

Federal Updates

February 16, 2016



illinois
action for
children

Agenda

- FY16 Final Budget & Appropriations
- President's FY17 Proposed Budget
- Every Student Succeeds Act
- Child Nutrition Reauthorization
- Head Start Reauthorization
- CCDBG & CCDF State Plan
- Upcoming Events

FY16 Spending Bill

- Passed in December
- Funding for Early Childhood Programs:
 - \$326m increase for CCDBG
 - \$570m increase for Head Start
 - \$250m for Preschool Development Grants
 - \$15m increase for IDEA Part B Preschool Grant
 - \$20m increase for IDEA Part C for Infants and Families

President Obama's FY17 Budget Request

- Requesting \$19.5 billion for early ed.
 - Preschool Development Grant: \$350m
 - CCDBG:
 - \$2.96b in discretionary spending
 - Head Start: \$9.6b

Every Student Succeeds Act

- Increase collaboration between the early ed. and K-12 systems
- Limit suspensions and expulsions
- Series of literacy grants
- Preschool Development Grants

Child Nutrition Reauthorization

- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides healthy food to kids
- *Improving Child Nutrition Integrity and Access Act of 2016*
 - Extra snack (9+ hours)
 - Expands eligibility

Head Start

- Overdue for reauthorization
- Assists with school-readiness
- Long-term benefits
 - Decreased likelihood of teenage pregnancy
 - Increased likelihood of high school graduation
 - decreased likelihood of involvement in the juvenile/criminal justice systems

CCDBG

- Child Care and Development Block Grant was reauthorized in 2014
 1. Promote the health & safety of children in child care
 2. Help parents make informed consumer choices & access information to support child development
 3. Provide equal access to stable, high quality child care for low-income children
 4. Enhance the quality of child care and the early childhood workforce

CCDF State Plan: Income Eligibility

- State plan references 162% of FPL
- Governor agreed to increase eligibility to families below 185% of FPL once a budget is passed
- Unclear whether IDHS will return to 185% of FPL

Eligibility

- CCDBG requires a 12 month eligibility period
 - Exceptions: income increases over 85% SMI **or** if a non-temporary disruption in employment, education, or job training occurs
 - 3 month transition period
- PIC: eligible families are approved for a minimum of 12 months

Eligibility

– IDHS:

- 9 month check-in
- Medical or parental leave exceeding 90 days

Homelessness

- Children experiencing homelessness
 - PIC:
 - 90 day grace period to gather necessary paperwork
 - IDHS:
 - Priority group by September
 - Categorically eligible

Discipline Policy

- Suspension & Expulsion Policy
 - PIC:
 - “propose to prohibit expulsion and limit the use of suspensions for children age birth to preschool for providers who receive CCDF funds”
 - IDHS:
 - “Under consideration”
 - Convene a work group

Monitoring / Inspections

- Monitoring
 - PIC:
 - No monitoring of relative providers
 - Too burdensome
 - IDHS:
 - Policy to be determined

Market Rates

- Equal access
 - Providers accepting CCAP should be paid at 75% of the market rate
 - Illinois is not in compliance in most regions of the state

Upcoming Events

- **Feb. 17:** Governor Rauner's Budget Address
- **Feb. 24:** IAFC webinar on Budget Address
- **Mar. 1:** Illinois State Plan where IDHS lays out the implementation of the CCDF rules is due to HHS
- **March 8-9:** Spring into Action
 - For more information and to register, visit our website
- **May 5:** IAFC Rally Day

Want More Info?

- You can find our policy agendas, fact sheets and other materials on our website under the **Advocacy** tab
- Stay up-to-date on legislation by following us on social media:
 - Facebook: www.facebook.com/ILaction4children
 - Twitter: [@IAFC_cares](https://twitter.com/IAFC_cares)
- As always, look out for action alerts and eAdvocate newsletters
- Questions: advocacy@actforchildren.org