Tribes and States Working Together: CCDF Coordination Requirements, Benefits, and Successful Models

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WELCOME

◆ Willow Abrahamson  ◆ Eva Carter
Agenda

1. Overview of Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) requirements for tribal and state coordination
2. Tribal and state coordination: Additional opportunities
3. Implementation considerations
4. Training and technical assistance resources
Objectives

Participants will have an enhanced understanding of the following:

- Tribal and state coordination requirements in the CCDF Final Rule;
- Benefits of tribal and state coordination;
- Opportunities for coordination;
- Implementation considerations; and
- Resources to support planning and implementation of tribal and state coordination.
Overview of Requirements for Tribal and State Coordination
CCDF Reauthorization

- In November 2014, the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 was signed into law.
- The CCDBG Act reauthorized the CCDF program and introduced sweeping statutory changes to raise the health, safety, and quality of child care and provide more stable child care assistance to families.

CCDF Final Rule

Enhance the quality of child care

Protect the health and safety of children in child care

Help parents make informed consumer choices

Support equal access to stable child care for low-income children

CCDF Requirements for States that Impact Tribes

- Consultation on CCDF Plan
- Access to training and professional development
- Coordination to increase access to continuity of care
- Leveraging existing child care to increase the supply and quality of child care services

Coordination between state and tribal organizations
CCDF Requirements for States

- “Consult, collaborate, and coordinate in the development of the State Plan in a timely manner with Indian Tribes or tribal organizations in the State (at the option of the Tribe or tribal organization).”
- “Coordinate, to the maximum extent feasible with any Indian Tribes in the State receiving CCDF funds.”
- “Demonstrate in the CCDF Plan how the State, Territory, or Tribe encourages partnerships among its agencies, other public agencies, Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations and private entities … to leverage existing service delivery systems for child care and development services and to increase the supply and quality of child care and development services.”
- Ensure that required training and professional development are accessible to CCDF child care providers supported through Tribes or tribal organizations and, to the extent practicable, appropriate for Native American children.

Source: Child Care and Development Fund, 45 C.F.R. § 98.10, 98.12, and 98.14 (2016).
CCDF Requirements for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Grantees

- AI/AN grantees “shall coordinate the development of the Plan and the provision of services, to the extent practicable,” and
  - “To the maximum extent feasible, with the Lead Agency in the State or States in which the applicant will carry out the CCDF program; and
  - With other Federal, State, local, and tribal child care and childhood development programs.”

Source: Child Care and Development Fund, 45 C.F.R. § 98.82 (2016).
Coordinating Services

In the development of the plan and the provision of services, State and AI/AN grantees shall, to the extent practicable, coordinate with agencies responsible for:

- Public health, including the agency responsible for immunizations
- Employment services/workforce development
- Public education
- Providing Temporary Assistance for Needy Families;
- Child care licensing
- Head Start collaboration
- State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care or similar coordinating body
- Statewide after-school network or other coordinating entity for out-of-school time care (if applicable)

Source: Child Care and Development Fund, 45 C.F.R. § 98.14 and § 98.82 (2016).
Coordinating Services Continued…

In the development of the plan and the provision of services, State and AI/AN grantees shall, to the extent practicable, coordinate with agencies responsible for:

- Emergency management and response;
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP);
- Services for children experiencing homelessness;
- Medicaid and the State children's health insurance programs;
- Mental health services;
- Child care resource and referral agencies, child care consumer education organizations, and providers of early childhood education training and professional development.

Source: Child Care and Development Fund, 45 C.F.R. § 98.14 and § 98.82 (2016).
Developing Tribal CCDF Plans

Improve the system of cooperation, coordination, and collaboration in development of the CCDF Plans
Expanding Accessibility and Continuity of Care Example: Dual Eligibility

- **Subsidy considerations for States and Tribes:**
  - How can the State and Tribe align their subsidy systems?
  - How will the State’s subsidy requirements affect the Tribe?
  - How will the agencies inform families of the subsidy considerations?
  - How is the market rate data collected and disseminated?

