



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Mississippi
Department of
Human Services:
CCDF
Newsletter

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This newsletter will provide biweekly updates as the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan is being implemented.

Is the revised Child Care Payment Program (CCPP) policy manual available for public comment?

Yes. MDHS submitted the revised manual to the Secretary of State's Office Tuesday, August 2, 2016, and it is currently in the 25-day tolling period for public comment in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act. In addition, there will be a public hearing Monday, August 22, in room 145 of the Woolfolk building located at 501 North West Street in Jackson, Mississippi. To review the policy manual and give feedback, [click here](#).



Do all child care staff members need professional development training by October 1, 2016?

Yes, all staff (caregivers, teachers, and directors) from child care centers that receive Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) funds will need health and safety professional development. The Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act mandates the protection of children in child care settings. This major provision includes immediate health and safety training in 10 topic areas fundamental for all licensed and unlicensed providers receiving CCDF funds. The training curriculum is being finalized by MDHS and will include topics in the following areas: prevention and control of infectious diseases, prevention of sudden death syndrome (SIDS) and safe sleeping practices, administration of medication, prevention of and response to food

and allergic reactions, building and physical premises safety, prevention of shaken baby syndrome, emergency preparedness, handling and storage of hazardous materials, transporting children, and first aid and CPR. In the coming weeks, providers will be sent an e-mail explaining how to register themselves and their entire staff for a face-to-face training session. **There is no cost to providers for this training**, and all child care workers are required to participate by the October 1, 2016, deadline. This date is also the same day the new Child Care Payment Program (CCPP) policy manual goes into effect for the new program year. More details will come in the next newsletter on August 31. In the interim, direct communication to providers will be sent via e-mail explaining where all child care workers should go to receive training as part of the commitment to keep our children safe and healthy.

Will there be one place to find comprehensive information about child care resources in Mississippi?

Yes, the consumer education website. Although there are existing websites with relevant information, the new federal law requires **one** site that features comprehensive information about child care resources in the state. The purpose of the website is to help parents make informed consumer choices and give them access to resources that support the development of their children. MDHS will work with partner agencies, child care providers, and others to establish a clearinghouse of information through a consumer-friendly and easily accessible website. Licensing information, background checks, and monitoring and quality reports are a few of the items that will be accessible online. Parents will also be able to read information on assistance that they may be eligible for, including programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).



Timeline

- March 11, 2016** Mississippi Department of Human Services submitted the state's CCDF plan to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- April/May 2016** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reviewed the plan.
- June 2016** Three workgroups met to gather feedback from statewide stakeholders to assist MDHS in fulfilling federal requirements.
- June 28, 2016** A letter approving the state plan was received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

- July-Sept. 2016** The state will work toward meeting immediate federal requirements during this period.
- August 2, 2016** MDHS submitted the revised CCPP policy manual to the Secretary of State's Office in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act. To submit any comments on the manual, please e-mail feedback to ccdfcomments@mdhs.ms.gov.
- August 22, 2016** A public hearing regarding the CCPP policy manual is scheduled on this day at 5:30 p.m. in room 145 of the Woolfolk building in Jackson, Mississippi.
- August 27, 2016** Last day for public comments on the CCPP policy manual.
- August 27-29** Revise CCPP policy manual to address public comments.
- August 29** File revised draft of CCPP policy manual with the Secretary of State's Office.
- September 28** Secretary of State's Office to codify final rules.
- October 1, 2016** Effective date of new CCPP policy manual to begin program year.

Contact

For more information about the CCDF State Plan, please visit <http://www.mdhs.state.ms.us/early-childhood-care-development/child-care-resources/ccdf-state-plan/>.

For questions or additional comments, please contact Cathy Sykes at Cathy.Sykes@mdhs.ms.gov.