CCDBG Funding for Coronavirus Relief in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (12-21-2020)

Overview:

- \$10,000,000,00 into CCDBG to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally which shall be used to supplement, not supplant State, Territory, and Tribal general revenue funds for child care assistance for low-income families within the United States (including territories)
- The legislation notes that the administrative set-aside and the quality set-aside are waived for these funds (sections 658E(c)(3)(D)–(E), or 658G of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act)
- Funds are available to states, territories, and tribes
- Child Care and Development Block Grant ("CCDBG") State plans do not need to be amended prior to utilizing existing authorities in the CCDBG Act for the purposes identified in the coronavirus relief legislation
- No later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each State, Territory, and Tribe that receives funding under this heading in this Act shall submit to the Secretary a report, in such manner as the Secretary may require, describing how these funds will be spent
- No later than October 31, 2022, each State, Territory, and Tribe that receives funding under this heading in this Act shall submit to the Secretary a report, in such manner as the Secretary may require, describing how the funds appropriated under this heading in this Act were spent

Uses of Funds (Flexibility)

- Funds may be used for costs of providing relief from copayments and tuition payments for families
- Funds may pay that portion of the child care provider's cost ordinarily paid through family copayments to provide continued payments and assistance to child care providers in the case of decreased enrollment or closures related to coronavirus,
- Funds may be used to help providers to remain open or reopen as appropriate and applicable, including for fixed costs and increased operating expenses:
- States, Territories, and Tribes are encouraged to place conditions on payments to child care providers that ensure that child care providers use a portion of funds received to continue to pay the salaries and wages of staff
- Lead agencies may use funds to support the stability of the child care sector to help providers afford increased operating expenses during the COVID–19 public health emergency,
- Lead Agencies shall publicize widely the availability of, and provide technical assistance to help providers apply for, funding available, including among center-based child care providers, family child care providers, and group home child care providers
- Lead agencies are encouraged to implement reimburse on the basis of enrollment rather than attendance even when providers are closed due to the Covid-19 emergency
- Funds can be used provide child care assistance to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, farmworkers, and other workers deemed essential during the response to coronavirus by public officials, without regard to the income eligibility requirements of section 658P(4) of CCDBG
- States, Territories, and Tribes shall use a portion of these funds to provide assistance to eligible child care providers under section 1658P(6) of the CCDBG Act that were not receiving CCDBG assistance prior to the public health emergency as a result of the coronavirus for the purposes

of cleaning and sanitation, and other activities necessary to maintain or resume the operation of programs, including for fixed costs and increased operating expenses

- Funds may be used to provide technical assistance to child care providers to help providers implement practices and policies in line with guidance from State and local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the safe provision of child care services while there is community transmission of COVID–19:
- Funds may be used to restore amounts, either directly or through reimbursement, for obligations incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, prior to the date of enactment of this Act:
- No later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each State, Territory, and Tribe that receives funding under this heading in this Act shall submit to the Secretary a report, in such manner as the Secretary may require, describing how these funds will be spent
- No later than October 31, 2022, each State, Territory, and Tribe that receives funding under this heading in this Act shall submit to the Secretary a report, in such manner as the Secretary may require, describing how the funds appropriated under this heading in this Act were spent