



Health and Safety Resource List

Overview

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Final Rule outlines regulations for implementing the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 and administering the CCDF program, including provisions to protect the health and safety of children in care. The Final Rule strengthens health and safety requirements for programs receiving CCDF funds. All American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) CCDF grantees, regardless of allocation size, are required to meet the health and safety requirements in the Final Rule, which include the following:

- ◆ Requirements on a specified list of health and safety topics;
- ◆ Health and safety training;
- ◆ Specific group size limits and ratios; and
- ◆ Compliance with child abuse reporting requirements.

This resource list provides information and guidance on health and safety in AI/AN CCDF child care programs. It provides resources to support health and safety implementation in the following areas: standards, policies and procedures, monitoring systems, forms, staff training and support, and communication (internal and external). The “implementation level” for each resource identifies those that are most appropriate for stakeholders at different stages of standard implementation (for example, beginner, intermediate, advanced). Resources for the beginner stage will help grantees implement the health and safety requirements in the CCDF Final Rule. For grantees ready to implement more robust health and safety standards, the intermediate and advanced resources will help build on the foundation of health and safety.

Standards

Resource Title	Description
<u><i>Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, 3rd Edition</i></u> Implementation level: Advanced	Caring for Our Children provides a list of 686 standards that represent best health and safety practices in child care settings. Each standard, written by health and safety experts and reviewed by licensors and providers, also includes a rationale that explains why the standard is important. Users can download a PDF and search the online full-text version, which is available on the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education’s website.
<u><i>Caring for Our Children Basics: Health and Safety Foundations for Early Care and Education, 3rd Edition</i></u> Implementation level:	This resource is published by the Administration for Children and Families and is based on the full Caring for Our Children resource. Caring for Our Children Basics represents the minimum health and safety standards experts believe should be in place where children are cared for outside of their homes. It provides standards on the following topics: staffing; program activities for healthy development; health promotion and protection; nutrition and food service; facilities, supplies,

Resource Title	Description
Beginner/intermediate	equipment, and environmental health; play areas/playgrounds and transportation; infectious disease; and policies.

Policies and Procedures

Resource Title	Description
<p><u>Managing Chronic Health Needs in Child Care and Schools: A Quick Reference Guide</u></p> <p>Implementation level: Advanced</p>	<p>This reference guide from the American Academy of Pediatrics provides information about addressing chronic illnesses, acute situations, developmental and behavioral problems, and special health care needs. It offers practical information and advice for teachers, administrators, school nurses, and caregivers. It also provides fact sheets for specific conditions.</p>
<p><u>Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools: A Quick Reference Guide, 3rd Edition</u></p> <p>Implementation level: Advanced</p>	<p>This reference guide from the American Academy of Pediatrics provides a collection of fact sheets on common infectious diseases (and their symptoms) that occur in children in group settings. It includes information regarding how to limit the spread of infection and recommendations regarding which situations require immediate help. It also provides guidelines for when children should and should not be excluded from child care settings based on illness.</p>
<p><u>Model Child Care Health Policies, 5th Edition</u></p> <p>Implementation level: Intermediate/advanced</p>	<p>This resource contains model health policies that can be adapted or used selectively in any type of child care setting. The policies are designed to allow readers to insert information specific to their programs so staff can quickly reference and appropriately handle day-to-day and emergency situations. It also includes reproducible forms, resource lists, and safety checklists.</p>
<p><u>Stepping Stones to Caring for Our Children, 3rd Edition</u></p> <p>Implementation level: Intermediate/advanced</p>	<p>Stepping Stones contains a subset of the standards in Caring for Our Children that are believed to have the greatest impact on preventing disease, disability, and death in child care programs. This resource augments Caring for Our Children by providing policymakers and program managers with an abridged tool to assist with the development of effective child care policies and regulations.</p>
<p>Templates and Examples (Available upon request)</p> <p>Implementation level: Beginner</p>	<p>The National Center on Tribal Early Childhood Development (NCTECD) team can provide examples and templates as a way to help AI/AN CCDF grantees get started in developing or revising basic program health and safety policies and procedures. These resources are available upon request from NCTECD.</p>