- **Dual eligibility considerations for States and Tribes:**
  - How will the agencies engage families?
  - Will there be a system of referral?
  - How will this dual eligibility system function?
Leveraging Existing Systems and Increasing Supply of Quality Care

◆ Coordinating around quality improvement:
  ▪ Scholarships
  ▪ Quality improvement grants
  ▪ Peer mentoring or communities of practice
  ▪ Tribal representation on committees and workgroups
  ▪ Supply of quality providers

◆ Leveraging state systems:
  ▪ CACFP
  ▪ Special needs services
  ▪ Resource and referral agencies
  ▪ Training and professional development
Ensure that required training and professional development are accessible

States are required to provide access to training and professional development systems to tribal providers

- Ensure culturally responsive training;
- Access career pathway systems to support child development credentials or degrees; and
- Coordinate training to be accessible and inclusive of tribal providers.
Tribal and State Coordination: Additional Opportunities
Additional Opportunities for Tribal and State Coordination

- Planning and policymaking
- Standards development
- Consumer education and family engagement
- Child care licensing
- Grant and funding opportunities
- Background checks
Joint Planning and Policymaking

- Joint planning and policymaking provides opportunities for Tribes to improve the overall quality of child care by teaming or coordinating with the state in numerous ways.
Development of Standards

- States and Tribes can collaborate on the following:
  - Health and safety standards for AI/AN programs
  - Early learning guidelines with considerations for AI/AN grantees
  - Workgroups to address state and program standards for a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS)
  - Home-visiting, developmental screening, and other standards
Child Care Licensing and Monitoring

- States and Tribes often serve families in both jurisdictions and can collaborate on a child care licensing system that meets the standards of both the Tribes and the State
- Coordination can enhance a positive government-to-government relationship
Consumer Education and Family Engagement

- Tribes can coordinate with the State to support consumer education and family engagement. They can work together to coordinate on the following:
  - Consumer websites*
  - Resource and referral services
  - Early intervention and child development service agencies
  - Licensing systems or health and safety systems
  - QRIS system
  - Outreach regarding services that address vulnerable populations

Note: AI/AN CCDF grantees are exempt from the requirement to have a consumer education website
Some Tribes and States have collaborated on the use of grants or funding opportunities that affect service provision, such as services from the following:

- Early Head Start–Child Care Partnerships;
- The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP);
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part B and Part C Services;
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
Background Checks

Tribes and States can coordinate on a process, agreement, or understanding for meeting the regulations on background checks.

- Will this process involve a simple agreement between the state lead agency and tribal child care?
- Is there a way to ensure tribal systems are developed so there is no duplication of this management system?
- What will this process, or interaction entail?
Implementation Considerations
Building Collaborative Partnerships

These materials were developed by the QUILT (Quality in Linking Together) Project, through a partnership with the Community Development Institute, the Education Development Center, and the National Child Care Information Center. QUILT was funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

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Benefits of Coordination

- Expand or enhance accessibility and continuity of care
- Extend the hours or calendar year of services
- Smooth transitions for children
- Help children receive full-day services
- Enhance and align the quality of services
Benefits of Coordination Continued…

- Link comprehensive services to child care settings
- Promote family engagement
- Enhance cultural awareness
- Increase the supply of quality care
- Increase professional support and training
Questions for **States** to Consider as They Partner With Tribes

- **Set the stage**
  - What are the first steps in developing a relationship with my tribal partner(s)?
  - What are the most important things I need to know about each Tribe’s history and culture?
  - How do I address tribal sovereignty considerations in a partnership?
  - Does my agency have a history of working with Tribes?
Questions for **States** to Consider as They Partner With Tribes

- Gather information: How well do I know my tribal partner(s)?
  - Who is the point of contact?
  - What is the governance structure?
  - Who is served? How many children and families?
  - What is the size allocation?
  - Is the Tribe part of a consortium?
  - Does the Tribe offer Head Start services along with child care services?
  - Who are the Tribe’s other partners?
Questions for **States** to Consider as They Partner With Tribes

