State Administrators and Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) Staff can use the new *Parent Involvement and Family Engagement* resource to build knowledge and strengthen practices of early childhood (EC) professionals.

**Resource Description**

Parent involvement and family engagement are both important strategies to build relationships with families. Family engagement is highlighted as the most effective way to join with families in the care, learning, and healthy development of children. Successful family engagement efforts contribute to an effective workforce, higher job satisfaction for providers, and better results for children and families.

**Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Family Engagement Requirements**

The CCDF rule outlines family engagement requirements for EC professionals that will:

- Promote informed parental choices and engagement in their children’s development and learning.

- Improve knowledge and skills for caregivers, teachers, and directors that promote family engagement, including culturally and linguistically appropriate practices.

- Build on parents’ and families’ understanding of the early childhood system.

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<th>2016 CCDF Fund Final Rule Related Requirements</th>
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<td>98.1 (a) (2-3), (b) (5) Purposes</td>
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<td>98.16 (gg) Plan Provisions</td>
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<td>98.33 (b) (1) (iv) Consumer and Provider Education</td>
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<td>98.53 (a) (1) (iv), (a) (3) (v) Activities to improve the quality of care</td>
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For State Administrators: How to Use this Resource

Prioritize a vision of parent involvement and family engagement

• Share the resource at state advisory council meetings.
• Inform learning through professional development (PD) activities, materials, and resources that are consistent with family engagement goals.
• Inform content for web-based resources for partners or professionals such as Early Learning Development Guidelines, School Standards, EC Professional Competencies, QRIS Systems, Child Care Licensing Rules and Regulations guidelines.

Increase knowledge across the early childhood field

• Distribute this resource through newsletters and websites with recommendations for use in programs. Programs may use in multiple ways, such as in staff meetings, professional development, focus groups with families, and review of program offerings.
• Pair with Consumer Engagement: An Orientation for Early Childhood and School-age Care and Education Professionals to provide to Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agencies, T/TA regional leads, state agencies responsible for consumer education, and other local implementing partners. Agencies and organizations can share with EC professionals (e.g. ECE, EI, and ECSE) through T/TA and community engagement efforts.
• Generate a common understanding of involvement and engagement related terms and approaches across the PD system in states to ensure that offerings about family engagement are aligned, effective, and consistently grounded in exemplary practices.

For Training and Technical Assistance Staff: How to Use this Resource

Support professional learning

• Discuss with providers to broaden their understanding of family engagement and how they might enhance their efforts over time.
• Strengthen the understanding of the link between family engagement and better outcomes for children and families.

Encourage continuous quality improvement

• Build knowledge and connections with colleagues by exploring this resource in a learning community or sharing on social media.
• Inform conversations with EC professionals such as family child care home providers, classroom teachers, administrators, and leadership.
Download the Resource

Available on the Office of Child Care Technical Assistance web site.

Related References


This document was developed with funds from Grant #90HC0014 for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start, and Office of Child Care, by the National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement. This resource may be duplicated for noncommercial uses without permission.

For more information about this resource, please contact us: PFCE@ecetta.info | 1-866-763-6481