



**CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND PLAN**  
**FOR**  
**FFY 2008-2009**

This Plan describes the CCDF program to be conducted by the State for the period 10/1/07 – 9/30/09. As provided for in the applicable statutes and regulations, the Lead Agency has the flexibility to modify this program at any time, including changing the options selected or described herein.

The official text of the applicable laws and regulations govern, and the Lead Agency acknowledges its responsibility to adhere to them regardless of the fact that, for purposes of simplicity and clarity, the specific provisions printed herein are sometimes paraphrases of, or excerpts and incomplete quotations from, the full text.

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Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 165 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection of information.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**(Form ACF 118 Approved OMB Number: 0970-0114 expires [DATE])**

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**PART 1**  
**ADMINISTRATION**

The agency shown below has been designated by the Chief Executive Officer of the State (or Territory), to represent the State (or Territory) as the Lead Agency. The Lead Agency agrees to administer the program in accordance with applicable Federal laws and regulations and the provisions of this Plan, including the assurances and certifications appended hereto. (658D, 658E)

**1.1 Lead Agency Information** (as designated by State chief executive officer)

Name of Lead Agency: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services  
Address of Lead Agency: 30 East Broad Street, 32nd Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Name and Title of the Lead Agency's Chief Executive Officer:  
Helen E. Jones-Kelly, Director  
Phone Number: 614-466-6283  
Fax Number: 614-466-2815  
E-Mail Address: jonesh@odjfs.state.oh.us  
Web Address for Lead Agency (if any): jfs.ohio.gov

**1.2 State Child Care (CCDF) Contact Information** (day-to-day contact)

Name of the State Child Care Contact (CCDF): Terrie Hare  
Title of State Child Care Contact: Chief, Bureau of Child Care & Development  
Address: 50 W. Town Street 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone Number: 614-752-0580  
Fax Number: 614-728-6803  
E-Mail Address: haret@odjfs.state.oh.us  
Phone Number for child care subsidy program information (for the public) (if any):  
614-466-1213  
Web Address for child care subsidy program information (for the public) (if any):  
jfs.ohio.gov/cdc

**1.3 Estimated Funding**

The Lead Agency estimates that the following amounts will be available for child care services and related activities during the 1-year period: October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. (§98.13(a))  
CCDF: \$199,207,897  
Federal TANF Transfer to CCDF: \$0  
Direct Federal TANF Spending on Child Care: \$318,149,416  
State CCDF Maintenance of Effort Funds: \$45,403,943  
State Matching Funds: \$42,006,514  
Total Funds Available: \$604,767,770

**1.4 Estimated Administration Cost**

The Lead Agency estimates that the following amount (and percentage) of Federal CCDF and State Matching Funds will be used to administer the program (not to exceed 5 percent): \$ 12,060,748 (5.0%). (658E(c) (3), §§98.13(a), 98.52)

**1.5 Administration of the Program**

Does the Lead Agency directly administer and implement all services, programs and activities funded under the CCDF Act, including those described in Part 5.1 – Activities & Services to Improve the Quality and Availability of Child Care, Quality Earmarks and Set-Aside?

- Yes.
- No. If no, use the table below to **identify** the name and type of agency that delivers services and activities. (If the Lead Agency performs the task, mark “n/a” in the box under “Agency.” If more than one agency performs the task, identify all agencies in the box under “Agency,” and **indicate** in the box to the right whether each is a non-government entity.)

Service/Activity	Agency	Non-Government Entity (see Guidance for definition)
Determines individual eligibility:		
a) TANF families	County Department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b) Non-TANF families	County Department of Job and Family Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Assists parents in locating care	County Department of Job and Family Services and Local Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&R)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No CDJFS-gov CCR&R-non-gov
Makes the provider payment	County Department of Job and Family Services and County Auditor Offices	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Quality activities	County Department of Job and Family Services and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Other:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

If the Lead Agency uses outside agencies to deliver services and activities, **describe** how the Lead Agency maintains overall control.

Ohio is a state-supervised, county-administered state. Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 329.04 specifies that the county department of job and family services (CDJFS) shall have, exercise, and perform any duties assigned by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) regarding the provision of publicly funded social services to prevent or reduce economic or personal dependency and to strengthen family life. Such public social services include child care services. This responsibility is controlled through the ORC and is clarified and/or amplified by rules promulgated and reflected in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). OAC rules, combined with regular reporting and monitoring of practice and expenditures, provides the lead agency with adequate control mechanisms, including adherence to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) to insure adherence to CFR 658D(b)(1)(A), 98.11. OAC rules provide specific direction on implementation and reimbursement for all publicly-funded child care programs.

The CDJFS' are responsible for the provision of subsidized child care services including: eligibility determination; family child care provider certification and payment to providers for child care services. The CDJFS may contract with child care providers or child care resource and referral agencies to conduct all or part of the eligibility determination, child care home provider certification processes and assisting families with finding child care services.

All applicants for child care services offered through the CDJFS have an appeal process that provides for:

- I. a county conference;
- II. a state hearing;
- III. an administrative appeal process; and
- IV. civil action.

Procedures, rules and forms regarding the appeal process for child care services' applicants are contained in Chapter 5101:6 of the OAC.

Child Care program implementation rules are contained within Chapters 5101:2-12, 5101:2-13, 5101:2-14, 5101:2-16 and 5101:2-18. These OAC rules govern program implementation and reimbursement procedures.

In addition to the promulgation of OAC rules, ODJFS is responsible for fiscal and program monitoring of CDJFS implementation of all publicly funded programs. While these rules present coordinated programmatic eligibility, a coding mechanism has been issued through ODJFS' Administrative Procedure Manual regulations which directs the CDJFS to appropriately code child care expenditures in accordance with a family's eligibility.

Each family's eligibility is assigned to one or more specific child care codes based on the family's need for child care services (e.g., TANF, employment, and training). These codes are used in the CDJFS' expenditure claims to ODJFS/BCCD. ODJFS/BCCD monitors fiscal compliance of CDJFS's annually. ODJFS/BCCD

monitors CDJFS child care utilization and expenditures through the ODJFS/BCCD 3299 Child Care On-line Reporting System.

ODJFS/BCCD licenses, monitors and inspects Head Start Centers, child care centers and Type A family child care homes (a permanent residence of the administrator in which child care is provided for seven to twelve children at one time or a permanent residence of the administrator in which child care is provided for four to twelve children at one time if four or more children at one time are under two years of age) for basic health and safety regulation compliance. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) licenses school-based centers.

CDJFS' are responsible for certifying, monitoring and inspecting Type B family child care homes (a permanent residence of the provider in which child care or publicly funded child care is provided for one to six children at one time and in which no more than three children are under two years of age at one time) and in-home aides who provide publicly funded child care in the child's home. OAC rules provide specific instruction on the implementation of the Type B family child care home program and the in-home aide program.

#### **1.6 Use of Private Donated Funds**

Will the Lead Agency use private funds to meet a part of the matching requirement of the CCDF pursuant to §98.53(e)(2)?

- Yes. If yes, are those funds:
- Donated directly to the State?
  - Donated to separate entity designated to receive private donated funds?  
Name:  
Address:  
Contact:  
Type:

No.

#### **1.7 Use of State Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) Expenditures for CCDF-Eligible Children**

1.7.1 During this plan period, will State expenditures for Pre-K programs be used to meet any of the CCDF maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement?

Yes, and:

( ) The State assures that its level of effort in full day/full year child care services has not been reduced, pursuant to §98.53(h)(1).

(\_\_ %) Estimated percentage of the MOE requirement that will be met with pre-K expenditures.(Not to exceed 20%.)

If the State uses Pre-K expenditures to meet more than 10% of the MOE requirement, the following **describes** how the State will coordinate its Pre-K and child care services to expand the availability of child care (§98.53(h)(4)):

No.

1.7.2 During this plan period, will State expenditures for Pre-K programs be used to meet any of the CCDF Matching Fund requirement? (§98.53(h))

Yes, and

(\_\_%) Estimated percentage of the Matching Fund requirement that will be met with pre-K expenditures. (Not to exceed 20%.)

If the State uses Pre-K expenditures to meet more than 10% of the Matching Fund requirement, the following **describes** how the State will coordinate its Pre-K and child care services to expand the availability of child care (§98.53(h)(4)):

No.

1.7.3 If the State answered yes to 1.7.1 or 1.7.2, the following **describes** State efforts to ensure that pre-K programs meet the needs of working parents: (§98.53(h)(2))

## **1.8 Improper Payments**

1.8.1 How does the Lead Agency define improper payments?

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 5101:2-16-71 defines recipient fraud and 5101:2-16-72 defines provider fraud as the willful withholding or falsification of information or misuse of child care services with an intent to deceive or defraud, resulting in receiving services or payments for which they are not entitled.

1.8.2 Has your State implemented strategies to prevent measure, identify, reduce and/or collect improper payments? (§98.60(i), §98.65, §98.67)

Yes, and these strategies are:

The department has created posters and a brochure that informs the public that child care fraud is illegal and has consequences. The department has formally notified CDJFS agencies of the need to prevent, measure, identify, reduce and/or collect improper payments, presentations are given throughout each year. Policy also allows that no child care services nor contract with provider will exist if the family/provider do not enter into and comply with a repayment agreement. An existing hotline used and advertised for reporting welfare fraud has been advertised to include reports of child care program fraud.

A team representing various offices within the department has been formed to develop a more comprehensive plan to address proposed federal error rate requirements. Ohio is scheduled in the second year of the federal error rate plan. Components to be reviewed include possible policy revisions to allow for clearer measure capability, scheduling, staffing, system supports and communication tools.

No. If no, are there plans underway to determine and implement such strategies?

Yes, and these planned strategies are:

No.

**PART 2**  
**DEVELOPING THE CHILD CARE PROGRAM**

**2.1 Consultation and Coordination**

2.1.1 Lead Agencies are required to *consult* with appropriate agencies and *coordinate* with other Federal, State, local, tribal (if applicable) and private agencies providing child care and early childhood development services (§98.12, §98.14(a),(b), §98.16(d)). **Indicate** the entities with which the Lead Agency has consulted or coordinated (as defined below), by checking the appropriate box(es) in the following table.

*Consultation* involves the meeting with or otherwise obtaining input from an appropriate agency in the development of the State Plan. At a minimum, Lead Agencies must consult with representatives of general purpose local governments (noted by the asterisk in the chart below).

*Coordination* involves the coordination of child care and early childhood development services, including efforts to coordinate across multiple entities, both public and private (for instance, in connection with a State Early Childhood Comprehensive System (SECCS) grant or infant-toddler initiative). At a minimum, Lead Agencies must coordinate with (1) other Federal, State, local, Tribal (if applicable), and/or private agencies responsible for providing child care and early childhood development services, (2) public health (including the agency responsible for immunizations and programs that promote children’s emotional and mental health), (3) employment services / workforce development, (4) public education, and (5) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and (6) any Indian Tribes in the State receiving CCDF funds (noted by the asterisks in the chart below).

	<b>Consultation in Development of the Plan</b>	<b>Coordination with Service Delivery</b>
Other Federal, State, R&R, Tribal (if applicable), and private agencies providing child care and early childhood development services.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *
Public health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *
Employment services / workforce development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *
Public education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *
TANF	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *
Indian Tribes/Tribal Organizations, when such entities exist within the boundaries of the State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

STATE PLAN FOR CCDF SERVICES  
FOR THE PERIOD 10/1/07 – 9/30/09

	<b>Consultation in Development of the Plan</b>	<b>Coordination with Service Delivery</b>
Representatives of local government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *	<input type="checkbox"/>
State/Tribal agency (agencies) responsible for		
State pre-kindergarten programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Head Start programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Programs that promote inclusion for children with special needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other (See guidance):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

\* *Required.*

**For each box checked above, (a) identify the agency providing the service and (b) describe the consultation and coordination efforts.** Descriptions must be provided for any consultation or coordination required by statute or regulation.

