

MIECHV:

WCFH would like to request that the AECCC serve as the advisory body (or reporting body) to Alaska's Maternal, Infant, & Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant. This program gives pregnant women and families, particularly those considered at-risk, necessary resources and skills to raise children who are physically, socially, and emotionally healthy and ready to learn. The goals are to improve maternal and child health outcomes, prevent child abuse and neglect, encourage positive parenting skills, and to promote child development and school readiness. Since 2012, the Division of Public Health, Section of Women's, Children's, and Family Health has been contracting with Providence In-Home Services to implement the Nurse-Family Partnership model of home visiting within the Municipality of Anchorage and Mat-Su Boroughs. We want to embed this program into the system of services for the early childhood population.

CCPO:

Child Care and Development Block Grant Act

SEC. 658E. (c)(2)(G)(ii)(II) Training and Professional Development Requirements- The State Plan shall provide assurances that such training and professional development shall be developed in consultation with the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care (designated or established pursuant to section 642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act, and may engage training providers in aligning training opportunities with the State's training framework.

SEC 658E. (c) (2)(R) Consultation-The plan shall include a certification that the State has developed the plan in consultation with the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care designated or established pursuant to section 642(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act(42 U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)).

SEC 658E. (c)(2)(T)(i)(II) Early Learning and Developmental Guidelines- In general, the plan shall include an assurance that the State will maintain or implement early learning and developmental guidelines (or develop such guidelines if the State does not have such guidelines as of the date of enactment of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014)that are appropriate for children from birth to kindergarten entry, describing what such children should know and be able to do, and covering the essential domains of early childhood development for use statewide by child care providers. Such guidelines shall- be implemented in consultation with the state educational agency or the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care (designated or established pursuant to section 642B(b)(I)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)).

SEC 658E. (c)(2)(U)(i) Disaster Preparedness, Statewide Child Care Disaster Plan- Such plan shall include a statewide child care disaster plan for coordination of activities and collaboration, in the event of an emergency or disaster described in clause (i), among the State

agency with jurisdiction over human services, the agency with jurisdiction over State emergency planning, the State lead agency, the State agency over licensing of child care providers, the local resource and referral organizations, the State resource and referral system, and the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care as provided for under section 642(B)(b) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837b(b)).

SEC 658E. (c)(4)(B)(i) Payment rates, Survey- The plan shall demonstrate that the State has, after consulting with the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care designated or established in section 642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)), local child care program administrators, local child care resource and referral agencies, and other appropriate entities, developed and conducted (not earlier than 2 years before the date of the submission of the application containing the State plan) a statistically valid and reliable survey of the market rates for child care services in the State (that reflects variations in the cost of child care services by geographic area, type of provider, and age of child) or an alternative methodology, such as a cost estimation model, that has been developed by the State lead agency.

Head Start:

HEAD START COLLABORATION; STATE EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE
[42 U.S.C. 9837b]

Sec. 642B. (a)(1) From amounts made available under section 640(a)(2)(B)(vi), the Secretary shall award the collaboration grants described in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4).

(b)(1)(A) The Governor of the State shall--

(i) designate or establish a council to serve as the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care for children from birth to school entry (in this subchapter referred to as the State Advisory Council'); and

(ii) designate an individual to coordinate activities of the State Advisory Council, as described in subparagraph (D)(i).

(B) The Governor may designate an existing entity in the State to serve as the State Advisory Council, and shall appoint representatives to the State Advisory Council at the Governor's discretion. In designating an existing entity, the Governor shall take steps to ensure that its membership includes, to the extent possible, representatives consistent with subparagraph (C).

(C) Members of the State Advisory Council shall include, to the maximum extent possible--

(i) a representative of the State agency responsible for child care;

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- (ii) a representative of the State educational agency;
- (iii) a representative of local educational agencies;
- (iv) a representative of institutions of higher education in the State;
- (v) a representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services;
- (vi) a representative from Head Start agencies located in the State, including migrant and seasonal Head Start programs and Indian Head Start programs;
- (vii) the State Director of Head Start Collaboration;
- (viii) a representative of the State agency responsible for programs under section 619 or part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.);
- (ix) a representative of the State agency responsible for health or mental health care; and
- (x) representatives of other entities determined to be relevant by the Governor of the State.

(D)(i) The State Advisory Council shall, in addition to any responsibilities assigned to the Council by the Governor of the State--

(I) conduct a periodic statewide needs assessment concerning the quality and availability of early childhood education and development programs and services for children from birth to school entry, including an assessment of the availability of high-quality pre-kindergarten services for low-income children in the State;

(II) identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination among Federally-funded and State-funded child development, child care, and early childhood education programs and services, including collaboration and coordination among State agencies responsible for administering such programs;

(III) develop recommendations for increasing the overall participation of children in existing Federal, State, and local child care and early childhood education programs, including outreach to underrepresented and special populations;

(IV) develop recommendations regarding the establishment of a unified data collection system for public early childhood education and development programs and services throughout the State;

(V) develop recommendations regarding statewide professional development and career advancement plans for early childhood educators in the State;

(VI) assess the capacity and effectiveness of 2- and 4-year public and private institutions of higher education in the State toward supporting the development of early childhood educators,

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including the extent to which such institutions have in place articulation agreements, professional development and career advancement plans, and practice or internships for students to spend time in a Head Start or pre kindergarten program; and

(VII) make recommendations for improvements in State early learning standards and undertake efforts to develop high-quality comprehensive early learning standards, as appropriate.

(ii) The State Advisory Council shall hold public hearings and provide an opportunity for public comment on the activities described in clause (i). The State Advisory Council shall submit a statewide strategic report addressing the activities described in clause (i) to the State Director of Head Start Collaboration and the Governor of the State.

(iii) After submission of a statewide strategic report under clause (ii), the State Advisory Council shall meet periodically to review any implementation of the recommendations in such report and any changes in State and local needs.

(2)(A) The Secretary shall use the portion reserved under section 640(a)(4)(A)(iii) to award, on a competitive basis, one-time startup grants of not less than \$500,000 to eligible States to enable such States to pay for the Federal share of developing and implementing a plan pursuant to the responsibilities included under paragraph (1)(D)(i). A State that receives funds under this paragraph shall use such funds to facilitate the development or enhancement of high-quality systems of early childhood education and care designed to improve school preparedness through one or more of the following activities--

(i) promoting school preparedness of children from birth through school entry, including activities to encourage families and caregivers to engage in highly interactive, developmentally and age-appropriate activities to improve children's early social, emotional, and cognitive development, support the transition of young children to school, and foster parental and family involvement in the early education of young children;

(ii) supporting professional development, recruitment, and retention initiatives for early childhood educators;

(iii) enhancing existing early childhood education and development programs and services (in existence on the date on which the grant involved is awarded), including quality improvement activities authorized under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990

ECCS:

Alaska Early Childhood Coordinating Council (AECCC) promotes positive development, improved health outcomes, and school readiness for children by creating a culturally responsive, comprehensive and accessible service delivery system. **The AECCC will act as an Advisory Council for the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Project.** In order to improve the developmental skills of place-based communities 0-3 year olds, the vision of the Alaska ECCS project is that Alaska children, families, and communities are safe and healthy, and to promote and protect the developmental health and well-being of Alaskan families. Alaska seeks to

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improve children's developmental health and family wellness through improved linkage to necessary resources, reduction of the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences, and technical assistance for Primary Care Case Management. The long term goal is to build a sustainable system based on community driven solutions.