



INFANT/TODDLER SPECIALIST NETWORK FACTSHEET

WHAT IS AN INFANT/TODDLER SPECIALIST NETWORK?

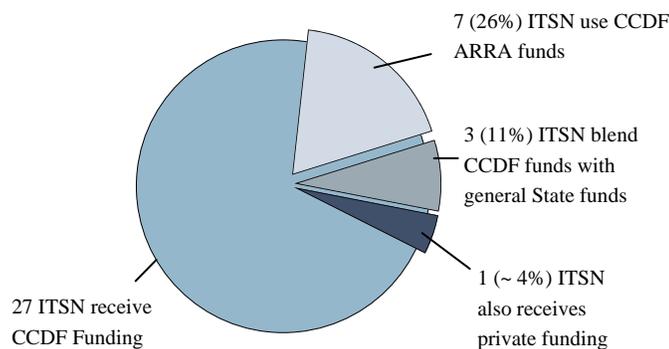
An Infant/Toddler Specialist Network (ITSN) is a state-based system that coordinates the work of Infant/Toddler Specialists (ITS). The ITS is a key support for state-based professional development systems that serve the needs of infants and toddlers in out-of-home care. ITS support the infant/toddler workforce by providing services such as professional development education and training; technical assistance; resource identification; and community outreach, education and support. The overall goal of the ITSN is to improve caregiver practices and the overall quality of each infant and toddler’s developmental experience. To date, 27* States have established ITSN and a few additional States are making progress towards developing networks.

ITSN PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor's Degree	AR, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, KY, NC, NJ, NY, MD, MT, OH, OK, PA, TN, UT, VA, WV	20
Master's Degree	CO, ME	2
Nursing Degree	WA	1
State IT Credential	GA, MT, SC	3

A Bachelor’s degree is required by 20 States as the minimum professional qualification. Maine requires a Master’s degree and Colorado requires a Master’s degree for certain State ITS positions. The Washington State ITSN is comprised of nurses and requires a professional degree in nursing. Georgia, Montana and South Carolina require completion of their State Infant/Toddler Credential.

ITSN FUNDING SOURCES



Infant/Toddler Specialist Networks are supported by an array of funding sources, but States primarily allocate Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) infant/toddler targeted funds to finance networks. A few States allocate American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds or additional local and private funds to support the work of the ITSN.

- CCDF funds: AR, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD, ME, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA, WA, WV
- CCDF ARRA funds: AR, GA, IL, MD, MT, NC, NY
- CCDF and general state funds: NC, ND, OK
- CA ITSN also receives private funding

ITSN SERVICE DELIVERY

Child Care Centers	AR, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD, ME, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA, WA, WV	27
Family Child Care Homes	AR, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD, ME, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, VA, WA, WV	26
Early Head Start	AR, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, KS, KY, MD, ME, MT, NC, ND, NY, OH, SC, SD, TN, VA, WV	21
Family, Friend & Neighbor	AR, CA, CO, IL, IN, ME, ND, NY, SC, SD, VA	11

Infant/Toddler Specialists deliver services in diverse settings including child care centers; family child care homes; family, friend & neighbor; and/or Early Head Start. All 27 State ITSN provide services in child care centers; 26 States have networks that serve family child care homes; Early Head Start (EHS) is served by 21 state ITSN; and family, friend & neighbor care is supported

ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT & OPERATION

	Statewide Oversight	Local Implementation
CCR&R	8	17
State Government	11	1
State Government and State CCR&R Networks	4	0
Higher Education	1	1
Local/Regional Agency	0	5
Shared across multiple level agencies	0	1
Other	2	4

The State government and/or the State Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Network assume administrative oversight for the largest number of ITSN. A few ITSN are governed by higher education or other organizations. ITSN are primarily housed within the local CCR&R. A few are located within other organizations or shared across multiple agencies.

* These are State ITSN known to NITCCI at the time of this publication (AR, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD, ME, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA, WA, WV)

Infant/Toddler Specialist Networks 27 States with ITSN

