

# Child Care Administration

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*Supporting the well-being and economic independence of Arizona's families by providing quality child care assistance and services.*

Updated: May 2021

# Child Care and Development Fund

## Major Provisions of CCDF:

- Protect the **health and safety** of children in child care.
- Help parents make **informed choices** and access information to support child development.
- Support **equal access** to stable, high **quality** child care for children from low income families.
- Enhance the quality of the early childhood and child care **workforce**.



# CCDF: Coordination & Collaboration



# Relationship between Law, Rule, and Plan



Resources/Links:

[Administration for Children & Families Office of Child Care](#)

[CCDF Final Rule](#)

[Arizona CCDF State Plan \(2018-2021\)](#)

# CCDF State Plan Development

## ***Focus on transparency, collaboration, readability, finding gaps + opportunities***

- AZECA State Plan working group including state and community agency partners
- Tribal Early Childhood and Child Care Engagement
- Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board
- Public Meeting: May 24, 2021, 6-7pm
- Public Comment Period Open: May 3-May 31, 2021
  - Link to: [Comment Form](#)
- Submit to the Office of Child Care June 30, 2021

# 2020 Child Care COVID-19 Response

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# Child Care in Arizona Today

*Child care providers, though an essential service, have been impacted severely during the COVID-19 pandemic*

- Provider temporary closures ranged from:
  - 72% closed in April 2020
  - 48% closed in August 2020
  - 24% closed as of December 2020
  - 20% closed as of March 2021
- Child care capacity and enrollment are down nearly 40% compared to pre-COVID levels, as of December 2020

# CARES Act: AZ Child Care COVID-19 Response

- Arizona received \$88 million in Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) funding through the federal CARES Act (March 2020)
- Governor Ducey's plan included:
  - \$47 million - Child Care COVID-19 Grant Program
  - \$24 million - Arizona Enrichment Center Program
  - \$7 million - Increase Paid Absences
  - \$10 million - Child Care Reserve



# Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA)

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Source: [congress.gov/116/bills/hr133/BILLS-116hr133enr.pdf](https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr133/BILLS-116hr133enr.pdf)

# CRRSA - Overview

- \$10 billion to state, territory, and tribal CCDF lead agencies for CCDF to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.
- Funding allocated based on CCDF Discretionary formula
  - Arizona's allocation = \$248 million
- Can be used for allowable obligations incurred prior to the enactment of the law on December 27, 2020.
- Must be used to supplement not supplant general revenue funds.
- Must be obligated by September 30, 2022 and liquidated by September 30, 2023.

# American Rescue Plan Act, 2021 (ARPA)

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Source: [congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1319/text](https://www.congress.gov/bills/117/house-bills/1319/text)

# ARPA - CCDF Supplemental Discretionary

- \$15 billion in CCDF supplemental discretionary funds
  - Arizona Estimate (CLASP) = \$372.9 million
- States must obligate funds by 9/30/23; liquidate by 9/30/24
- No supplantation for federal, state and local funds used for child care
- Broad language - not required to be used for COVID-19 related expenses

# ARPA - CCDF Mandatory

- Increase of about \$630 million to the CCDF mandatory annual appropriation (increase from FY 2020 level of \$2.9 to \$3.5 billion)
  - Arizona Estimate = \$10.9 million
- Modifies state match requirements for FY21 and FY22 (awaiting guidance)

# ARPA - Child Care Stabilization Grants

- \$24 billion for child care stabilization grants
  - Arizona Estimate (CLASP) = \$596.4 million
- May set aside 10% for administration, TA support, publicize availability, and carry out activities to increase the supply
- States must obligate funds by 9/30/22; liquidate by 9/30/23
- Must notify HHS if unable to obligate 50% of the funds for subgrants within 9 months of enactment
- No supplantation of federal, state, local funds used for child care

# Stakeholder Engagement

- Routine meetings with state agencies: DHS, DCS, FTF and ADE Early Childhood Unit
- AZECA (Arizona Early Childhood Alliance) has established subcommittees to develop recommendations on how Arizona can spend the ARPA child care relief funds
  - Child Care Workforce Supports & Equity
  - Parent Supports & Equity
  - Closing System Gaps
  - Investing in System Innovations

# Child Care Program Announcements

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# EWCCR Scholarships

- The Department has extended the Essential Workers Child Care Relief (EWCCR) Scholarship through June 30, 2021, allowing essential workers and child care providers access to vital child care.
- For more information:  
<https://des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care/emergency-child-care-scholarship-program>

# CCWRR Grant Program

- The Child Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention (CCWRR) Grant Program provides immediate support to child care providers in hiring qualified staff and retaining existing staff.
- This grant program will help all regulated child care providers with recruitment and retention costs to support the child care workforce in Arizona. These funds are made available to Arizona through the Child Care and Development Fund CARES Act, 2020.
- For more information:  
<https://des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care/ccwrr-grant-program>
- News release: [Arizona Announces \\$9 Million For Child Care F](#)

# Child Care For Returning Workers

- The State will provide three months of child care assistance for individuals with children who return to work after collecting unemployment benefits. To be eligible, an individual must have already filed for unemployment benefits and earn \$25 per hour, equivalent to a yearly salary of \$52,000, or less at their new job.
- For more information: <https://des.az.gov/back-to-work-program>
- News release: [Governor Ducey Announces “Arizona Back To Work”](#)

# Thank you!

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