**Local Private Agencies :**

**Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA)(Coordination)**  
ODJFS/BCCD coordinates with Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association on T.E.A.C.H., First Steps, Ohio's Infant Toddler Initiative; Step Up To Quality, Ohio's voluntary quality rating system; Out of School Time Project; and the Professional Development Ohio Network.

**Public Health (Coordination)**

ODJFS/BCCD coordinates with the **Ohio Department of Health**, on the following: State Early Childhood Comprehensive System Grant (SECCS), Help Me Grow, Healthy Child Care Ohio (HCCO), Development/Implementation of Ohio Infant Toddler Guidelines.

ODJFS/BCCD coordinates with the **Ohio Department of Mental Health** ( Early Childhood Mental Health Initiative). Serving on advisory committee and future development of social /emotional guidelines.

**Employment Service/ Workforce Development (Coordination)**

ODJFS/BCCD coordinates with the ODJFS/ **Office of Family Stability** regarding the provision of subsidized child care.

**Public Education ( Coordination )**

ODJFS/BCCD coordinates with the **Ohio Department of Education** (ODE) on the following initiatives: Good Start, Grow Smart Early Literacy Initiative, School Readiness Solutions Group

### **TANF (Coordination)**

ODJFS/BCCD coordinates the use of TANF funds to supplement a significant portion of the cost of Ohio's subsidized child care program direct services /purchased services and the funding of the Early Learning Initiative.

### **Representatives of Local Government (Consultation)**

ODJFS/BCCD consults with the **Job and Family Services Director's Association** Child Care Subcommittee. The JFSDA Child Care Subcommittee is composed of representatives from the CDJFS consisting of a cross section of program, fiscal and administrative staff. The purpose of the child care subcommittee is to discuss child care program issues, research issues relevant to child care and provide regular feedback on a variety of early care and education issues which potentially impact child care policy decisions at the local level.

### **State Pre-K (Coordination)**

ODJFS/BCCD coordinates with the **Ohio Department of Education**, Office of Early Learning & School Readiness to implement the Early Learning Program Guidelines which apply to public preschool as well as community-based programs (Child Care, Head start and Type A's that participate in the Early Learning Initiative)

### **ODJFS/BCCD Coordinates with Head Start Programs (Coordination)**

Effective July 1, 2005, State-funded Head Start becomes the Early Learning Initiative (ELI). Federal Head Start can continue to partner with child care programs as BCCD licenses Head Start Programs.

### **Programs that Promote the Inclusion of Children with Special Needs (Consultation)**

ODJFS/BCCD consults with the Help Me Grow Council (Part C of IDEA) as a participant and as a member of the subcommittee specific to inclusive care.

A **Special Needs child care workgroup** was formed and has been meeting since 2002. The purpose of this group is to identify and review local and state policies, resources and activities regarding services for children with disabilities in a variety of settings that meet the criteria of natural environments or least restrictive environments (LRE).

### **Other Work Groups**

ODJFS/BCCD coordinates with **Build Ohio**. Build Ohio is derived from the national Build Initiative to support those states that set policies, provide services and advocate for children. Build Ohio is an initiative to support children, age birth to five years, and their families by developing a single, comprehensive and coordinated early learning system in Ohio

**Ohio Child Care Advisory Council (CCAC)**

ODJFS/BCCD consults with the **Child Care Advisory Council (CCAC)** is composed of twenty-two members appointed by the director of ODJFS with the approval of the governor. Voting members, who meet monthly, represent child care centers, home providers, parents/guardians, advocacy agencies, CDJFS, and other child welfare professionals. The CCAC serves as advisors to ODJFS/BCCD planning and program activities and makes recommendations that support and promote child care policy.

- 2.1.2 State Plan for Early Childhood Program Coordination. *Good Start, Grow Smart* encourages States to develop a plan for coordination across early childhood programs. **Indicate** which of the following best describes the current status of the State's efforts in this area. **Note: Please check only ONE.**

- Planning.** Indicate whether steps are under way to develop a plan. If so, describe the time frames for completion and/or implementation, the steps anticipated, and how the plan is expected to support early language, literacy, pre-reading and early math concepts.
- Developing.** A plan is being drafted.  
The draft is included as **Attachment 2.1.2.**
- Developed.** A plan has been written but has not yet been implemented. The plan is included as **Attachment 2.1.2.**
- Implementing.** A plan has been written and is now in the process of being implemented. The plan is included as **Attachment 2.1.2.**
- Other (describe):**

**Describe** the progress made by the State planning for coordination across early childhood programs since the date of submission of the 2006-2007 State Plan.

**The Early Learning Initiative (ELI)** began July of 05. ELI utilizes a mixed delivery system. ELI Programs must adhere to the Early Learning Program Guidelines. The ELI program guidelines require that curriculum and assessment be aligned to Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards. It is prescribed professional development based on the content standards required for all ELI providers.

**Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)** - Ohio's Voluntary quality rating system has an Early Learning benchmark. Ohio's Early Content Standards are embedded at each step level. Step 1 requires specialized training on the contents standards. Step 2 requires that curriculum be aligned to the content standard and Step 3 requires curriculum and child assessment be aligned to the content standards.

**Indicate** whether there is an entity that is responsible for ensuring that such coordination occurs. Indicate the four or more early childhood programs and/or funding streams that are coordinated and describe the nature of the coordination.

### **Early Learning Initiative (ELI)**

ODJFS and ODE share the responsibility for ensuring that coordination occurs. ODJFS is primarily responsible for the payment of ELI services and ODE primarily responsible for program services. The Eli Advisory board meets every other month. The meetings are facilitated by both departments. The four programs that are coordinated for ELI include: child care, Head Start,- public pre-k. and TANF.

### **Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)**

ODJFS/BCCD primarily is responsible for ensuring that coordination occurs. There is a leadership team that consist of staff ODJFS/BCCD,ODE/ Office of Early Learning and School Readiness. BUILD Ohio/ Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association and the Director of Early Care and Education. The four programs or funding streams that are coordinated for SUTQ include: child care, Head Start, ELI, TANF local and foundation funding support.

**Describe** the results or expected results of this coordination. Discuss how these results relate to the development and implementation of the State's early learning guidelines, plans for professional development, and outcomes for children.

### **Early Learning Initiative (ELI)**

The expected results of this coordination are the alignment of the Early Learning Content Standards to curriculum planning and ongoing child assessment across settings so children enter Kindergarten ready for success. Classrooms are assessed utilizing the ELLCO and children are assessed using Get It, Got It, Go!

### **Step Up To Quality**

The expected result of this coordination is to use the SUTQ benchmarks to drive awareness ,application and implementation of Early Learning Content Standards, so that children enter school ready for success

**Describe** how the State's plan supports or will support continued coordination among the programs. Are changes anticipated in the plan?

The goal is to have alignment across all components of Early care and Education System from standards, professional development, teacher requirements and funding.

## **2.2 Public Hearing Process**

**Describe** the Statewide public hearing process held to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the provision of child care services under this Plan. (658D(b)(1)(C), §98.14(c)) At a minimum, the description must provide:

Date(s) of statewide notice of public hearing: May 08, 2007  
Manner of notifying the public about the statewide hearing: The public was notified of the hearing through public notices, which appeared on the ODJFS/BCCD website, as well as various e-mail listserves.  
Date(s) of public hearing(s): June 8, 2007 @ 1:00pm  
Hearing site(s): 50 West Town Street 6th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

How the content of the plan was made available to the public in advance of the public hearing(s):

The plan was made available electronically to various public and private entities, i.e., child care provider associations, advocacy groups, advisory committees, CDJFS', educational institutions, throughout the state with a cover letter soliciting comments and/or recommendations regarding revisions to the plan prior to the public hearing. The plan was also posted on the ODJFS/BCCD website for public comment.

A brief summary of the public comments from this process is included as **Attachment 2.2**.

### **2.3 Public-Private Partnerships**

Does the Lead Agency conduct or plan to conduct activities to encourage public-private partnerships that promote private-sector involvement in meeting child care needs?

- Yes. If yes, **describe** these activities or planned activities, including the results or expected results.
- No.

#### **Public/Private Initiatives**

##### **Early Learning Initiative (ELI)**

The Early Learning Initiative was launched in July 05. ELI is an initiative aimed at meeting the full day full year needs of low income working families while at the same time, meeting the school readiness needs of their children. The application process to become an ELI provider was open to all early care and education providers that could demonstrate their ability to meet the ELI program standards through the application process were awarded contracts. ELI program guidelines. The second application process is currently taking place for new ELI providers.

The expected results of ELI include: Greater coordination across early care and education programs; consistent implementation of Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards; and improved child outcomes as measured by the Get it, Got it, Go!

### **Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)**

Step Up To Quality, Ohio's voluntary quality rating system was piloted in 9 counties and had resources to support 1,000 programs. In little over a year there was 51% take up rate in the pilot counties. The former governor took SUTQ statewide on November 30, 2006 and Ohio's current governor had SUTQ on his early care and education platform.

The expected results of Step Up To Quality include: Increase the number of programs delivering higher quality early care and education services, and increase parent knowledge of the benefits of high quality early care and education.

### **T.E.A.C.H.**

CDA scholarships are available statewide and T.E.A.C.H. AA scholarships are available to programs participating in Step Up To Quality.

The expected results of T.E.A.C.H. are to increase the number and retention of early care and education professionals who have the knowledge and skills necessary to strengthen the developmental outcomes of the children they teach.

### **Public/Private Taskforces**

#### **Build Ohio**

Build Ohio is derived from the national Build Initiative to support those who set policies, provide services and advocate for children. Build Ohio is an initiative to support children, age birth to five years, and their families by developing a single, comprehensive and coordinated early learning system in Ohio.

The expected results of participating on Build Ohio is to continue to strategically design and implement a comprehensive, well-integrated early care and education system, available to all Ohio children, age birth to five years.

#### **School Readiness Solutions Group**

The School Readiness Solutions Group was initiated by the State Board of Education. The taskforce is made up of representatives from diverse market sectors. The intended outcomes for the work of the Task Force are: an action plan for building a system of early care and education for children from birth through kindergarten, which will include draft enabling legislation for the next governor and general assembly to move forward.

The expected results of participation on the School Readiness Solutions Group are to influence the legislature regarding school readiness agenda items.

#### **Professional Development Network**

The Professional Development Network has four subcommittees which are: Articulation, Core Competencies, Training and Trainer Approval, and Wage and Compensation. The professional development committee meets monthly.

The expected results of the Professional Development Network is to develop a system to assist early care and education providers in all aspects of their professional growth.

**Child Care Advisory Council (CCAC)**

The CCAC is composed of twenty-two members appointed by the director of ODJFS with the approval of the governor. Voting members, who meet monthly, represent child care centers, home providers, parents/guardians, advocacy agencies, CDJFS, and other child welfare professionals. The ODJFS director, state superintendent of public instruction, the director of health, the director of commerce, the director of mental health, the director of mental retardation/developmental disabilities and the state fire marshal designees serve as non-voting members on the council. The CCAC serves as advisors to ODJFS/BCCD planning and program activities and makes recommendations that support and promote child care policy.

The expected results are to continue to utilize the recommendations of the council in BCCD decision making.

**Other Public/Private Partnerships**

**Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA)**

OCCRRA oversees the consultation, technical assistance, and training by the CCR&Rs to providers, families and the community to improve the availability, affordability and accessibility of early care and education settings. CCR&Rs have also organized business roundtables and provider support groups to focus on child care issues.

OCCRRA oversees T.E.A.C.H., First Steps, Ohio's Infant/Toddler Initiative, Ohio's School Age Network and Healthy Child Care Ohio.

The expected results of coordinating with OCCRRA on statewide initiatives is to ensure consistency of initiative implementation across the twelve service delivery areas..

