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# Introduction

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) is the primary Federal program specifically devoted to child care services and quality improvements in the child care arena. CCDF provides approximately \$5 billion in block grants to States, Territories, and Tribes to subsidize the cost of child care for low-income working parents. CCDF funding also helps deliver early and after-school care services to more than 1.7 million children in the United States each month, helping increase their school readiness and improve their in-school performance.

States and Territories have significant flexibility under CCDF to develop child care policies and programs that best suit the needs of children and parents. However, they must also spend at least 4 percent of their CCDF funds to improve the quality of care. States and Territories do this through a variety of activities, such as implementing professional development plans, promoting inclusive child care, and giving grants and loans to providers. In addition, CCDF stipulates that specially targeted funds must be used for quality improvement, school-age care, resource and referral services, and services to infants and toddlers.

## Purpose of This Report

States and Territories must submit a biennial plan as part of the process of applying for CCDF funds. Lead Agencies submitted CCDF Plans for Fiscal Years (FY) 2008–2009 on July 1, 2007, that were approved to take effect October 1, 2007. The *Child Care and Development Fund Report of State and Territory Plans FY 2008–2009* summarizes CCDF Plans as approved by the Child Care Bureau and provides an overview of efforts planned by States and Territories at the beginning of FY 2008.

## Report Development

The *Child Care and Development Fund Report of State and Territory Plans FY 2008–2009* was prepared by the National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center (NCCIC) in partnership with staff from the Child Care Bureau. NCCIC compiled data reported in approved CCDF Plans and relevant attachments submitted by Lead Agencies.

The information presented in this report reflects some of the activities and strategies States and Territories planned to undertake as presented in the approved CCDF Plans. This report is not a catalog of all activities undertaken by Lead Agencies since States and Territories might not have included all activities in their CCDF Plans. CCDF Plans also may be amended at any time during the biennial period.

Information is provided from 51 States and 5 Territories. For the purpose of this report, the District of Columbia is categorized as a State. The five Territories are American Samoa, the Commonwealth

of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. All data in the text, charts, and tables present combined data from States and Territories, rather than separate counts for each.

The following abbreviations are used to identify States and Territories:

<b>State/Territory</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>State/Territory</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>
Alabama	AL	Missouri	MO
Alaska	AK	Montana	MT
American Samoa	AS	Nebraska	NE
Arizona	AZ	Nevada	NV
Arkansas	AR	New Hampshire	NH
California	CA	New Jersey	NJ
Colorado	CO	New Mexico	NM
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	CNMI	New York	NY
Connecticut	CT	North Carolina	NC
Delaware	DE	North Dakota	ND
District of Columbia	DC	Ohio	OH
Florida	FL	Oklahoma	OK
Georgia	GA	Oregon	OR
Guam	GU	Pennsylvania	PA
Hawaii	HI	Puerto Rico	PR
Idaho	ID	Rhode Island	RI
Illinois	IL	South Carolina	SC
Indiana	IN	South Dakota	SD
Iowa	IA	Tennessee	TN
Kansas	KS	Texas	TX
Kentucky	KY	Utah	UT
Louisiana	LA	Vermont	VT
Maine	ME	Virginia	VA
Maryland	MD	Virgin Islands	VI
Massachusetts	MA	Washington	WA
Michigan	MI	West Virginia	WV
Minnesota	MN	Wisconsin	WI
Mississippi	MS	Wyoming	WY

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## Report Format

The *Child Care and Development Fund Report of State and Territory Plans FY 2008–2009* includes two main sections. The first is organized into seven parts, which correspond to the CCDF Plan Preprint (Form ACF-118):<sup>1</sup>

- Part 1: Administration
- Part 2: Developing the Child Care Program
- Part 3: Child Care Services Offered
- Part 4: Parental Rights and Responsibilities
- Part 5: Activities and Services to Improve the Quality and Availability of Child Care
- Part 6: Health and Safety Requirements for Providers
- Part 7: Health and Safety Requirements in the Territories

This first section is a summary of data from all 56 Lead Agencies about how they comply with CCDF statute and Federal regulations. Each part contains introductory paragraphs summarizing CCDF Plan responses, the number of States and Territories reporting each activity, and corresponding tables and figures. In most tables and figures, States and Territories fall into multiple table/figure categories or none, depending on the data expressed. There are a few that present mutually exclusive data from all 56 States and Territories, which are noted accordingly. Each part also includes CCDF Plan Preprint text, which appears in italics throughout. References to relevant laws and regulations appear in bold.

The second section highlights selected services and activities through profiles of all States and Territories. These profiles present key information from the approved CCDF Plans on how the program is administered and implemented; eligibility criteria, reimbursement rates, and sliding fee scales; health and safety requirements; and selected activities to improve the quality of child care. These profiles provide examples for illustrative purposes as a supplement to the information presented in the first section.

The report concludes with a glossary of key terms used throughout the report and an appendix with CCDF Lead Agency eligibility and priority terminology. An electronic version of the *Child Care and Development Fund Report of State and Territory Plans FY 2008–2009* is available at <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/pubs/stateplan2008-09/index.html>.

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<sup>1</sup> The CCDF Plan Preprint and guidance are available on the Child Care Bureau Web site at [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/law/index.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/law/index.htm).