Monitoring Systems

Resource Title	Description
<p><u>Developing Child Care Monitoring and Enforcement Systems: A Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Grantees</u></p> <p>Implementation level: Beginner/intermediate/advanced</p>	<p>This training guide was designed to help tribal CCDF Lead Agency staff and elected tribal leaders understand their responsibilities for ensuring that all of the child care facilities they fund and operate are providing safe, healthy, and high-quality care. It also helps staff develop and implement a monitoring and enforcement system for child care providers that participate in the AI/AN CCDF program.</p>
<p><u>Health and Safety Checklist for Early Care and Education Programs</u></p> <p>Implementation level: Advanced</p>	<p>This resource is a comprehensive health and safety monitoring checklist for center-based providers. It is based on <i>Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, 3rd Edition</i>.</p>
<p><u>Monitoring Child Care Centers: A Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Grantees</u></p> <p>Implementation level: Beginner/intermediate/advanced</p>	<p>This guide outlines the many important skills, tools, and strategies needed by AI/AN CCDF Lead Agency staff to implement a monitoring program for child care centers. This training guide describes monitoring and enforcement policy guidelines, effective communication skills, how to conduct a monitoring visit, and tips on handling commonly found situations in the monitoring process.</p>
<p><u>Monitoring Child Care Homes: A Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Grantees</u></p> <p>Implementation level: Beginner/intermediate/advanced</p>	<p>This guide outlines the many important skills, tools, and strategies needed by AI/AN CCDF Lead Agency staff to implement a monitoring program for child care homes. This training guide describes monitoring and enforcement policy guidelines, effective communication skills, how to conduct a monitoring visit, and tips on handling commonly found situations in the monitoring process.</p>

Forms

Resource Title	Description
<p><u>Early Childhood Education Linkage System (ECELS): Forms</u></p> <p>Implementation level: Intermediate/advanced</p>	<p>ECELS provides consultation, training, and technical assistance about health and safety in child care. This web page provides sample forms and templates, such as an Action Plan for Health and Safety, an Asthma Action Plan, and an Emergency Information Form for Children With Special Health Needs.</p>
<p>Templates and Examples (Available upon request)</p> <p>Implementation level: Beginner</p>	<p>The NCTECD team can provide grantees with specific examples and templates from other AI/AN CCDF grantees as a way to support the development of appropriate forms that are aligned with program standards as well as policies and procedures. These resources are available upon request from NCTECD.</p>

Staff Training and Support

Resource Title	Description
Better Kid Care on Demand Distance Education Implementation level: Beginner/intermediate/ advanced	Better Kid Care’s On Demand Distance Education system is offered by Penn State Extension. It has more than 190 online courses with many modules that focus specifically on health and safety topics, such as the following: prevention and control of infectious disease; safe sleep practices and sudden infant death syndrome prevention; administration of medication; food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety; shaken baby syndrome/abusive head trauma prevention; emergency preparedness; handling and storage of hazardous materials; transportation safety; nutrition and physical activity; infant/toddler care; and social-emotional health of children. Better Kid Care also offers a 6-hour health and safety orientation module that provides an overview of the basic health and safety requirements and best practices outlined in CCDF reauthorization.
Virtual Early Education Center Implementation level: Beginner/intermediate/ advanced	The Virtual Early Education Center (VEEC) is an online tool for early care and education settings, including Head Start, Early Head Start, and child care programs. VEEC allows users to explore a virtual early childhood center and find information and resources on health and safety standards and practices.
Virtual Lab School Implementation level: Beginner/intermediate/ advanced	The Virtual Lab School provides an easy to navigate online professional development and resource system that allows early childhood professionals to build their knowledge and skills related to in child care and youth development. It includes trainings to assist staff with health and safety best practices, including a Safe Environments and a Healthy Environments training.

Communication (Internal and External)

Resource Title	Description
Head Start Management Systems Wheel: Communication Implementation level: Beginner/intermediate	The National Center on Program Management and Fiscal Operations created a management system wheel that provides a visual representation of 12 program management, planning, and oversight systems that are critical to a high-quality service program. The communication system highlights the importance of effectively exchanging information with internal and external stakeholders. It provides tools and resources to support early childhood programs with their communication systems. This resource can assist AI/AN CCDF grantees with communicating health and safety information to stakeholders (e.g., program staff, families, and Tribal leadership).
Systems Building Resource Guide 5: Stakeholder Communications Implementation level: Advanced	This guide from the Child Care State Capacity Building Center provides information and resources related to communicating and engaging with stakeholders, communication plans, and making the most of stakeholder meetings. This resource can assist AI/AN CCDF grantees with communicating health and safety information to stakeholders (e.g., program staff, families, and Tribal leadership).

The National Center on Tribal Early Childhood Development is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care.

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