**PART 3**  
**CHILD CARE SERVICES OFFERED**

**3.1 Description of Child Care Services**

3.1.1 Certificate Payment System

**Describe** the overall child care certificate process, including, at a minimum:

(1). a description of the form of the certificate (98.16(k));  
Most CDJFS' in Ohio utilize contracts with child care providers for the provision of services. This gives the county agency organizational control over fiscal issues. However, all counties must offer a voucher, Certificate of Authorization for Payment of Publicly Funded Child Care Services (COAP) to parents if a provider they choose does not want to contract with the CDJFS. One exception to this is Cuyahoga County, which is the largest county in Ohio. This county uses COAPs exclusively.  
JFS 01120 **Attachment 3.1.1**

(2). a description of how the certificate program permits parents to choose from a variety of child care settings by explaining how a parent moves from receipt of the certificate to choice of the provider; (658E(c)(2)(A)(iii), 658P(2), 98.2, 98.30(c)(4) & (e)(1) & (2).

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 5101:2-16-55 describes the COAP as a benefit to parents, not the provider. The COAP must be returned by the provider to the CDJFS for reimbursement purposes.

(3). if the Lead Agency is also providing child care services through grants and contracts, estimate the proportion of §98.50 services available through certificates versus grants/contracts, and explain how it ensures that parents offered child care services are given the option of receiving a child care certificate. (98.30(a) & (b))  
This may be expressed in terms of dollars, number of slots, or percentages of services.

**Attach** a copy of your eligibility worker's manual, policy handbook, or other printed guidelines for administering the child care subsidy program as **Attachment 3.1.1**.  
If these materials are available on the web, provide the appropriate Web site address (materials must still be attached to Plan):

Note: Eligibility worker's manuals, policy handbooks, or other printed guidelines for administering a child care subsidy program will be held for reference purposes only. Documents provided by Lead Agencies pursuant to this section will not be uniformly or comprehensively reviewed and will not be considered part of the Plan. All information required to be part of the Plan must continue to be set forth in the Plan.

3.1.2 In addition to offering certificates, does the Lead Agency also have grants or contracts for child care slots?

Yes, and the following **describes** the types of child care services, the process for accessing grants or contracts, and the range of providers that will be available through grants or contracts: (658A(b)(1), 658P(4), §§98.16(g)(1), 98.30(a)(1) & (b))

No.

3.1.3 The Lead Agency must allow for in-home care but may limit its use. Does the Lead Agency limit the use of in-home care in any way?

Yes, and the limits and the reasons for those limits are: (§§98.16(g)(2), 98.30(e)(1)(iv))

No.

3.1.4 Are child care services provided through certificates, grants and/or contracts offered throughout the State? (658E(a), §98.16(g)(3))

Yes.

No, and the following are the localities (political subdivisions) and the services that are not offered:

### **3.2 Payment Rates for the Provision of Child Care**

The statute at 658E(c)(4) and the regulations at §98.43(b)(1) require the Lead Agency to establish payment rates for child care services that ensure eligible children equal access to comparable care.

These rates are provided as **Attachment 3.2A**.

The attached payment rates were or will be effective as of April 1, 2007 for services provided on May 1, 2007 forward.

**Provide** a summary of the facts relied on by the State to determine that the attached rates are sufficient to ensure equal access to comparable child care services provided to children whose parents are not eligible to receive child care assistance under the CCDF and other governmental programs. Include, at a minimum:

- The month and year when the local market rate survey(s) was completed: \_\_\_February 2006\_\_\_\_\_. (§98.43(b)(2))

- A copy of the **Market Rate Survey instrument** and a **summary of the results** of the survey are provided as **Attachment 3.2B**. At a minimum, this summary should include a description of the sample population, data source, the type of methodology used, response rate, description of analyses, and key findings (**See Guidance for additional information.**)

Does the Lead Agency use its **current** Market Rate Survey (a survey completed within the allowable time period –10/1/05 -9/30/07) to set payment rates?

Yes.

No.

**At what percentile of the current Market Rate Survey is the State rate ceiling set?** If you do not use your current Market Rate Survey to set your rate ceilings or your percentile varies across categories of care (e.g., type of setting, region, age of children), please describe and provide the range of variation in relation to your current survey. (**Please see Guidance for additional information.**)

65th percentile

How the payment rates are adequate to ensure equal access to the full range of providers based on the results of the above noted local market rate survey (i.e., describe the relationship between the attached payment rates and the market rates observed in the survey): (§98.43(b))

One way equal access has been assured in Ohio is by conducting a market rate survey every biennium and establishing rates for each provider type and child age group. During the review process of the most recent market rate survey, conducted by The Ohio State University, completed June 30, 2006, (See Attachment 3.2B), Final Report on the Analysis of the 2006 Ohio Child Care Market Rate Survey), the primary goal of the project was to develop reasonable estimates of the distribution of unsubsidized rates charged within well-defined service categories. In addition, a secondary goal was to identify, if they exist, unique market areas within the state where the distributions of rates are both statistically and meaningfully different across the areas.

Six market categories were established. Market rates have been established at the sixtieth (65<sup>th</sup>) percentile statewide for all provider types and age groups.

The validity of this approach is demonstrated by the following facts:

- Equal access does not guarantee entry, but an opportunity for the parent(s) to make a choice.
- The child care provider is free to make appropriate business decisions regarding the delivery of services to subsidized families.

- During State Fiscal Year 2006, approximately 2,558 licensed child care facilities provided services to subsidized families.
- Ohio has approximately 11,000 certified family home child care providers. These homes are certified for a number of reasons, with the primary reason being the ability to accept payments for delivering services to subsidized families.
- The State of Ohio does not maintain any statewide waiting lists for subsidized child care services.
  - Does the Lead Agency consider any additional facts to determine that its payment rates ensure equal access? (§98.43(d))

Yes. If, yes, **describe**.

Survey response rates covered most of the 88 counties, with a response rate of 52% for licensed providers and 28% of certified providers.

CDJFS' must submit an Accessibility Plan, the ODJFS/BCCD does not have plans that indicate barriers to finding child care services for the families they serve.

No.

- Does the State have a tiered reimbursement system (higher rates for child care centers and family child care homes that achieve one or more levels of quality beyond basic licensing requirements)?

Yes. If yes, **describe**:

No However, there is a 5% increase for accreditation and having a quality rating system.

### **3.3 Eligibility Criteria for Child Care**

#### 3.3.1 Age Eligibility

- Does the Lead Agency allow CCDF-funded child care for children above age 13 but below age 19 who are physically and/or mentally incapable of self-care? (Physical and mental incapacity must then be defined in Appendix 2.) (658E(c)(3)(B), 658P(3), §98.20(a)(1)(ii))

Yes

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No. This service is provided to children up to age 18 and reimbursement is made through Ohio's Title XX program.

- Does the Lead Agency allow CCDF-funded child care for children above age 13 but below age 19 who are under court supervision? (658P(3), 658E(c)(3)(B), §98.20(a)(1)(ii))

Yes, and the upper age is \_\_\_\_.

No. This service is provided to children up to age 18 and reimbursement is made through Ohio's Title XX program.

3.3.2 Income Eligibility

**Complete** columns (a) and (b) in the matrix below. Complete Columns (c) and (d) **ONLY IF** the Lead Agency is using income eligibility limits lower than 85% of the SMI.

Family Size	(a) 100% of State Median Income (SMI) (\$/month)	(b) 85% of State Median Income (SMI) (\$/month) [Multiply (a) by 0.85]	IF APPLICABLE	
			Income Level, lower than 85% SMI, if used to limit eligibility	
			(c) \$/month	(d) % of SMI [Divide (d) by (a), multiply by 100]
1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	3,782	3,214	2,111	56%
3	4,671	3,971	2,647	57%
4	5,561	4,727	3,184	57%
5	6,451	5,483	3,720	58%

If the Lead Agency does not use the SMI from the most current year, **indicate** the year used: N/A

If applicable, the date on which the eligibility limits detailed in column (c) became or will become effective: This income level will become effective 7/1/2007.

How does the Lead Agency define "income" for the purposes of eligibility? Please describe and/or include information as **Attachment 3.3.2**. (§§98.16(g)(5), 98.20(b))

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 5101:2-16-34

- Is any income deducted or excluded from total family income (for instance, work or medical expenses; child support paid to, or received from, other households; Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments)?

Yes. If yes, **describe** what type of income is deducted or excluded from total family income.

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 5101:2-16-34

No.

Is the income of all family members included?

Yes.

No. If no, **describe** whose income is excluded for purposes of eligibility determination.

The gross earnings of a minor child in the family who is a full-time student as defined by the school, unless the minor is a parent is excluded.

### 3.3.3 Eligibility Based Upon Receiving or Needing to Receive Protective Services

Does the State choose to provide child care to children in protective services, as defined in Appendix 2? (§§98.16(f)(7), 98.20(a)(3)(ii)(A) & (B))

Yes.

No. CCDF-funded child care is not provided in cases in which children receive, or need to receive, protective services.

Has the Lead Agency elected to waive, on a case-by-case basis, the fee and income eligibility requirements for cases in which children receive, or need to receive, protective services, as defined in Appendix 2? (658E(c)(3)(B), 658P(3)(C)(ii), §98.20(a)(3)(ii)(A))

Yes.

No.

Not applicable. CCDF-funded child care is not provided in cases in which children receive, or need to receive, protective services.

Does the State choose to provide CCDF-funded child care to children in foster care whose foster care parents are not working, or who is not in education/training activities? (§§98.20(a)(3)(ii), 98.16(f)(7))

Yes. (**NOTE:** This means that for CCDF purposes the State considers these children to be in protective services.)

No.

3.3.4 Additional Eligibility Conditions

Has the Lead Agency established additional eligibility conditions? (658E(c)(3)(B), §98.16(g)(5), §98.20(b))

Yes, and the additional eligibility conditions are: (Terms must be defined in Appendix 2)

No.

**3.4 Priorities for Serving Children and Families**

3.4.1 Please complete the table below regarding eligibility conditions and priority rules. For columns (a) through (d), check box if reply is “Yes”. Leave blank if “No”. Complete column (e) if you check column (d).

Eligibility Category	(a) Guarantee subsidy eligibility	(b) Give priority over other CCDF- eligible families	(c) Same priority as other CCDF- eligible families	(d) Is there a time limit on guarantee or priority?	(e) How long is time limit?
Children with special needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Children in families with very low incomes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Families <u>receiving</u> Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Families transitioning from TANF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Families at risk of becoming dependent on TANF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

3.4.2 **Describe** how the State prioritizes service for the following CCDF-eligible children: (a) children with special needs, (b) children in families with very low incomes, and (c) other. Terms must be defined in Appendix 2. (658E(c)(3)(B))

- 1) Families receiving Ohio Works First (OWF/TANF) financial assistance are guaranteed child care services.
- 2) Families who are transitioning off OWF/TANF will be guaranteed child care services, if income eligible, for up to 12 consecutive months.
- 3) Families at-risk of becoming dependent.
- 4) All other families that is income-eligible under state-defined criteria.

\*All above categories include families with children who have special needs.

3.4.3 **Describe** how CCDF funds will be used to meet the needs of: (a) families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), (b) those attempting to transition off TANF through work activities, and (c) those at risk of becoming dependent on TANF. (658E(c)(2)(H), Section 418(b)(2) of the Social Security Act, §§98.50(e), 98.16(g)(4))

- 1) Families receiving OWF/TANF financial assistance are guaranteed subsidized child care services.
- 2) Families who are transitioning off OWF/TANF will be guaranteed subsidized child care services, if income eligible, for up to 12 consecutive months.
- 3) Families at-risk of becoming dependent will be provided subsidized child care services to the extent funding permits.

