



Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)

and

Governor’s Office of Early Childhood Development (OECD)

Illinois CCDF-Reauthorization Bulletin

DHS DESIGN

In February of this year, the Planning Implementation & Compliance (PIC) Task Force, stewards of Illinois’ enactment of the CCDBG, met with IDHS & OECD to discuss Illinois’ approach to CCDF implementation. Statutes from the law were assigned to Illinois Stakeholders and initial approaches drafted. Since then, a lot has happened - committee work has begun, national guidance has been issued and states have begun to discuss implementation strategies. The purpose of this bulletin is to share significant developments with you.

Reauthorization means BIG changes for Illinois. Although we have an incredible program, the many elements of Reauthorization provide us with opportunities to make it better. IDHS, OECD & Task Force Co-Chairs touch base monthly to discuss committee work and organize work processes. Take-a-ways from those discussions are shared with Committee Co-Chairs and subsequently to committee members.

Our Task Force Co-Chairs encourage a holistic approach to Reauthorization efforts and one way of achieving this is through streamlined communication. *(See Task Force Tactics p. 2)* To that end, we are working on a central hub to house all Reauthorization work activities. Our plan is to have all important communications, timelines, documents and discussions in one place for everyone to view. We’ll communicate as soon as this portion of the project is completed.

The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) has faced many new developments over the last 16 months. Nonetheless, we all have continued to push forward. That achievement is credited to the outstanding partnerships and support we have from our network of partners, colleagues, and stakeholders. For your commitment to the children and families of Illinois, THANK YOU!



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September 30, 2017 September 30, 2016

Your committee may be seeing a change in compliance date for some of your statutes.

Most statutes that held a compliance date of 9/30/2017 will now be prioritized to **9/30/2016**.

This change is so that we can arrange statutes according to the first federal compliance date.



TASK FORCE TACTICS

On Thursday, April 2nd, an email was sent on behalf of PIC Task Force Co-Chairs Phyllis Glink and Gail Nourse. This email highlighted three main points.

- IL State Plan completion is targeted for January 2016. Submission is March 2016.
- CCDF is complex and evolving; therefore, it's desirable that committees

meet regularly.

- A Holistic approach to Reauthorization

Holistic = relating to or concerned with complete systems rather than with individual parts

This approach is also encouraged at the federal level. The goal is a coordinated process across stakeholder groups to ensure unified processes.

“It is time that we stop treating child care as a side issue or a, ‘women’s issue’. This is a family issue, this is a national economic priority for all of us.” ~ President Barack Obama

WORKBOOK WIGGLES

Heads Up! Remember that rather large Excel Workbook with all the colors and the lines...well it's changed. Nope, it's not more confusing :)

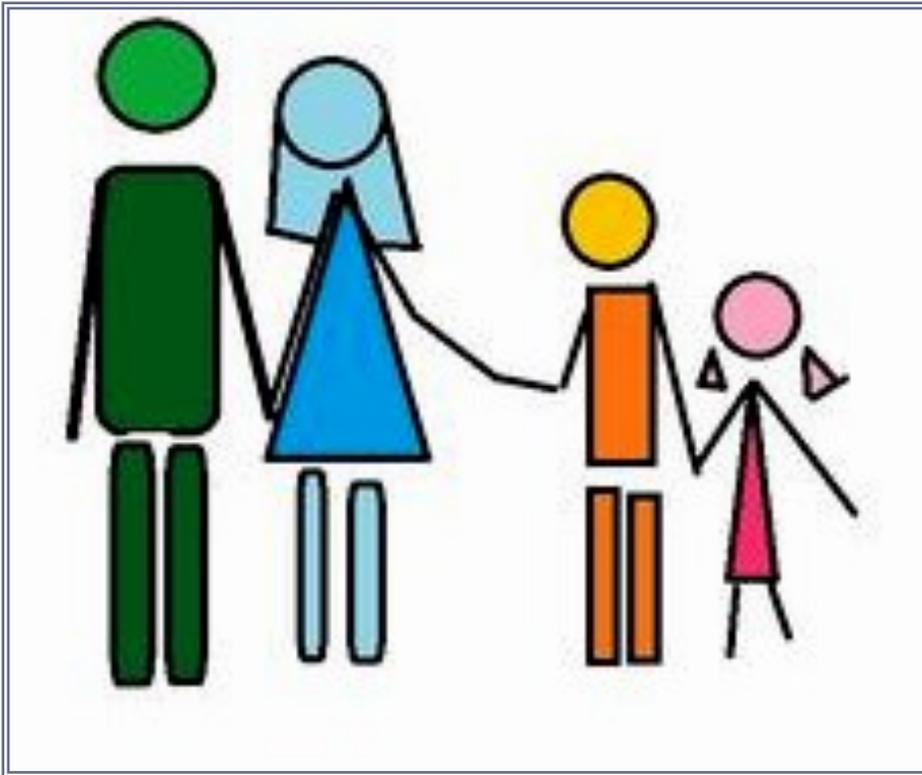
The workbook was designed to evolve around committee work. Now that committee work is underway, we're adjusting our work tools as we progress.

