

Tribes with Medium and Large Allocations

Direct Services

- Provide **direct services** through tribally-operated center, certificate program, and/or grants and contracts
- After reserving the minimum amount for quality and funding for administrative costs, spend **at least 70% of the remaining Discretionary funds** on providing direct services

Continuity of Care – *Policies that increase subsidy retention*

- Establish a minimum of a **12-month eligibility period**, regardless of temporary changes in parents' work or activities, a change in the child's age, a change in the family's address within the service area, or changes in family income (as long as the income does not exceed 85% of the grantee median income)
- Offer **graduated phase out** of assistance for children whose family income at redetermination exceeds the initial eligibility limit but is below 85% of grantee median income
- Ensure reporting requirements for families during the 12-month eligibility period are **not administratively burdensome**
- Ensure **parents' education, training, or employment are not unduly disrupted** in order to complete the eligibility redetermination process

Tribes with Large Allocations ONLY

- Provide an option for parents to pay for child care services with a certificate

Eligibility Determination

- Establish **additional eligibility criteria** and definitions within Federal parameters-- child age (under age 13, or age 19 if incapable of self-care), reason for care (working, training/education, protective services), and family income (no more than 85% of grantee median income)
- Provide an option for **categorical eligibility** (i.e., considering any Indian child within the service area eligible for services) if the Tribe's median income is below 85% of the state median income, provided that services go to those with the highest need

Equal Access - *Child care services comparable to services available to families not eligible to receive CCDF*

- Set **payment rates** for child care services that are adequate, ensure equal access, and support health and safety and quality
- Implement **provider-friendly payment practices** and ensure timeliness of payments to providers
- Establish and periodically revise a **sliding fee scale** for family co-payments based on family income and family size
- Give priority for child care assistance to children with special needs and families experiencing homelessness

ALL Tribes Exempt From:

- Give priority for services to children of families with very low family income
- Spend at least 70% of Mandatory funds on services for TANF-related families
- Prioritize increasing access to high-quality child care in areas with significant concentrations of poverty and unemployment
- Conduct a market rate survey