3.4.4 Has the Lead Agency established additional priority rules that are not reflected in the table completed for Section 3.4.1? (658E(c)(3)(B), §98.16(g)(5), §98.20(b))

- Yes, and the additional priority rules are: (Terms must be defined in Appendix 2)
- No.

3.4.5 Does the Lead Agency serve all eligible families that apply?

- Yes.
- No.

3.4.6 Does the Lead Agency maintain a waiting list?

- Yes. If yes, for what populations? Is the waiting list maintained at the State level? Are certain populations given priority for services, and if so, which populations? What methods are employed to keep the list current?
- No.

**3.5 Sliding Fee Scale for Child Care Services**

- 3.5.1 A sliding fee scale, which is used to determine each family's contribution to the cost of child care, must vary based on income and the size of the family. A copy of this sliding fee scale for child care services and an explanation of how it works are provided as **Attachment 3.5.1**.

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 5101:2-16-39, Appendix A  
The attached fee scale was or will be effective as of 2/2007.

Will the Lead Agency use additional factors to determine each family's contribution to the cost of child care? (658E(c) (3) (B), §98.42(b))

Yes and the following **describe** any additional factors that will be used:

No.

- 3.5.2 Is the sliding fee scale provided in the attachment in response to question 3.5.1 used in all parts of the State? (658E(c)(3)(B))

Yes.

No, and other scale(s) and their effective date(s) are provided as **Attachment 3.5.2**.

- 3.5.3 The Lead Agency may waive contributions from families whose incomes are at or below the poverty level for a family of the same size, (§98.42(c)), and the poverty level used by the Lead Agency for a family of 3 is: \_  
Families with a monthly income of less than \$10.

The Lead Agency must **select ONE** of these options:

ALL families with income at or below the poverty level for a family of the same size ARE NOT required paying a fee.

ALL families, including those with incomes at or below the poverty level for families of the same size, ARE required to pay a fee.

SOME families with income at or below the poverty level for a family of the same size ARE NOT required paying a fee. The following describes these families:

Families with a monthly income of less than \$10.

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3.5.4 Does the State allow providers to charge parents the difference between the maximum reimbursement rate and their private pay rate?

Yes.

No.

3.5.4 The following is an explanation of how the co-payments required by the Lead Agency's sliding fee scale(s) are affordable: (§98.43(b)(3))

Using the 2007 federal poverty level (FPL), Ohio's sliding fee table is based exclusively on family size and income. The fee is calculated on a graduated percentage of family income, and is kept affordable by capping the fee at no more than 10% of the family's monthly income regardless of provider type and the actual cost of care.

**PART 4**  
**PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**4.1 Application Process / Parental Choice**

4.1.1 Please **describe** the process for a family to apply for and receive child care services (658D(b)(1)(A), 658E(c)(2)(D) & (3)(B), §§98.16(k), 98.30(a) through (e)). At minimum, the description should include:

- How parents are informed of the availability of child care services and about child care options

Parents are informed of the Child Care Program through county-issued information as well as ODJFS/BCCD-issued child care informational materials and related web sites. Families are informed of their child care options through the eligibility process. In addition, ODJFS/BCCD has established a statewide CCR&R services system for the purpose of providing families with information regarding the availability of child care services and provider options.

- Where/how applications are made

The application process for child care assistance is administered by Ohio's 88 CDJFS who determine eligibility and contract with providers or other non-profit entities, i.e., CCR&R agencies. CDJFS, in addition, are responsible for ensuring the accessibility of the application process to include location of applications and accessibility in non-traditional sites and during non-traditional times. These accessibility plans are on the file with ODJFS/BCCD

- What documentation must parents provide

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 5101:2-16-30, 5101;2-16-34 and 5101:2-16-35.

- How parents who receive TANF benefits are informed about the exception to individual penalties as described in 4.4

Parents who receive TANF benefits are informed about exceptions to individual penalties by the CDJFS during eligibility determination.

- Length of eligibility period including variations that relate to the services provided, e.g., through collaborations with Head Start or pre-kindergarten programs.

Eligibility is re-determined once every 12 months. However, co-payments are reviewed and adjusted, if necessary, once every six months. A face-to-face interview is not required for initial determination or re-determination of benefits.

- Any steps the State has taken to reduce barriers to initial and continuing eligibility for child care subsidies

CDJFS is responsible for administering the application process to include reducing barriers. Eligibility is determined every 12 months and does not require a face-to-face interview. ODJFS maintains a website with a fillable/printable application. The CCR&Rs and some community locations such as child care facilities and job search centers provide applications. Applications, along with any documentation, can be mailed without the requirement to hand deliver.

**Attach** a copy of your parent application for the child care subsidy program. If the application is available on the web, provide the appropriate Web site address (application must still be attached to Plan): Attachment 4.1.1

4.1.2 Is the application process different for families receiving TANF?

Yes. **Describe** how the process is different:

No.

4.1.3 The following is a detailed description of how the State ensures that parents are informed about their ability to choose from among family and group home care, center-based care and in-home care including faith-based providers in each of these categories.

Parents are informed of the child care program through county-issued information as well as ODJFS/BCCD-issued child care informational materials and related web sites. Families are informed of their child care options through the eligibility process. In addition, ODJFS/BCCD supports the statewide CCR&R services system for the purpose of providing families with information regarding the availability of child care services and provider options.

4.1.4 Does the State conduct outreach to eligible families with limited English proficiency?

Yes. Describe how the State reaches out and provides services to eligible families with limited English proficiency, including how the State overcomes language barriers with families and providers.

CDJFS include within their accessibility plans to reach out to families with limited English proficiency. This might include considerations for migrant families, interpreters, translated materials and presentations at local events.

No.

#### **4.2 Records of Parental Complaints**

The following is a detailed description of how the State maintains a record of substantiated parental complaints and how it makes the information regarding such parental complaints available to the public on request. (658E(c)(2)(C), §98.32))

OAC Rule 5101:2-12-08 and 5101:2-13-08 state that the director of ODJFS shall complete a disposition report for each licensed child care facility complaint at the conclusion of the investigation. This report shall be kept on file at ODJFS/BCCD and a copy of the complaint, with confidential information redacted, shall be provided to any person who submits a request to the director (lead agency's administrator).

Additionally, ODJFS/BCCD maintains a website offering access to information regarding substantiated complaint investigations on licensed facilities. Complaint investigation reports are posted for the current licensure period only.

Complaints regarding Type B home providers and in-home aides providing child care in the child's home, are investigated by the CDJFS. OAC Rule 5101:2-14-03 specifies the investigation requirements for such complaints

#### **4.3 Unlimited Access to Children in Child Care Settings**

The following is a detailed description of the procedures in effect in the State for affording parents unlimited access to their children whenever their children are in the care of a provider who receives CCDF funds. (658E(c)(2)(B), §98.31))

ORC Rule 5104.11 states that parents and legal custodians are to be permitted unlimited access to facilities during hours of operation for purposes of contacting their children, evaluating the care provided by the center, evaluating the premises of the center, or for other purposes approved by the director of job and family services.

OAC Rule 5101:2-12-30 cites this requirement for child care centers, 5101:2-13-30 cites this requirement for Type A homes, and 5101:2-18-19 cites this requirement for day camps.

OAC Rule 5101:2-14-24 states that Type B home providers and the parent will complete a written agreement that includes the statement that the parent has unlimited access to all areas where child care is provided during hours of operation.

#### **4.4 Criteria or Definitions Applied by TANE Agency to Determine Inability to Obtain Child Care**

The regulations at §98.33(b) require the Lead Agency to inform parents who receive TANF benefits about the exception to the individual penalties associated with the work requirement for any single custodial parent who has a demonstrated inability to obtain needed child care for a child under 6 years of age.

In fulfilling this requirement, the following criteria or definitions are applied by the TANF agency to determine whether the parent has a demonstrated inability to obtain needed child care:

NOTE: The TANF agency, not the Child Care Lead Agency, is responsible for establishing the following criteria or definitions. These criteria or definitions are offered in this Plan as a matter of public record. The TANF agency that established these criteria or definitions is: Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services\_\_\_\_\_.

- "appropriate child care":  
Availability of a licensed or certified child care provider.
- "reasonable distance":  
Reasonable distance is defined by each individual county department of job and family services and is based on availability of transportation.
- "unsuitability of informal child care":  
This is a decision by the parent or a child protective service agency based on findings during an investigation of an abuse or neglect complaint.
- "affordable child care arrangements":  
All OWF/TANF participants are guaranteed eligibility for child care subsidy with co-payments based on family size and income.

**PART 5**  
**ACTIVITIES & SERVICES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY OF CHILD CARE**

**5.1 Quality Earmarks and Set-Asides**

5.1.1 The Child Care and Development Fund provides earmarks for infant and toddler care and school-age care and resource and referral services as well as the special earmark for quality activities. The following describes the activities; identifies the entities providing the activities; and describes the expected results of the activities. **For the infant and toddler earmark, the State must note in its description of the activities what is the maximum age of a child who may be served with such earmarked funds (not to exceed 36 months).**

Infants and toddlers: 0-36 months

Activities	Entities	Results
Infant Guidelines	ODH, ODE,BUILD,OCCRRA IT Specialist, WEST ED	Development of Infant Toddler Guidelines
Infant Toddler Guidelines	Training ODJFS, OCCRRA,WEST ED	21 hours of professional which meet the specialized training requirement in SUTQ for infant/toddler teachers
Infant Toddler Coaching/Mentoring	OCCRA/Infant Toddler Specialist, ODJFS	Improve the toddler skills of infant / toddler teachers participating in First Steps/SUTQ

Resource and Referral services:

Activities	Entities	Results
Support providers of early care and education in increasing the supply and quality of early care and education services.	R&R's /OCCRRA	
Assist families in accessing early care and education services that meet both the developmental needs of children and the employment related needs of families.	R&R's / OCCRRA	

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Resource and Services cont..		
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Entities</b>	<b>Results</b>
Support community involvement in improving the early care and education system. Provide ODJFS policy makers and community partners with reports and statistics on early care and education.	R&R's /OCCRRA  R&R's /OCCRRA	

School-age child care: Ages 5-12

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Entities</b>	<b>Results</b>
Technical Assistance for providers	R&Rs/OCCRRA	Improved quality and quantity of care
Assessments using SACERS instrument	R&Rs/OCCRRA	Participation of school-age providers in Step Up to Quality and awarding of stars
Professional development	R&Rs/OCCRRA/Ohio Afterschool Network	Improved quality of care, development of core competencies for staff
Capacity building	Ohio Afterschool Network	Access to quality supports, research and resources

5.1.2 The law requires that not less than 4% of the CCDF be set aside for quality activities. (658E(c)(3)(B), 658G, §§98.13(a), 98.16(h), 98.51) The Lead Agency estimates that the following amount and percentage will be used for the quality activities (not including earmarked funds) during the 1-year period: October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008:

\$20,300,000 (8.4 %)

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5.1.3 **Check** each activity the Lead Agency will undertake to improve the availability and quality of child care (include activities funded through the 4% quality set-aside as well as the special earmark for quality activities). (658D(b)(1)(D), 658E(c)(3)(B), §§98.13(a), 98.16(h))

Activity	Check if undertaking/will undertake	Name and type of entity providing activity	Check if this entity a non-governmental entity?
Comprehensive consumer education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODJF/BCCD</li> <li>• OCCRRA/ R&amp;R's</li> </ul>	OCCRRA, R&R's <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Grants or loans to providers to assist in meeting State and local standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODJFS/BCCD</li> <li>• OCCRRA/SUTQ/TEACH</li> </ul>	OCCRRA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring compliance with licensing and regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODJFS/BCCD</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional development, including training, education, and technical assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODJFS/BCCD</li> <li>• OCCRRA/IT/SA Specialist</li> <li>• R&amp;R's</li> </ul>	OCCRRA, R&R's <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improving salaries and other compensation for child care providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODE/ELI</li> <li>• TEACH/OCCRRA</li> </ul>	OCCRRA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Activities in support of early language, literacy, pre-reading, and early math concepts development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODE/ ELI</li> <li>• ODJFS/BCCD/SUTQ</li> <li>• R&amp;R's</li> </ul>	R&R's <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Activities to promote inclusive child care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODH/OCCRRA/HCCO</li> </ul>	OCCRRA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Healthy Child Care America and other health activities including those designed to promote the social and emotional development of children	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODH/OCCRRA/HCCO</li> <li>• ODMH/Early Childhood Mental Health Initiative</li> </ul>	OCCRRA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other quality activities that increase parental choice, and improve the quality and availability of child care.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODJFS/BCCD/CDJFS</li> <li>• ODE/ELI</li> <li>• HCCO</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(§98.51(a)(1) and (2))

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5.1.4 For each activity checked, **describe** the expected results of the activity. If you have conducted an evaluation of this activity, please **describe**.

