

Child Care Health Resources

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The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 reauthorizes the funding for federal child care assistance through the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). The law makes key statutory changes to better balance the program's dual purposes of promoting families' economic self-sufficiency by making child care more affordable while also fostering healthy child development and school success by improving the overall quality of early learning and afterschool programs. The law also more clearly defines health and safety requirements for child care providers, outlines family-friendly eligibility policies, and ensures that parents and the general public have transparent information about the child care choices available to them. Find resources on this page to help you learn more about the CCDF health and safety requirements.

[CCDF Health and Safety Requirements](#)

Overview of CCDF Health and Safety Requirements

- Requires States to establish health and safety requirements in 10 different topic areas (e.g., prevention of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), first-aid, and CPR).
- Child care providers serving children receiving assistance through the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program must receive pre-service and ongoing training on such topics.
- Requires States to conduct criminal background checks for all child care staff members, including staff members who don't care directly for children but have unsupervised access to children, and specifies disqualifying crimes.
- Requires States to certify child care providers will comply with child abuse reporting requirements.
- Requires States to conduct pre-licensure and annual unannounced inspections of licensed CCDF providers and annual inspections of license-exempt CCDF providers.
- States must establish qualifications and training for licensing inspectors and appropriate inspector-to-provider ratios.
- Requires States to have standards for CCDF providers regarding group size limits and appropriate child-to-provider ratios based on the age of children in child care.
- Requires emergency preparedness planning and statewide disaster plans for child care.

Health and Safety Topics and Trainings Required by the CCDBG Act of 2014 (SEC. 658E(c)(2)(I))

(I) Health and Safety Requirements. The plan shall include a certification that there are in effect within the State, under State or local law, requirements designed to protect the health and safety of children that are applicable to child care providers that provide services for which assistance is made available under this subchapter. Such requirements- (i) shall relate to matters including health and safety topics consisting of—



(I) the prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunization) and the establishment of a grace period that allows homeless children and children in foster care to receive services under this subchapter while their families (including foster families) are taking any necessary action to comply with immunization and other health and safety requirements;

(II) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices;

(III) the administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent;

(IV) the prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions;

(V) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic;

(VI) prevention of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma;

(VII) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster, or a man-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility), within the meaning of those terms under section 602(a)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5195a(a)(1));

(VIII) the handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio-contaminants;

(IX) for providers that offer transportation, if applicable, appropriate precautions in transporting children;

(X) first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation; and

(XI) minimum health and safety training, to be completed pre-service or during an orientation period in addition to ongoing training, appropriate to the provider setting involved that addresses each of the requirements relating to matters described in this section; and

(XII) may include requirements relating to nutrition, access to physical activity, recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect, caring for children with special needs, or any other subject area determined by the State to be necessary to promote child development or to protect children's health and safety.

[Early Educator Central](#)

[Virtual Laboratory School](#)

[Better Kid Care](#)

[Watch Me! Celebrating Milestones and Sharing Concerns](#)

Child Care Health Consultants

Child care health consultants (CCHCs) are health professionals who know about child health, child development, and health and safety in child care settings. CCHCs and the child care staff work together to promote healthy and safe environments for young children. CCHCs have expert information, resources, and referrals to offer. Through onsite and telephone consultation, CCHCs work with individual child care facilities to help create environments that best support the healthy growth and development of young children. The resources on the [Child Care Health Consultant's](#) page are designed to assist CCHCs as they work with local programs to plan, implement, and evaluate health services.

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