



Division of Early Childhood Care and Development

CCDF State Plan Public Hearings

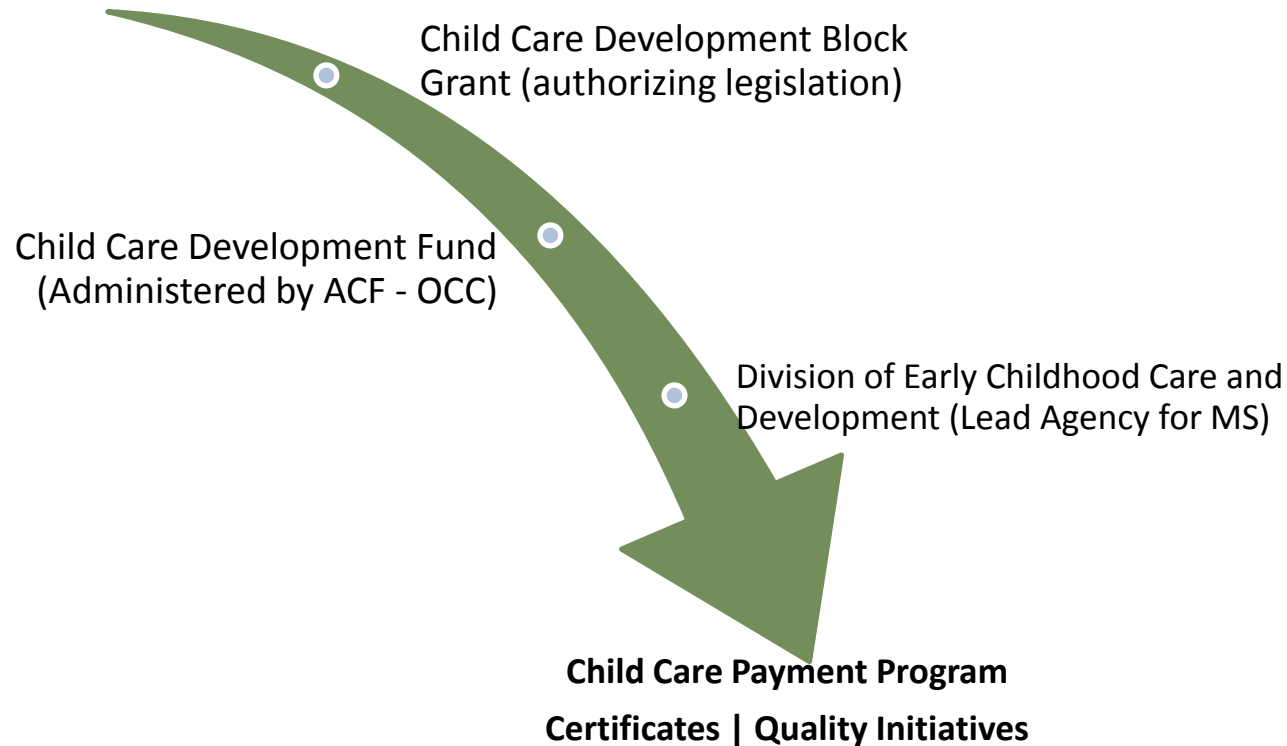
February 2-5, 2016





MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Overview





Purpose

- Review Proposed Policy Changes as required by CCDBG
- Solicit Feedback

NOTE: Information in this presentation will only review major changes in the state plan as required by Reauthorization of the CCDBG



Online Resources

WORKING DRAFT OF STATE PLAN FOR MISSISSIPPI

<http://www.mdhs.ms.gov/early-childhood-care-development/child-care-resources/ccdf-state-plan/>

STATE PLAN PREPRINT FROM OCC

Final Version of the Preprint has been released.

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ccdf-reauthorization>

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

- NPRM: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/12/24/2015-31883/child-care-and-development-fund-ccdf-program>
- Federal Government's Specific Requests for Public Comments:
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/2015-ccdf-nprm-procedures-and-specific-requests-for-comment>



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Section 1

Leadership and Coordination with Relevant Systems

- Plan period extended from 2 to 3 years
- DECCD will begin monitoring unlicensed providers
- Services to homeless families
- Partnerships with homeless agencies and McKinney Vento liaisons to accept childcare referrals for homeless children
- Disaster Preparedness requirements for unlicensed providers
 - Disaster Plans
 - Training/Practice Drills



Section 2

Promote Family Engagement through Outreach and Consumer Education

- Information about availability of Services
- Consumer Education Website
 - Full diversity of childcare
 - Quality ratings
 - Other assistance programs
 - IDEA programs
 - Research/best practices in child development
 - Policies regarding social-emotional health (suspension/expulsion)
- Information about Developmental Screenings
- Provider Specific Info about Health and Safety (Nov 19, 2017)
 - Inspections
 - Violations
- Description of Health and Safety Requirements
- Processes for Licensing/background checks and disqualifying offenses/monitoring
- Annual aggregate info on deaths/serious injuries/substantiated child abuse



Section 3

Provide Stable Child Care Financial Assistance to Families

- Updated SMI
- Graduated phase out
- Families must certify that their assets do not exceed one million dollars
- Increase access for homeless families
 - Service
 - Outreach
 - Training and TA for providers
- Immunization Grace Period for homeless and foster children
- 12 Month Eligibility
- Extended grace period for job search/educational enrollment
- Can term prior to 12 months if given 3 month grace period
- Updated copayment rates based on current SMI



Section 4

Ensure Equal Access to High Quality Child Care for Low Income Children

- Market Rate Survey
 - Sought feedback from Stakeholder Group
 - Asked questions about provider costs AND market rate
- Payment rates set in accordance with MRS
 - States must weigh cost of quality
 - without reducing number of families served (as practicable)
- Payment Rates are sufficient to ensure equal access
- *NPRM currently prohibits tuition overages!*
- Prioritize investments for areas with significant concentrations of poverty



Section 5

Establish Standards and Monitoring Processes to
Ensure the Health and Safety of Child Care Settings

- Ratios and group sizes for unlicensed care
- Orientation Training that covers ~~10~~ 11 Health and Safety Topics
- On-going training requirements for unlicensed providers
- Monitoring visits for unlicensed providers
- Comprehensive background checks (\$50 fee) for unlicensed providers and all household members over the age of 18





MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Section 6

Recruit and Retain a Qualified and Effective Child Care Workforce

- Training and TA regarding homeless children and families
- Orientation and on-going training hours for unlicensed providers



Section 7 Support Continuous Quality Improvement

- MS already in compliance because we have:
 - QRIS
 - CCR&Rs
 - Quality initiatives aimed at Infants and Toddlers
 - Supports for compliance with standards



Section 8 Ensure Program Integrity and Grantee Accountability

- No changes in this section of the State Plan
- Strive for balance between accountability and reporting burden





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FINAL PUBLIC HEARING

FEBRUARY 19, 2016

MADISON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE,
152 WATFORD PARKWAY
CANTON, MS 392046
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

AT ANY TIME YOU CAN SUBMIT A PUBLIC COMMENT:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form?EQBCT=81f6199cf990413bb131f164f8f2adc0>



Final Thoughts

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Public Comment specific to the State Plan:
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form?EQBCT=81f6199cf990413bb131f164f8f2adc0>



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