**Comprehensive consumer education:**

ODJFS/BCCD maintains a website that provides information regarding: child care assistance; types of child care; how to recognize quality child care; how to apply for assistance, linkages to the CCR&Rs and other resources. ODJFS/BCCD continues to purchase and distribute education materials. Through the Build Initiative, ODJFS/BCCD is participating in a statewide public education campaign.

**Evaluation:** The ODJFS/BCCD website gets the second most “hits” of all ODJFS. Plans are underway to have a survey on the website for consumer feedback and to provide an RSS feed for policy alerts.

**Grants or loans to providers to assist in meeting State and local standards:**

Step Up To Quality - 25% of a programs quality achievement award must be spent on quality improvements.

**Monitoring compliance with licensing and regulatory requirements:**

ODJFS/BCCD licenses approximately 4,100 Head Start centers, child care centers and Type A child care homes, in which licensing specialists make at least 2 inspections per year. Currently, licensing specialists use computers during monitoring visits to expedite the monitoring/reporting process. An annual report is published detailing significant statistics; in addition, centers and certified homes are required to submit incident/injury reports.

**Professional development, including training, education and technical assistance:**

ODJFS/BCCD provides the following training, education and technical assistance activities:

- There are now Infant Toddler Specialists, Literacy Specialists and School Age Specialists who provide training and technical assistance.
- The following training is offered statewide: Early Learning Content Standards Training, ELLCO Training, Ages and Stages Training, Infant /Toddler Guideline Training.
- Scholarships are provided for early care and education professionals to attend the Ohio Department of Education conference, the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, the Statewide Family Child Care Conference, and the School Age Conference to name a few.
- The bureau has provided training to over 4,000 center administrators on the new licensing rules; in addition, all new administrators are required to take the training within six months of assuming administrator duties. Licensing specialists provide training for their local communities.

- TEACH CDA scholarships were made available statewide. Associate degree scholarships were made available to centers participating in Step Up To Quality.
- The professional development registry which is being implemented, in conjunction with Step Up To Quality, is managed by OCCRRA with guidance from the Ohio Professional Development Network.

#### **Improving salaries and other compensation for child care providers**

- There is a formalized professional development systems committee that has, as one of its areas of focus, a compensation and retention workgroup.
- Ohio's expansion of T.E.A.C.H. supports the improvement of salaries as every scholarship has either a bonus or raise attached to educational accomplishments.

#### **Activities in support of early language, literacy, pre-reading, and numeracy development;**

- ODJFS/BCCD funds PBS Ready to Learn for family childcare providers. Please reference the Good Start Grow Smart Section of the plan for further language, literacy and numeracy activities.
- ELI's program guidelines require the implementation of Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards, which include the above and also Science and Social Studies.
- Step Up To Quality has an early learning benchmark which requires the use of Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards in incremental levels as you move up the three steps.
- QNet (the former Head Start Technical Assistance Provider) has created and provided a statewide series of seminars for early care and education professionals for English Language Arts called SIRI.

#### **Activities to promote inclusive child care**

ODJFS/BCCD changed reimbursement language from "may" to "shall" provide a 5% incentive to providers who care for children with special needs.

ODJFS/BCCD collaborates with the Help Me Grow Council (Part C of IDEA) as a participant and as a member of the subcommittee specific to inclusive care. Technical assistance is provided to counties and providers to ensure awareness of new rules and ability to access additional resources if needed. ODJFS/BCCD continues to collaborate with both departments of health and mental health regarding the special needs of children.

#### **Special Need Workgroup**

A special needs child care workgroup was formed and has been meeting since 2002. The purpose of this group is to identify and review local and state policies, resources and activities regarding services for children with disabilities in a variety of settings that meet the criteria of natural environments or least restrictive environments (LRE).

**Healthy Child Care America and other health activities:**

ODJFS/BCCD, in coordination with Ohio Department of Health fund trained programs on the Ages and Stages, participates in the Lead Prevention campaign and the development and implementation of the Infant and Toddler Guidelines.

**Other quality activities that increase parental choice, and improve the quality and availability of child care:**

- ELI provides another option for parents.
- BCCD Website includes a searchable database which increases parent access and in addition, allows parents to view the licensing reports for centers they either have their child in or are considering placing their child in.
- The Ohio Parent Information Network is a website dedicated to announcing and disseminating new resources of interest to parents. <http://www.oh-pin.org/>
- County Departments of Job and Family Services receive a portion of BCCD's quality dollars to improve the quality and availability of child care.

**5.2 Good Start, Grow Smart Planning and Development**

This section of the Plan relates to the President's *Good Start, Grow Smart* initiative which is envisioned as a Federal-State partnership that creates linkages between CCDF, including funds set-aside for quality, and State public and private efforts to promote early learning. In this section, each Lead Agency is asked to assess its State's progress toward developing voluntary guidelines on language, literacy, pre-reading, and early math concepts and a plan for the education and training of child care providers. The third component of the President's *Good Start, Grow Smart* initiative, planning for coordination across at least four early childhood programs and funding streams, was addressed in Section 2.1.2.

5.2.1 **Status of Voluntary Early Learning Guidelines.** Indicate which of the following best describes the current status of the State's efforts to develop, implement, or revise research-based early learning guidelines (content standards) for three to five year-olds.

**NOTE: Check only one box to best describes the status of your State's three-to-five-year-old guidelines.**

- Planning.** The State is planning for the development of early learning guidelines. Expected date of plan completion: \_\_\_\_\_
- Developing.** The State is in the process of developing early learning guidelines. Expected date of completion: \_\_\_\_\_
- Developed.** The State has approved the early learning guidelines, but has not yet developed or initiated an implementation plan. The early learning guidelines are included as **Attachment 5.2.1**.
- Implementing.** In addition to having developed early learning guidelines, the State has embarked on implementation efforts which may include dissemination,

training or embedding guidelines in the professional development system. The guidelines are included as **Attachment 5.2.1**.

- Revising.** The State has previously developed early learning guidelines and is now revising those guidelines. The guidelines are included as **Attachment 5.2.1**.
- Other (describe):**

**Describe** the progress made by the State in developing, implementing, or revising early learning guidelines for early learning since the date of submission of the 2006-2007 State Plan. Efforts to develop early learning guidelines for children other than those addressed in *Good Start, Grow Smart* (i.e., children birth to three or older than five) may be described here.

Ohio Infant Toddler guidelines were released in March 2006. This culminated a year long writing team's process facilitated by West Ed.

If developed, are the guidelines aligned with K-12 content standards or other standards (e.g., Head Start Child Outcomes, State Performance Standards)?

Yes. If yes, **name standards**.

- Ohio Early Learning content standards are aligned with K-12 content standards,
- Ohio Infant Toddler Guidelines are aligned with Ohio Early Learning content standards.

No.

If developed, are the guidelines aligned with early childhood curricula?

Yes. If yes, **describe**.

No, However publishers of Early Childhood curriculum have aligned their curriculum to Ohio's Early Learning content standards.

Have guidelines been developed for children in the following age groups (check if guidelines have been developed):

- Birth to three. Guidelines are included as Attachment 5.2.1
- Three to five. Guidelines are included as Attachment 5.2.1
- K-12. Guidelines are included as Attachment 5.2.1

If any of your guidelines are available on the web, provide the appropriate Web site address (guidelines must still be attached to Plan):

**Birth to three-** <http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/InfantToddler.pdf>

**Three to five-** [Early Learning Content Standards](#)

A framework for creating learning experiences and teaching strategies to meet the needs of all children

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/DocumentManagement/DocumentDownload.aspx?DocumentID=24093>

**K-12.-** As to the general Content Standards

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEPrimary.aspx?page=2&TopicRelationID=305>

You can then choose from:

[Fine Arts](#) – K-12

Information about the arts and the Fine Arts Academic Content Standards

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/DocumentManagement/DocumentDownload.aspx?DocumentID=787>

[Social Studies](#) – K-12

Information about social studies and the Social Studies Academic Content Standards

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/DocumentManagement/DocumentDownload.aspx?DocumentID=18579>

[English Language Arts](#) – K-12

Information about reading and writing and the English Language Arts Academic Content Standards

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/DocumentManagement/DocumentDownload.aspx?DocumentID=786>

[Foreign Languages](#) – K-12

Information about languages used in other countries and the Foreign Language Academic Content Standards

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/DocumentManagement/DocumentDownload.aspx?DocumentID=788>

[Mathematics](#) – K-12

Information about mathematics and the Mathematics Academic Content Standards

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/DocumentManagement/DocumentDownload.aspx?DocumentID=791>

[Science](#) – K-12

Information about science and the Science Academic Content Standards

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/DocumentManagement/DocumentDownload.aspx?DocumentID=733>

[Technology](#) – K-12

Information about various electronic- and computer-based technologies and the Technology Academic Content

Standards <http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/DocumentManagement/DocumentDownload.aspx?DocumentID=793>

5.2.2 **Domains of Voluntary Early Learning Guidelines.** Do the guidelines for three-to-five-year-olds address language, literacy, pre-reading, and early math concepts?

Yes.

No.

Do the guidelines for children three-to-five-year-olds address domains not specifically included in *Good Start, Grow Smart*, such as social/emotional, cognitive, physical, health, creative arts, or other domains?

Yes. If yes, **describe**.

There are Science and Social Studies Standards

No.

**5.2.3 Implementation of Voluntary Early Learning Guidelines. Indicate** the strategies the State used or expects to use in **implementing** its early learning guidelines.

**Check all that apply:**

- Disseminating materials to practitioners and families
- Developing training curricula
- Partnering with other training entities to deliver training
- Aligning early learning guidelines with licensing, core competencies, and/or quality rating systems
- Other. Please describe:

<b>Indicate</b> the stakeholders that are (or expect to be) actively supporting the implementation of early learning guidelines.	<b>Indicate</b> the programs that mandate or require the use of early learning guidelines.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly funded (or subsidized) child care if they participate in ELI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Head Start	<input type="checkbox"/> Head Start
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education/Public pre-k	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education/Public pre-k
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Intervention	<input type="checkbox"/> Early Intervention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Care Resource and Referral	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Care Resource and Referral
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Associations	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Associations
<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please describe:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Please describe: SUTQ

How are (or will) cultural, linguistic and individual variations (be) acknowledged in implementation?

The Early Learning Content Standards were created to be inclusive of cultural logistic and individual variations.

How are (or will) the diversity of child care settings (be) acknowledged in implementation?

The Early Learning Contents Standards were developed to be inclusive /appropriate for all children regardless of the setting.