Each committee is approaching work a little differently. So your group's work tool probably has fewer colors and lines. :) In the end, it'll all end up in the same place...a very very colorful place.

FAQ FACTS

Since November, Administration for Children and Families (ACF): Office of Child Care has been flooded with a number of questions from states and other agencies about CCDBG. In late March, answers to frequent questions were posted on the Office of Child Care's CCDF page. A few highlights are below.

- 12 month eligibility period is one of the most significant areas of change made by Congress and is a priority for ACF. ACF expects States to take steps to expedite implementation of this important policy change as quickly as possible.
- The law places a greater emphasis on serving homeless children and families. ACF anticipates providing additional guidance regarding immunizations/documentation for vulnerable children.
- States must have both pre-service and on-going minimum health and safety training requirements for providers serving CCDF children in the 10 health and safety topic areas.
- Licensed CCDF providers-States must conduct one pre-licensure inspection for health, safety and fire standards. For license exempt providers (except those serving relatives), states must conduct annual inspections for health, safety and fire standards.
- A comprehensive background check on a child care staff member must be conducted at least once every 5 years.



GUIDEBOOK FOUNDINGS

Members of the National Women’s Law Center & CLASP have co-authored “**Implementing the Child Care and Development Block Grant Reauthorization: A Guide for States**”. The intention was to help states gain a better understanding of what it will take to fully implement the law and to provide content that might assist states in planning implementation of the law.

The content of the law is organized into four key areas: 1.) Consumer Education and Provider Compliance with Health and Safety Standards 2.) Child Care Program Standards and Quality Improvement Activities 3.) Family Friendly Policies and 4.) Provider Payment Rates, Policies and Practices

Appendices I thru VIII provide tables that outline state practices, contrast the old law against the new and highlight timelines and dates.

The guide is very well written and can be of value in committee planning. It goes into detail about the ultimate goals behind the law, “helping parents work and promoting children’s well-being”. As far as guidance, this guide is just a starting point. There will be more to come.

A copy of the guide can be obtained at www.clasp.org/CCDBG, www.nwlc.org or contact your IDHS committee member. In case you just want the high points, IDHS’ very own Anne Wharff has summarized the guide in outline form. Email her at anne.wharff@illinois.gov for a copy.

COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Monday, April 20th

-EPR Task Force
Webinar @ 2:30pm

-Program Administration
Webinar @ 2:30pm

Wednesday, April 29th

-Quality Assurance
DePaul, Naperville, IL @
10:00am

Thursday, April 30th

-Collaboration Integration
Webinar @ 9:30am

Tuesday, May 19th

-Collaboration Integration
Webinar @ 9:30am

Wednesday, May 20th

-Program Administration
Webinar @ 1:00pm

Friday, May 29th

-Quality Assurance
DeKalb @ 10:00am

Tuesday, June 9th

-Program Administration
Joliet, IL @ 10:00am

Tuesday, June 30th

- Collaboration Integration
Webinar @ 9:30am

Wednesday, July 8th

- CCAC
DePaul, Naperville, IL @
10:00am

Friday, July 24th

-PIC Task Force
Webinar @ 9:30am