

10. Family Planning and Parenting Assistance

Child Care Block Grant

Adolescent Family Life Demonstration

Child Care and Development Block Grant

Statutory Authority	Section 5082 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, P.L. 101-508 as amended and reauthorized by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, P.L.104-193, 42 U.S.C. § 618;
Federal Agency	The Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services
Program Type	Primarily a formula block grant. The CCDBG is funded by a combination of discretionary and formula grant (mandatory) programs to improve the overall quality and supply of childcare for families in general. This combination of funding is often referred to as the Childcare and Development Fund.
Eligibility, General	<p>Funds are distributed to states, which must designate a lead agency to administer the CCDBG and also develop a state plan to coordinate services of other state, federal and local childcare and early childhood development programs.</p> <p>States must use 70 percent of their total entitlement on childcare for families receiving public assistance under TANF who are trying to become independent of TANF through work activities, or for families at risk of becoming dependent on public assistance. The remaining funds (discretionary funds) must be used for childcare services for eligible families other than these two groups.</p>
Eligibility, Age	Families with children under 13 or at grantee option younger than 18 or 19 (depending on the state's definition of dependent child under TANF or if physically or mentally incapable of caring for themselves or under court supervision). The child must be living with parents who are working or enrolled in school, job training or higher education or who are in need of protective services.
Eligibility, Income	Family income must not exceed 85 percent of state median income. Priority must be given to low-income families and children with special needs.
Youth in Transition	Not targeted.
Services	<p>Funds may be used by the states to subsidize childcare expenses of eligible families, for activities that will improve the quality and availability of childcare or any other appropriate activity to achieve the goals in its plan. Childcare services are provided on a sliding-scale fee basis, but this fee can be waived for families at or below the federal poverty level. Funds may be used for childcare services.</p> <p>States have flexibility in the design and operation of their state childcare policies but federal law sets some requirements that states must meet. The goals of the CCDBG include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ promoting parental choice; ◆ encouraging states to provide consumer education information to parents; ◆ helping states provide childcare to parents who are trying to become independent of public assistance; and ◆ helping states implement health, safety, licensing and regulatory standards for childcare.

A broad range of providers can be funded under the program, including childcare centers, group homes, family childcare providers, in-home care programs and sectarian organizations. All must be regulated, licensed and registered under state law and satisfy state and local health and safety requirements.

Not less than 4 percent of funds may be used for consumer education that increases parental choice and for activities designed to improve the quality and availability of childcare (such as resource and referral services and the Child Care Aware toll-free hotline).

A percentage of the funds may be used for after-school services and early childhood development services that enhance the educational, social, cultural, employment and recreational development of children.

Activities Funded

A percentage of funds can be used for quality improvement activities, resource and referral services, to make grants or provide loans to childcare providers to assist them in meeting state and local standards, to monitor compliance with licensure rules and other regulations and to provide technical assistance and training in areas such as health, nutrition, safety, first aid, child abuse detection and prevention and care of children with special needs.

No more than 5 percent of the funds may be used by the state for administrative costs. Funds may not be used to purchase land or buildings, although modifications for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act for a child with special needs or adjustments based upon health and safety concerns can be funded. Sectarian organizations are excluded from this prohibition.

Funding

Discretionary funds: FY 2007, \$2.062 billion; FY 2008, \$2.062 billion

State formula grants: FY 2007, \$2.062 billion; FY 2008, \$2.062 billion

Evaluation

The state's application and plan submitted to the Department of HHS must specify how the state will meet the childcare needs of families. The plan must certify that there will be parental choice; parental access; a system for parental complaints; consumer education; health and safety requirements regarding childcare services and licensure and regulation of providers. The state plan must specify how it will meet the childcare needs of the families. States must submit quarterly reports that includes data on the families receiving assistance.

Childcare standards are published every three years by HHS. HHS also provides technical assistance to states and monitors state compliance with the plan and federal law. HHS reports to Congress every two years.

Relevance for Youth with Serious Mental Health Conditions

The CCDBG might provide valuable assistance for transition-age youth who are parents and who need childcare. In addition, families of transition-age youth may qualify for services if the grantee has opted to serve families with children up to 18 or 19.

Adolescent Family Life Demonstration

Statutory Authority	Public Health Service Act, Title XX, Section 2003, as amended by P.L. 104-193, 42 U.S.C. § 300z-300z-10
Federal Agency	Office of Public Health and Science, Office of Population Affairs/Adolescent Family Life, Department of Health and Human Services
Program Type	Discretionary demonstration grant to establish innovative, comprehensive, integrated approaches to the delivery of care for pregnant and parenting adolescents
Eligibility, General Rules	The program focuses on pregnant and nonpregnant adolescents, adolescent parents and their families. Grants are awarded to public or private nonprofit organizations or agencies.
Eligibility, Age	Adolescents under the age of 19 at program entry; primary emphasis is on those under age 17.
Youth in Transition	The Adolescent Family Life Demonstration Projects specifically target youth and can provide access to a range of physical and mental health services along with some educational and vocational services.
Services Covered	<p>Grants are provided for an array of services that help prevent repeat pregnancy and provide adolescent mothers, fathers and/or male partners and their babies with services that enhance their well-being.</p> <p>Ten core services are provided to participating adolescents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ pregnancy testing and maternity counseling; ◆ adoption counseling and referral services which present adoption as an option for pregnant adolescents; ◆ primary and preventive health services; ◆ nutrition information and counseling; ◆ referral for screening and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; ◆ referral to appropriate pediatric care; ◆ educational services relating to family life and problems associated with adolescent premarital sexual relations; ◆ appropriate educational and vocational services; ◆ mental health services and referral to mental health services and to other appropriate physical health services; and ◆ counseling and referral for family planning services.
Funding	FY 2007, \$30.3 million; FY 2008, \$29.8 million
Relevance for Youth with Serious Mental Health Conditions	While it might fund certain services useful to some transition-age youth with serious mental health conditions, this very small grant program is unlikely to be of benefit to many. However, pregnant adolescents who come in contact with one of the demonstration projects could benefit from its services.

11. Social Services

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Social Services Block Grant

Community Services Block Grant