- Make a plan
  - What are the barriers or challenges we may face in our partnership and how can we approach them?
  - Will this require a written agreement that will be binding for my agency?
  - Can I have an overall agreement with all of the Tribes in my State or is each one different?
Questions for Tribes to Consider as They Partner With States

- Set the stage
  - What are the first steps in developing a relationship with my partner(s)?
  - How will tribal CCDF be enhanced by partnering with state CCDF?
  - What are my priorities as I negotiate with the State?
  - How do I address tribal sovereignty considerations in a partnership?
Questions for **Tribes** to Consider as They Partner with States

- Gather information: How well do I know my State(s)?
  - Who is the point of contact?
  - What does my State need to know about our CCDF?
  - Are other Tribes in my area partnering with the State?
Questions for **Tribes** to Consider as They Partner With States

- Make a plan
  - Should I reach out to my State or wait for it to reach out to me?
  - What are the barriers or challenges we may face in our partnership and how can we address them?
  - Does the coordination with Tribes require a written agreement that has to be signed by our tribal leadership?
Spotlight on Oklahoma

Working together on:
◆ Licensing and Monitoring
◆ Professional Development
◆ Child Care Resource and Referral

Carolyn Codopony
Comanche Nation CCDF Administrator

Lesli Blazer
State CCDF Administrator

Kristi Simpson
State Licensing and Monitoring
Spotlight on Minnesota

Working together on:
- Native Language Empowerment
- Joint Planning on Policy Considerations
- Professional Development
- Child Care Resource and Referral

Lee Turney and Tammi Finn
Minnesota Tribal Resources for Early Childhood Care (MNTRECC)
Tribal-State Coordination in Action

Sharing about:

- Beginnings
- Areas of coordination
- Lessons learned
- Maintaining the partnership
- Benefits
- Challenges

National Center on Tribal Early Childhood Development
Putting Our Minds Together …

How will you partner with your State or Tribal CCDF Programs?

“Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children.”

~Sitting Bull~
Training and Technical Assistance Resources
CCDF Final Rule Resources

- **CCDF Final Rule** (Federal Register)
- **CCDF Final Rule Tribal Fact Sheet** (Office of Child Care, 2016)
- **Child Care and Development Fund Final Rule: Overview for Tribes** (Office of Child Care, 2016)
National Centers

- National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment
- National Center on Child Care Subsidy Innovation and Accountability
- National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning
- National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness
- National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance
- National Center on Early Head Start–Child Care Partnerships
- National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement
- National Center on Program Management and Fiscal Operations
- National Center on Tribal Early Childhood Development
Resources

- **Tribal-State Collaboration Project** (National Congress of American Indians)
- **Tribal Law and Order Resource Center** (National Congress of American Indians)
- **The Collaboration Pyramid** (National Center on Early Head Start–Child Care Partnerships)
- **Coordinated Monitoring Systems for Early Care and Education** (Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation)
- **Conducting Effective Meetings** (National Center on Program Management and Fiscal Operations)
- **Tribal Access Program** (U.S. Department of Justice)
- **National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)**
- **CCDF Regulations: Summary on Provisions Related to Homeless Children and Families** (NCHE)
- **Child and Adult Food Care Program** (U.S. Department of Agriculture)
Tribal and State Spotlights

- **MNTRECC**: Minnesota Tribal Resources for Early Childhood Care
- **OTCCA**: Oklahoma Tribal Child Care Association
- **Comanche Nation of Oklahoma**
- **Oklahoma State CCDF**
- **Minnesota State CCDF**
Contact Us

- **Phone:** 877-296-2401
- **Email:** nctecd@ecetta.info
- **Website:** [https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/centers/national-center-tribal-early-childhood-development](https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/centers/national-center-tribal-early-childhood-development)
- **Newsletter:** [http://eepurl.com/cs6Osv](http://eepurl.com/cs6Osv)