permanent Legislative Commission on Child Care (PLCCC) advises the Governor and Legislature on issues, problems, and solutions related to affordable, quality child care in the State, <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/childcare/>. The Rhode Island Early Learning Council (State Advisory Council) facilitates the development/enhancement of a high quality early childhood education and care system that improves school readiness and success in school, <http://www.earlylearningri.org/>.
- The **South Carolina** State Advisory Council, based at First Steps to School Readiness, focuses on improving school readiness for the State's youngest learners, <http://www.scfirststeps.org/default.htm>. In 2007, the Lead Agency began requiring Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies to manage and facilitate Child Care Coordination Team meetings. These meetings serve as a forum for communication and coordination at the regional and local level to support child care providers. No link available.
- In **Tennessee**, the Early Childhood Advisory Council serves as the State Advisory Council and focuses on promoting school readiness, social competence, emotional development, physical and mental health, and nutrition. <http://www.tn.gov/education/earlylearning/index.shtml>
- The Office of Program Coordination for Children and Youth (http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/tifi/TIFI_OPCCY.html), within the **Texas** Health and Human Services Commission, is responsible for the coordination plan and houses the Council on Children and Families, the Office of Early Childhood Coordination, and Children's Policy Council. The Council on Children and Families focuses on coordinating the State's health, education, and human services systems to facilitate services for children and youth of all ages, http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/about_hhsc/AdvisoryCommittees/Council.shtml. The Office of Early Childhood Coordination provides coordination activities across health, education, and human services for children (birth through six), http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/si/oec/oecc_home.html. The Children's Policy Council assists health and human services agencies in developing, implementing, and administering family support policies and related long-term care and health programs for children, <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/si/cpc/index.shtml>. The Office of Program Coordination for Children and Youth also houses the Community Resource Coordination Groups of Texas, Texas Integrated Funding Initiative, and the System of Care for Children's Mental Health. The Texas Early Learning Council is designated as the State Advisory Council, <http://www.childrenslearninginstitute.org/our-programs/program-overview/texas-early-learning-council/>
- In **Utah**, the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Grant team is developing a coordination plan, <http://health.utah.gov/childdevelopment/>. There are also four committees (Access to Health Care and Medical Homes, Early Care and Education, Parenting Education and Family Support, Social-Emotional Development and Mental Health) that are mapping existing services and identifying committee goals. The Early Childhood Council has served as the advisory board for the State's federal ECCS Grant project since 2002. In 2007, the Governor issued an executive order establishing Governor's Child and Family Cabinet, which now houses the Early Childhood Council. No link available.

- In **Vermont**, the Building Bright Futures (BBF) Council is the State Advisory Council. The BBF Council also has 12 affiliated regional councils, <http://www.buildingbrightfutures.org/index.php>. The Vermont Center for Afterschool Excellence coordinates and advises the Lead Agency and other public/private partners on after-school services in the State. <http://vermontafterschool.org/>
- In the **Virgin Islands**, the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Committee is responsible for the coordination plan. This Committee sub-grants to other sub-committees/work groups, including the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands, to coordinate programs and activities consistent with the goals outlined in the coordination plan. No link available. The Children and Family Council, appointed by the Office of the Governor, coordinates across agencies and programs that focus on children (birth through 18) and their families. No link available.
- The **Virginia** Early Childhood Foundation, in partnership with the Lead Agency, is responsible for the coordination plan, <http://www.smartbeginnings.org/>. The Virginia Department of Social Services supports school-age programs and coordinates activities through the Virginia Partnership for Out-of-School Time, <http://www.v-post.org/>. The Early Childhood State Advisory Council, as the advisory council, is responsible for the coordination of activities across early childhood programs that serve children from birth to kindergarten age, <http://www.earlychildhood.virginia.gov/ecac.shtml>.
- In **Washington**, the Early Learning Advisory Council advises the Lead Agency on statewide early learning issues that would build a comprehensive system of quality early learning programs and services. <http://www.del.wa.gov/partnerships/elac/>
- The **West Virginia** Early Childhood Advisory Council is responsible for leading the development/enhancement of high quality, comprehensive early childhood systems that ensure statewide coordination and collaboration among early childhood programs and services. <http://wvearlylearning.org/>
- In **Wisconsin**, the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council focuses building public awareness about quality early childhood programs, identifying areas for collaboration and coordination, and offers recommendations for increased participation in early childhood programs and professional development. <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/ecac/default.htm>
- The **Wyoming** Early Childhood State Advisory Council facilitates statewide collaboration, evaluates the early childhood system, and makes recommendations to the Governor, lawmakers, and State agencies. http://dfswapps.state.wy.us/Child_Care/Home/HomeBCI_ECDC.aspx

*The Child Care State Systems Specialist Network does not endorse any non-Federal organization, publication, or resource.