Materials developed to support implementation of the guidelines are included as **Attachment 5.2.3**. If these are available on the web, provide the appropriate Web site address:

- |                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Parent CD's        | 4.CORE                       |
| 2. Implantation Guide | 5.SIRI                       |
| 3. Literacy Tool Kits | 6.Cirriculum Alignment Tools |

5.2.3 **Assessment of Voluntary Early Learning Guidelines.** As applicable, **describe** the State's plan for:

- (a) Validating the content of the early learning guidelines
- (b) Assessing the effectiveness and/or implementation of the guidelines
- (c) Assessing the progress of children using measures aligned with the guidelines
- (d) Aligning the guidelines with accountability initiatives

- (a) Validating the content of the early learning guidelines

The following describes the construct validation process used by Ohio Department of Education for the Early Learning Content Standards. In response to Amended Substitute House Bill 94 of 2001, the ODE's Office of Early Learning and School Readiness and the Office of Curriculum and Instruction collaborated to convene Ohio stakeholders to develop early learning content standards for English language arts, mathematics, social studies and science. The early learning content standards describe essential concepts and skills for young children. Based on research, these achievable indicators emerge as the result of quality early learning experiences regardless of the setting (e.g., nursery school, preschool, family care, etc.). In addition, the early learning content indicators are aligned to the K-12 indicators, benchmarks and standards that result in a seamless educational framework for children pre-kindergarten through kindergarten and primary grades. Membership of the writing teams for the development of the content indicators was selected from a pool of nominees representing Ohio's early childhood stakeholders. They included Head Start; public and private preschool teachers; kindergarten teachers; program administrators and faculty members from higher education teacher preparation institutions. The team was balanced to include representation from geographic areas of the state, as well as ethnic diversity. A draft of the early learning content standards for the four content areas was disseminated for review and focused feedback from experts within and outside of Ohio. It also was posted on the ODE Web site for broad public input. Final revisions to the early learning content standards were made based on feedback from the field. These early learning standards serve as a framework for designing and implementing meaningful curricula and intentional learning experiences within all preschool and child care settings. The early learning standards are the expectations for the end of the

preschool years and thus serve as a guide for parents and provide the foundation for professional development.

(b) Assessing the effectiveness and/or implementation of the guidelines

(ODE's Office of Early Learning and School Readiness have two key mechanisms for assessing the effectiveness and/or implementation of the early learning content standards: 1) Early Language and Literacy Classroom Observation (ELLCO) and 2) an external evaluation.

ODE utilizes the Early Language and Literacy Classroom Observation instrument (ELLCO), in its state funded programs to:

- Inform quality assurance as part of state funded early learning programs
- Provide teachers and administrators with information to improve program quality
- Identify professional development needs of teachers
- Provide direction to program administration as to the allocation of resources
- Ascertain the quality of early learning experiences

The ELLCO is a tool designed to gather data and develop profiles of classroom instruction and environment. It was selected because it provides an overall view of effective practice with particular emphasis on language and literacy, identifies the critical features of early literacy learning and is grounded in the research on emergent and early literacy development. The ELLCO is conducted by two trained independent observers in a 25 percent stratified random sample of classrooms implementing the Early Learning Initiative. ODE plans to expand the use of ELLCO in its other state funded programs including Early Childhood Education (formerly public preschool) and Preschool Special Education.

In addition to the ELLCO, a two-year comprehensive external program evaluation is being conducted for the state funded Early Learning Initiative to determine program effectiveness with regard to implementation of the Early Learning Content Standards and Program Guidelines.

(c) Assessing the progress of children using measures aligned with the guidelines

All children attending state-funded preschool programs, including Early Childhood Education (ECE, formerly public preschool), Early Learning Initiative (ELI), and Preschool Special Education programs are required to participate in the Get It, Got It, Go! (GGG) assessment. Programs are required to report the results of the GGG assessment in the fall and in the spring. GGG is a quick, efficient and repeatable tool that is useful to measure children's progress in critical language and early literacy indicators. These individual growth and development indicators (IGDIs) include: picture naming, rhyming and alliteration. The information gathered through the administration of GGG is used for two purposes. The first is to supply the ELSR with aggregated information to track program progress. The second purpose, and the one that directly impacts student progress, is to inform and individualize instruction.

In kindergarten, the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment—Literacy (KRA-L) is designed to assist educators in the evaluation of young children’s literacy skills at the beginning of the kindergarten year. The KRA-L measures six elements or essential indicators of success: answering questions, sentence repetition, rhyming identification and rhyming production, letter identification and initial sounds. The KRA-L may not be used to determine entrance or placement in kindergarten. Students receive a composite score (on a scale from 0-29) which is reported to ODE. The composite scores may fall within three score bands. Each of the score bands has been designed to guide decisions about further assessment and instruction for individual children and groups of children. The composite score bands are as follows: Band 1: 0-13 Assess broadly for intense instruction; Band 2 14-23 Assess for targeted instruction; Band 3: 24-29 Assess for enriched instruction.

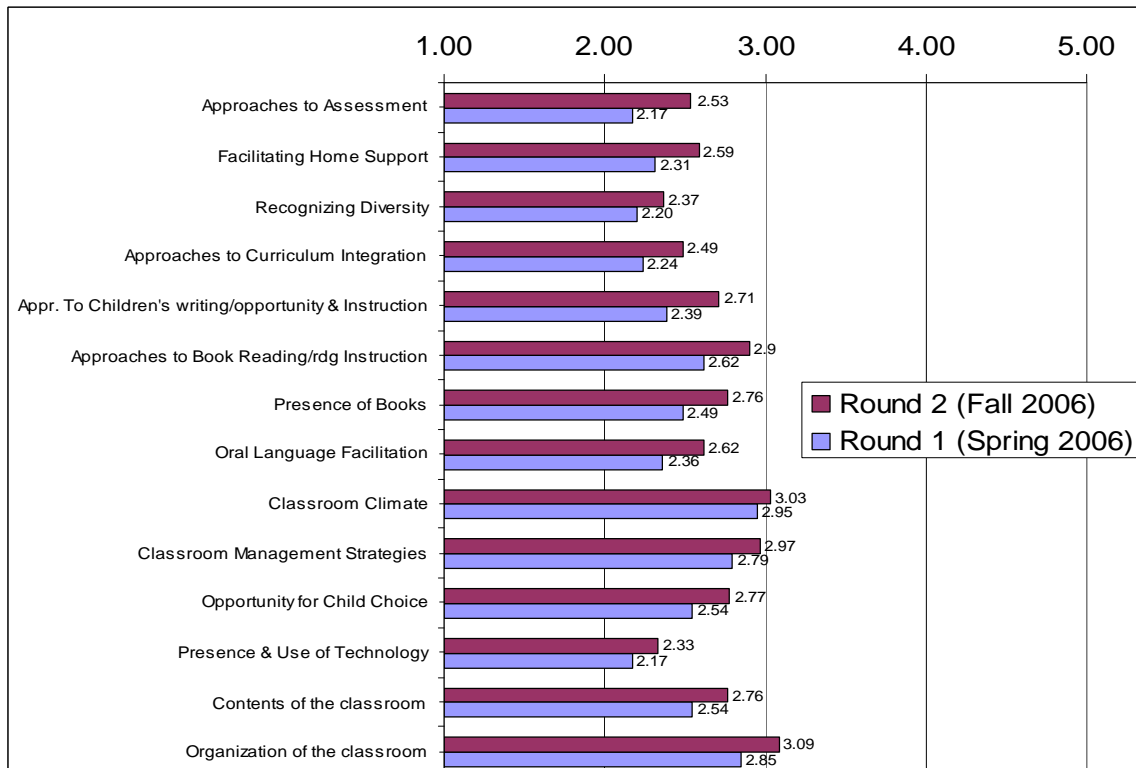
(d) Aligning the guidelines with accountability initiatives

ODE’s Office of Early Learning and School Readiness are in the process of identifying statewide and regional benchmarks for the GGG and KRA-L. ODE will document annual progress on these assessments statewide as well as by demographic characteristics. In addition, cohort analyses will be conducted to examine performance on the GGG, KRA-L, and third grade statewide assessment to understand the potential impact of preschool experience on later school performance.

Results:

Written reports of these efforts are not yet available. The following are selected results.

Chart 1: ELLCO Mean Results for Early Learning Initiative Classrooms



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Table 1: 2005-2006 Get It, Got It, Go! scores for ODE Programs

Programs	Test Time	Picture Naming		Rhyming		Alliteration	
		N.	M. (S.D)	N.	M. (S.D)	N.	M. (S.D)
Early Childhood Education	Fall	6641	19.80 (8.43)	5308	7.47 (9.39)	4873	6.32 (10.27)
	Spring	6641	21.85 (9.03)	5308	9.18 (9.31)	4873	7.72 (10.23)
Preschool Special Education	Fall	9401	16.15 (9.83)	6593	6.30 (10.23)	6088	5.22 (10.08)
	Spring	9401	17.16 (9.83)	6593	7.31 (10.23)	6088	6.20 (10.40)
Early Learning Initiative	Fall	3080	17.08 (7.20)	1872	4.17 (4.23)	1593	2.81(3.34)
	Spring	3080	21.46 (7.62)	1872	7.20 (5.74)	1593	4.48 (4.32)

Note: Only valid scores for children with both pre and post scores are included in the table.  
Valid score scales: Picture Naming (0-96), Rhyming (0-48) and Alliteration (0-40)

Table 2: Percentages of K Students Falling within Each KRA-L Composite Score Band for Fall 2005 and Spring 2006.

Band	Percentages of Students KRA-L Scores Fall 2005	Percentages of Students KRA-L Scores Fall 2006
1 Assess broadly for intense instruction	22%	22%
2 Assess for targeted instruction	42%	41%
3 Assess for enriched instruction	36%	37%

Written reports of these efforts are included as **Attachment 5.2.4**. If these are available on the web, provide the appropriate Web site address (reports must still be attached to Plan): SRG report /DATA Shared at conference.

**5.2.5 State Plans for Professional Development. Indicate** which of the following best describes the current status of the State's efforts to develop a professional development plan for early childhood providers that includes all the primary sectors: child care, Head Start, and public education. **NOTE: Check ONLY ONE box to best describes the status of your State's professional development plan.**

- Planning.** Indicate whether steps are under way to develop a plan. If so, describe the entities involved in the planning process, time frames for completion and/or implementation, the steps anticipated, and how the plan is expected to support early language, literacy, pre-reading and early math concepts.
- Developing.** A plan is being drafted. The draft or planning documents are included as **Attachment 5.2.5**.

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- Developed.** A plan has been written but has not yet been implemented. The plan is included as **Attachment 5.2.5.**
- Implementing.** A plan has been written and is now in the process of being implemented, or has been implemented. The plan is included as **Attachment 5.2.5.**
- Revising.** The State previously developed a professional development plan and is now revising that plan, or has revised it since submitting the 06-07 State Plan. The revisions or the revised plan are included as **Attachment 5.2.5.**
- Other (describe):**

**Describe** the progress made by the State in planning, developing, implementing, or revising the professional development plan since the date of submission of the 2006-2007 State Plan.

If your State has developed a plan for professional development, does the plan include **(Check EITHER yes or no for each item)**:

	Yes	No
Specific goals or desired outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A link to Early Learning Guidelines	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Continuum of training and education to form a career path	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Articulation from one type of training to the next	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality assurance through approval of trainers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality assurance through approval of training content	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A system to track practitioners' training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assessment or evaluation of training effectiveness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Credentials – Please state for which roles (e.g. infant and toddler credential, directors' credential, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Specialized strategies to reach family, friend and neighbor caregivers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

For each **Yes** response, **reference** the page(s) in the plan and briefly **describe**.

*(Information will be forthcoming)*

Specific goals or desired outcomes:

A link to Early Learning Guidelines:

Continuum of training and education to form a career path:

Articulation from one type of training to the next:

Quality assurance through approval of trainers:

A system to track practitioners' training:

Assessment or evaluation of training effectiveness:

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For each **No** response, **indicate** any plans the Lead Agency has to incorporate these components.

Are the professional development opportunities described in the plan available:

**Note: Check either yes or no for each item):**

	Yes	No
Statewide	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To Center-based Child Care Providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To Group Home Providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To Family Home Providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To In-Home Providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (describe):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Describe** how the plan addresses early language, literacy, pre-reading, and early math concepts development.

Are program or provider-level incentives offered to encourage provider training and education?

- Yes. **Describe**, including any connections between the incentives and training relating to early language, literacy, pre-reading and early math concepts.

ELI Bonus Payments

- No. If no, **describe** any plans to offer incentives to encourage provider training and education, including any connections between the incentives and training relating to early language, literacy, pre-reading and early math concepts?

As applicable, does the State assess the effectiveness of its professional development plan, including the achievement of any specified goals or desired outcomes?

- Yes. **Describe** how the professional development plan's effectiveness/goal is assessed.

- No. **Describe** any plans to include assessments of the professional development plan's effectiveness/goal achievement.

Does the State assess the effectiveness of specific professional development initiatives or components?

- Yes. **Describe** how specific professional development initiatives or components' effectiveness is assessed.
- No. **Describe** any plans to include assessments of specific professional development initiatives or components' effectiveness.

As applicable, does (or will) the State use assessment to help shape or revise its professional development plan?

- Yes. **Describe** how assessment informs the professional development plan.

**ELI-Evaluation** And on-site monitoring will reveal where additional professional development is needed.

**SUTQ**-Pilot research indicated that the specialized training benchmark was the leading cause for a program's inability to achieve star rating. The goal was to provide professional development that met trainer/training approval that was accessible and affordable.

- No. **Describe** any plans to include assessment to inform the professional development plan.

**PART 6**  
**HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR PROVIDERS**

*(Only the 50 States and the District of Columbia complete Part 6.)*

The National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care (NRCHSCC) of DHHS's Maternal and Child Health Bureau supports a comprehensive, current, on-line listing of the licensing and regulatory requirements for child care in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. In lieu of requiring a State Lead Agency to provide information that is already publicly available, ACF accepts this compilation as accurately reflecting the States' licensing requirements. The listing, which is maintained by the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Nursing, is available on the World Wide Web at: <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/>.

**6.1 Health and Safety Requirements for Center-Based Providers** (658E(c)(2)(F), §§98.41, §98.16(j))

6.1.1 Are all center-based providers paid with CCDF funds subject to licensing under State law that is indicated in the NRCHSCC's compilation?

Yes. Answer 6.1.2, skip 6.1.3, and go to 6.2.

No. **Describe** which center-based providers are exempt from licensing under State law and answer 6.1.2 and 6.1.3.

6.1.2 Have center licensing requirements as relates to staff-child ratios, group size, or staff training been modified since approval of the last State Plan? (§98.41(a)(2)&(3))

Yes, and the changes are as follows:

In service training for child care staff not meeting exemption standards includes child development, child abuse recognition and prevention, first aid and management of communicable disease. Rule 5101:2-12-28 was revised to include training in health and safety topics that are defined in section (l) of that rule.

No.

6.1.3 For center-based care that is NOT licensed, and therefore not reflected in NRCHSCC's compilation, the following health and safety requirements apply to child care services provided under the CCDF for:

Not Applicable

- The prevention and control of infectious disease (including age-appropriate immunizations)
- Building and physical premises safety
- Health and safety training

**6.2 Health and Safety Requirements for Group Home Providers** (658E(c)(2)(F), §§98.41, 98.16(j))

6.2.1 Are all group home providers paid with CCDF funds subject to licensing under State law that is indicated in the NRCHSCC's compilation? If:

Yes. Answer 6.2.2, skip 6.2.3, and go to 6.3.

(Group Home is for the purpose of this report is defined as a licensed Type A home, which provides services for no more than 12 children).

No. **Describe** which group home providers are exempt from licensing under State law and answer 6.2.2 and 6.2.3.

6.2.2 Have group home licensing requirements that relate to staff-child ratios, group size, or staff training been modified since the approval of the last State Plan? (§98.41(a)(2) & (3))

Yes, and the changes are as follows:

In-service training for child care staff not meeting exemption standards includes child development, child abuse recognition and prevention, first aid and management of communicable disease. Rule 5101:2-13-28 was revised to include training in health and safety topics that are defined in section (L) of that rule.

No.

6.2.3 For group home care that is NOT licensed, and therefore not reflected in NRCHSCC's compilation, the following health and safety requirements apply to child care services provided under the CCDF for:

Not Applicable

- The prevention and control of infectious disease (including age-appropriate immunizations)
- Building and physical premises safety
- Health and safety training

**6.3 Health and Safety Requirements for Family Providers** (658E(c)(2)(F), §§98.41, 98.16(j))

6.3.1 Are all family child care providers paid with CCDF funds subject to licensing under State law that is indicated in the NRCHSCC's compilation? If:

- Yes. Answer 6.3.2, skip 6.3.3, and go to 6.4.
- No. **Describe** which family child care providers are exempt from licensing under State law and answer 6.3.2 and 6.3.3.

Ohio" Certifies", not licenses small family child care providers ( fewer than 7 children) paid with CCDF funds.

6.3.2 Have family child care provider requirements that relate to staff-child ratios, group size, or staff training been modified since the approval of the last State Plan? (§98.41(a)(2) & (3))

- Yes, and the changes are as follows:
- No.

6.3.3 For family care that is NOT licensed, and therefore not reflected in NRCHSCC's compilation, the following health and safety requirements apply to child care services provided under the CCDF for:

- The prevention and control of infectious disease (including age-appropriate immunizations)
- Building and physical premises safety
- Health and safety training

**6.4 Health and Safety Requirements for In-Home Providers** (658E(c)(2)(F), §§98.41, 98.16(j))

6.4.1 Are all in-home child care providers paid with CCDF funds subject to licensing under the State law reflected in the NRCHSCC's compilation referenced above?

- Yes. Answer 6.4.2, skip 6.4.3, and go to 6.5.

No. **Describe** which in-home child care providers are exempt from licensing under State law and answer 6.4.2 and 6.4.3.

Ohio certifies-not licenses in-home child care providers paid with CCDF funds.

6.4.2 Have in-home health and safety requirements that relate to staff-child ratios, group size, or training been modified since the approval of the last State Plan? (§98.41(a)(2) & (3))

Yes, and the changes are as follows:

No.

6.4.3 For in-home care that is NOT licensed, and therefore not reflected in NRCHSCC's compilation, the following health and safety requirements apply to child care services provided under the CCDF for:

- The prevention and control of infectious disease (including age-appropriate immunizations)
- Building and physical premises safety
- Health and safety training

## **6.5 Exemptions to Health and Safety Requirements**

At Lead Agency option, the following relatives: grandparents, great grandparents, aunts, uncles, or siblings (who live in a separate residence from the child in care) may be exempted from health and safety requirements. (658P(4)(B), §98.41(a)(1)(ii)(A)) Indicate the Lead Agency's policy regarding these relative providers:

**All** relative providers are subject to the same requirements as described in sections 6.1 - 6.4 above, as appropriate; there are **no exemptions** for relatives or different requirements for them.

**All** relative providers are **exempt** from all health and safety requirements.

**Some or all** relative providers are subject to different health and safety requirements from those described in sections 6.1 - 6.4. The following describes those requirements and identifies the relatives they apply to:

## **6.6 Enforcement of Health and Safety Requirements**

Each Lead Agency is required to certify that procedures are in effect to ensure that child care providers of services for which assistance is provided comply with all applicable health and safety requirements. (658E(c)(2)(E), §§98.40(a)(2), 98.41(d)) The following is a description of how health and safety requirements are effectively enforced:

- Are child care providers subject to routine unannounced visits (i.e., not specifically for the purpose of complaint investigation or issuance/renewal of a license)?
  - Yes, and the following indicates the providers subject to routine unannounced visits and the frequency of those visits:

ORC 5104.04(B) requires two inspections yearly for full time programs, one of which must be unannounced, and both may be unannounced. Part time programs are to be inspected once every year. Centers in Ohio receive two year licenses.

Prior to licensure, each Center and Type A home must be inspected /investigated to determine full compliance with ORC and OAC requirements.

The licensee is inspected at least once within the initial provisional licensing period; upon receipt of complaints; at least twice annually during each year of licensure (at least one unannounced inspection) and upon request for change in license terms (e.g. capacity, administrator.)

If ODJFS/BCCD determines the licensee to be noncompliant with ORC and/or OAC requirements, the ODJFS director must notify the licensee of the nature of the violation, the corrective action needed, and a deadline for the correction of the violation. If the correction is not made by the established date, the ODJFS director may begin action under Chapter 119 of the ORC to revoke the license or deny the renewal application.

If the ODJFS director determines that a center or Type A home is operating without a license, the ODJFS director may request that a petition for injunctive relief be filed in the local court of common pleas.

Type B home providers, in-home aides, and limited certified providers are certified under the auspices of the local CDJFS who derives their certifying authority from the director of the department of job and family services. These providers are subject to the health and safety requirements delineated within the NRCHSCC's compilation as referenced. The local CDJFS director enforces these health and safety regulations for the director (ODJFS).

Certified professional family home providers are inspected at least twice annually, at least one of these inspections is unannounced, and certified Limited family home providers, with the exception of the Parent Provider Inspected (PPI) provider, are

inspected at least once annually. PPI providers are only inspected by the agency in response to the filing of a formal complaint of non-compliance.

If the provider is determined to be out of compliance with ORC and/or OAC regulations, the CDJFS may request action be taken by ODJFS/BCCD under Chapter 119 of the ORC.

No.

- Are child care providers subject to background checks?

Yes, and the following types of providers are subject to background checks (indicate when such checks are conducted):

All licensed centers, licensed Type A homes and certified professional and limited family home child care providers in the State of Ohio, including the certified PPI family home child care provider, must submit to a BCII background investigation upon employment to confirm eligibility for employment in a child care setting.

The parent and PPI are required to complete a health and safety checklist and return completed list to the CDJFS. By completing the form, the parent and provider are attesting to the health and safety of the provider's home and surrounding environment.

No.

- Does the State require that child care providers report serious injuries that occur while a child is in care? ( Serious injuries are defined as injuries requiring medical treatment by a doctor, nurse, dentist, or other medical professional.)

Yes, and the following **describe** the State's reporting requirements and how such injuries are tracked (if applicable):

All regulated child care providers, licensed and certified, are required to report all serious injuries to ODJFS/BCCD by completing and submitting the Incident/Injury Report Form.

No.

- Other methods used to ensure that health and safety requirements are effectively enforced:

The Center and Type A Home is inspected at least once within the initial provisional licensing period; upon receipt of complaints; at least twice annually during each year of

licensure (at least one unannounced inspection) and upon request for change in license terms (e.g. capacity, administrator.)

Type B professional home providers are inspected at least twice annually. At least one of these inspections is unannounced.

- All regulated providers, regardless of type, are mandated to complete a Health & Safety training program

## **6.7 Exemptions from Immunization Requirements**

The State assures that children receiving services under the CCDF are age-appropriately immunized, and that the health and safety provisions regarding immunizations incorporate (by reference or otherwise) the latest recommendations for childhood immunizations of the State public health agency. (§98.41(a)(1))

The State exempts the following children from immunization (check all that apply):

- Children who are cared for by relatives (defined as grandparents, great grandparents, siblings (if living in a separate residence), aunts and uncles).
- Children who receive care in their own homes.
- Children whose parents object to immunization on religious grounds.
- Children whose medical condition contraindicates immunization.

Immunization requirements may be waived by the CDJFS director for religious reasons upon submission of the parent's written request for exemption, or for medical reasons upon submission of a request for exemption in the form of a statement signed by a licensed physician. The parent's request and the county director's waiver shall be on file at the CDJFS and the CDJFS director shall provide a copy to the provider. The waiver request and approval shall be updated annually by the parent and the CDJFS director.

**PART 7**  
**HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS IN THE TERRITORIES**

*(Only the Territories complete Part 7)*

**7.1 Health and Safety Requirements for Center-Based Providers in the Territories**  
(658E(c)(2)(F), §98.41(a), §98.16(j))

For all center-based care, the following health and safety requirements apply to child care services provided under the CCDF for:

- The prevention and control of infectious disease (including age-appropriate immunizations)
- Building and physical premises safety
- Health and safety training

**7.2 Health and Safety Requirements for Group Home Providers in the Territories**  
(658E(c)(2)(F), §98.41(a), §98.16(j))

For all group home care, the following health and safety requirements apply to child care services provided under the CCDF for:

- The prevention and control of infectious disease (including age-appropriate immunizations)
- Building and physical premises safety
- Health and safety training

**7.3 Health and Safety Requirements for Family Providers in the Territories** (658E(c)(2)(F), §98.41(a), §98.16(j))

For all family child care, the following health and safety requirements apply to child care services provided under the CCDF for:

- The prevention and control of infectious disease (including age-appropriate immunizations)
- Building and physical premises safety
- Health and safety training

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**7.4 Health and Safety Requirements for In-Home Providers in the Territories** (658E(c)(2)(F), §98.41(a), §98.16(j))

For all in-home care, the following health and safety requirements apply to child care services provided under the CCDF for:

- The prevention and control of infectious disease (including age-appropriate immunizations)
- Building and physical premises safety
- Health and safety training

**7.5 Exemptions to Territorial Health and Safety Requirements**

At Lead Agency option, the following relatives may be exempted from health and safety requirements: grandparents, great grandparents, aunts, uncles, or siblings (who live in a separate residence from the child in care). (658P(4)(B), §98.41(a)(1)(ii)(A)). Indicate the Lead Agency's policy regarding these relative providers:

- All** relative providers are subject to the same requirements as described in sections 7.1 - 7.4 above, as appropriate; there are **no exemptions** for relatives or different requirements for them.
- All** relative providers are **exempt** from all health and safety requirements.
- Some or all** relative providers are subject to **different** health and safety requirements from those described in sections 7.1 - 7.4 and the following describes those different requirements and the relatives they apply to:

**7.6 Enforcement of Territorial Health and Safety Requirements**

Each Lead Agency is required to certify that procedures are in effect to ensure that child care providers of services for which assistance is provided comply with all applicable health and safety requirements. (658E(c)(2)(E), §§98.40(a)(2), 98.41(d)) The following is a description of how Territorial health and safety requirements are effectively enforced:

Are child care providers subject to routine unannounced visits (i.e., not specifically for the purpose of complaint investigation or issuance/renewal of a license)?

- Yes, and the following **indicate** the providers subject to routine unannounced visits and the frequency of those visits:
- No.

Are child care providers subject to background checks?

Yes, and the following types of providers are subject to background checks (indicate when such checks are conducted):

No.

Does the Territory require that child care providers report serious injuries that occur while a child is in care? ( Serious injuries are defined as injuries requiring medical treatment by a doctor, nurse, dentist, or other medical professional.)

Yes, and the following **describes** the Territory's reporting requirements and how such injuries are tracked (if applicable):

No.

Other methods used to ensure that health and safety requirements are effectively enforced:

### **7.7 Exemptions from Territorial Immunization Requirements**

The Territory assures that children receiving services under the CCDF are age-appropriately immunized, and that the health and safety provisions regarding immunizations incorporate (by reference or otherwise) the latest recommendations for childhood immunizations of the Territorial public health agency. (§98.41(a)(1))

The Territory exempts the following children from immunization (check all that apply):

- Children who are cared for by relatives (defined as grandparents, great grandparents, siblings (if living in a separate residence), aunts and uncles).
- Children who receive care in their own homes.
- Children whose parents object to immunization on religious grounds.
- Children whose medical condition contraindicates immunization.

**APPENDIX 1**  
**PROGRAM ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS**

The Lead Agency, named in Part 1 of this Plan, assures that:

- (1) upon approval, it will have in effect a program that complies with the provisions of the Plan printed herein, and is administered in accordance with the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 as amended, Section 418 of the Social Security Act, and all other applicable Federal laws and regulations. (658D(b), 658E(a))
- (2) the parent(s) of each eligible child within the State who receives or is offered child care services for which financial assistance is provided is given the option either to enroll such child with a child care provider that has a grant or contract for the provision of the service; or to receive a child care certificate. (658E(c)(2)(A)(i))
- (3) in cases in which the parent(s) elects to enroll the child with a provider that has a grant or contract with the Lead Agency, the child will be enrolled with the eligible provider selected by the parent to the maximum extent practicable. (658E(c)(2)(A)(ii))
- (4) the child care certificate offered to parents shall be of a value commensurate with the subsidy value of child care services provided under a grant or contract. (658E(c)(2)(A)(iii))
- (5) with respect to State and local regulatory requirements, health and safety requirements, payment rates, and registration requirements, State or local rules, procedures or other requirements promulgated for the purpose of the Child Care and Development Fund will not significantly restrict parental choice among categories of care or types of providers. (658E(c)(2)(A), §98.15(p), §98.30(g), §98.40(b)(2), §98.41(b), §98.43(c), §98.45(d))
- (6) that children receiving services under the CCDF are age-appropriately immunized, and that the health and safety provisions regarding immunizations incorporate (by reference or otherwise) the latest recommendation for childhood immunizations of the State public health agency. (§98.41(a)(1))
- (7) that CCDF Discretionary funds are used to supplement, not supplant, State general revenue funds for child care assistance for low-income families. (P.L. 109-149)

The Lead Agency also certifies that:

- (1) it has procedures in place to ensure that providers of child care services for which assistance is provided under the Child Care and Development Fund afford parents unlimited access to their children and to the providers caring for their children during the normal hours of operations and whenever such children are in the care of such providers. (658E(c)(2)(B))
- (2) it maintains a record of substantiated parental complaints and makes information regarding such complaints available to the public on request. (658E(c)(2)(C))
- (3) it will collect and disseminate to parents of eligible children and the general public, consumer education information that will promote informed child care choices. (658E(c)(2)(D))
- (4) it has in effect licensing requirements applicable to child care services provided in the State. (658E(c)(2)(E))
- (5) there are in effect within the State (or other area served by the Lead Agency), under State or local law, requirements designed to protect the health and safety of children; these requirements are applicable to child care providers that provide services for which assistance is made available under the Child Care and Development Fund. (658E(c)(2)(E))
- (6) procedures are in effect to ensure that child care providers of services for which assistance is provided under the Child Care and Development Fund comply with all applicable State or local health and safety requirements. (658E(c)(2)(G))
- (7) payment rates under the Child Care and Development Fund for the provision of child care services are sufficient to ensure equal access for eligible children to comparable child care services in the State or sub-State area that are provided to children whose parents are not eligible to receive assistance under this program or under any other Federal or State child care assistance programs. (658E(c)(4)(A))

## APPENDIX 2 ELIGIBILITY AND PRIORITY TERMINOLOGY

For purposes of determining eligibility and priority for CCDF-funded child care services, lead agencies must **define** the following *italicized* terms. (658P, 658E(c)(3)(B))

- *attending* (a job training or educational program; include minimum hours if applicable) - Satisfactory participation criteria requires that the eligibility worker determine the participant's attendance in regards to a level of frequency that ensures the participant's satisfactory participation.
- *in loco parentis* - Per OAC Rule, any adult(s) who is charged by blood, marriage, adoption or law with the rights, duties and responsibilities of a mother and/or father and whose presence in the home is needed to perform these rights, duties and responsibilities.
- *job training and educational program* - Voluntary or mandatory on-the-job training program or educational program leading to permanent employment.
- *physical or mental incapacity* (if the Lead Agency provides such services to children age 13 and older) - A physical or mental condition, which renders a child incapable of caring for him/herself as verified by the CDJFS, based on a determination by a licensed physician or licensed or certified psychologist.
- *protective services* - As verified by the CDJFS, a child or children residing in a home with the caretaker parent and for whom a case plan is prepared and maintained pursuant to §2151.421 of the ORC which indicates the need for protective child care services. Protective services may also be authorized when a child and his caretaker parent either temporarily reside in a facility providing emergency shelter for homeless families or are determined to be homeless by the CDJFS and are otherwise ineligible for child care services.
- *residing with* - Sharing the same home with caretaker parent, person who has legal custody of the child, a guardian of the child or any other person who stands in loco parentis with respect to the child, and whose presence in the home is needed as caretaker of the child.
- *special needs child* - A child who is under age eighteen years old who does not function according to age-appropriate expectations in one or more of the following areas of development: social/emotional, cognitive, communication, perceptual-motor, physical, or behavioral development, or the child has chronic health issues. The child's

delays/condition(s) affect development to the extent that the child requires special adaptations, modified facilities, program adjustments or related services on a regular basis in order to function in an adaptive manner.

- *very low income* -  
Income at or below 10% of the federal poverty level which is exempt from monthly co-payment requirements as mandated by OAC 5101:2-16-39.
- *working* (include minimum hours if applicable) -  
Participation, as verified by the CDJFS, in paid employment either on a full time or part time basis.
- Additional terminology related to conditions of eligibility or priority established by the Lead Agency:  
Transitional - At any time during the immediately following twelve-month period that an assistance group ceases to participate in the work component of the Ohio Works First (OWF/TANF) program if: child care is required due to employment or training and the assistance group's income does not exceed current eligibility criteria.

**State Plan 2008/09**

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1.5 County Departments of Job and Family Services  
<http://jfs.ohio.gov/county/cntydir.stm>
- 2.1.2 State Plan for Early Childhood Program Coordination
- 2.2 Public Hearing Comments
- 3.1 JFS 01140, Certificate of Authorization for Payment, COAP/voucher  
[http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/DataImages.srv/emanuals/pdf/pdf\\_forms/01140.PDF](http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/DataImages.srv/emanuals/pdf/pdf_forms/01140.PDF)
- 3.1.1 Child Care Manual  
[http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/GetDocument.do?doc=Document%28storage%3DREPOSITORY%2CdocID%3D%23Ref\\_CCM%29&locSource=input&docLoc=%24REP\\_ROOT%24%23Ref\\_CCM&username=guest&password=guest&publicationName=emanuals](http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/GetDocument.do?doc=Document%28storage%3DREPOSITORY%2CdocID%3D%23Ref_CCM%29&locSource=input&docLoc=%24REP_ROOT%24%23Ref_CCM&username=guest&password=guest&publicationName=emanuals)
- 3.2A Child Care Provider Reimbursement Ceilings  
[http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/DataImages.srv/emanuals/pdf/pdf\\_forms/2-16-41APX3-30-07.PDF](http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/DataImages.srv/emanuals/pdf/pdf_forms/2-16-41APX3-30-07.PDF)
- 3.2B Market Rate Survey tool and analysis of findings  
[http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/docs/market\\_rate\\_survey2006.pdf](http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/docs/market_rate_survey2006.pdf)
- 3.3.2 Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 5101:2-16-34 Income Eligibility Requirements for Publicly Funded Child Care Benefits.  
  
See attached document
- 3.5.1 Family Co-payment Table  
[http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/DataImages.srv/emanuals/pdf/pdf\\_forms/2-16-39APXA.PDF](http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/DataImages.srv/emanuals/pdf/pdf_forms/2-16-39APXA.PDF)
- 3.5.2 Not Applicable
- 4.1.1 Subsidized child care application  
[http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/DataImages.srv/emanuals/pdf/pdf\\_forms/01138.PDF](http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/DataImages.srv/emanuals/pdf/pdf_forms/01138.PDF)
- 5.2.1 Early Learning Guideline Implementation
- 5.2.3 Early Learning Materials

5.2.4 Early Learning Report (Not Available)

5.2.5 Professional Development Plan