



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**



## **On the Path to Child Care Reform: Implications for Research**

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## CCDF Reauthorization Opportunity

- Re-envision child care to better support two generations
- Think across early childhood systems
- Engage federal, state and local partners
- Advance the goals of reform





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## Added Purposes in the New Law

- Promoting involvement by parents and family members in the development of their children in child care settings;
- Delivering high-quality, coordinated early childhood care and education services to maximize parents' options;
- Improving the overall quality of child care services and programs;
- Improving child care and development of participating children;
- Increasing the number and percentage of low-income children in high-quality child care settings.



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## Key Features of New Child Care Law

- Minimum 12-month Eligibility Policies
- Payment Rates & Provider Payment Practices
- Supply-building for Underserved Populations
- Training & Professional Development
- Increased Quality Spending
- Infant & Toddler Quality Set-aside
- Health & Safety Minimums in Licensing/Training
- Criminal Background Checks
- Monitoring
- Consumer Education & Family Engagement
- Tribal Provisions



## Provide Stable Child Care Assistance

- Minimum 12-month eligibility periods.
  - Regardless of temporary changes in work, education, training status as long as income doesn't exceed 85 percent of SMI.
  - Option to terminate assistance prior to re-determination if a parent loses employment or ceases education, but must allow for a 3-month period for job search.
- Graduated phase-out of child care assistance.
- Redetermination processes must not unduly disrupt parental employment.
- Promote access for homeless families.



## Increase Access to High Quality Providers

### Payment Rates

- Requires States to conduct a market rate survey, or use an alternative methodology, such as a cost estimation model, and describe how payment rates will be established based on results of the survey or alternative methodology, taking into account cost of providing higher quality services.

### Build Supply

- Develop and implement strategies to increase the supply, improve the quality of child care services in underserved areas, infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children who receive care during nontraditional hours.



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## Pathways to Professional Development & Quality

- Must establish professional development and training requirements to improve knowledge and skills of CCDF providers and the child care workforce.
  - Including ongoing, annual training and a progression of professional development (which may include postsecondary education) and;
  - A focus on social-emotional behavioral intervention models.
- Increase in quality set-aside to 9 percent by FY 2020.
  - Must establish outcome measures and evaluate progress of quality activities.
- New Infant Toddler 3 percent set-aside to improve the supply and quality of care starting FY 2017.

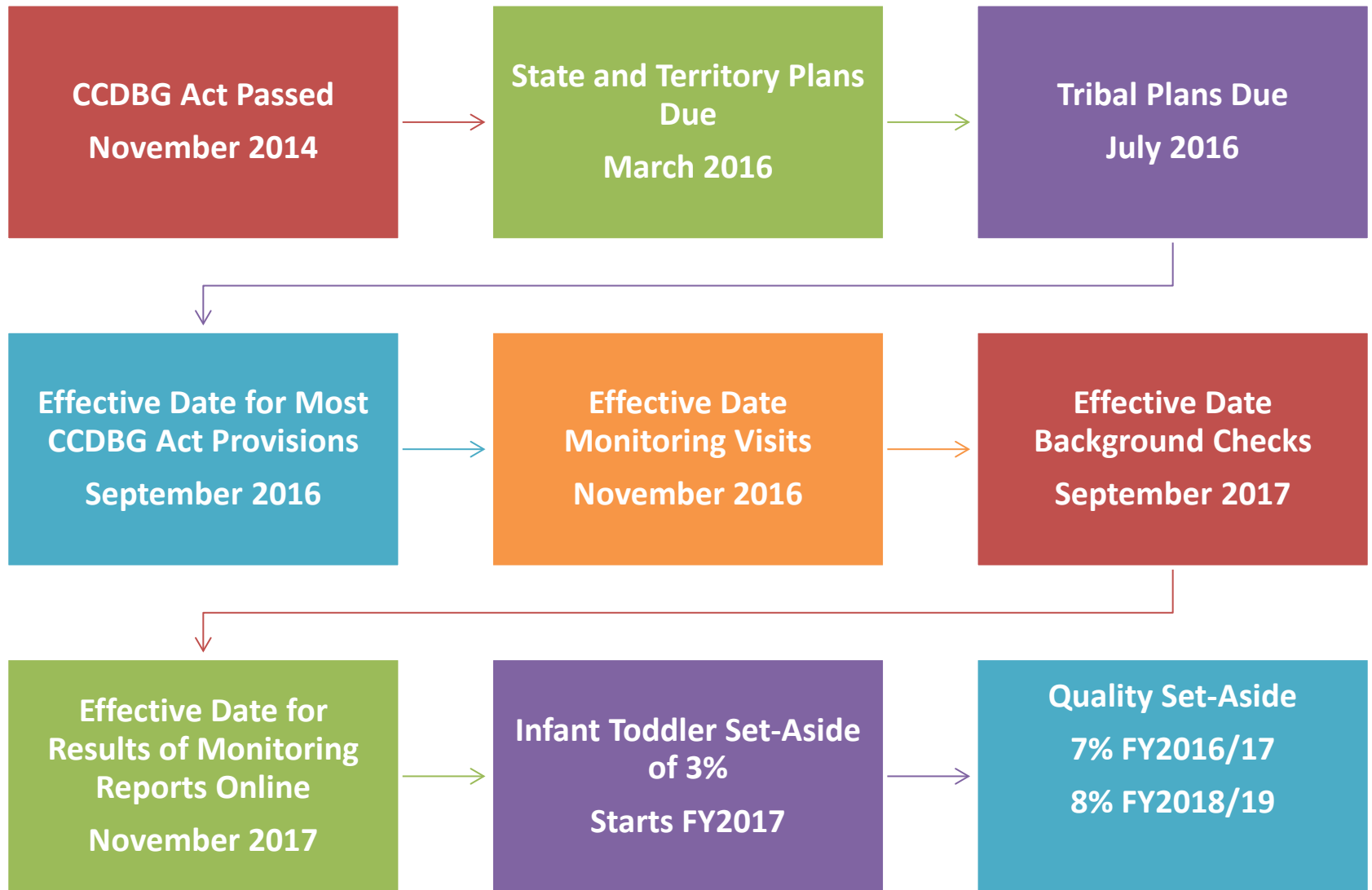


## Promote Health and Safety

- Training
  - 10 health and safety topic areas (e.g., prevention of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), first-aid, and CPR) for CCDF providers.
- Monitoring
  - Pre-licensure and annual unannounced inspections of licensed CCDF providers and annual inspections of license-exempt CCDF providers.
- Publicly available monitoring reports
  - Provider-specific information showing results of monitoring and inspection reports available by electronic means.
- Criminal background checks
  - Required for all child care providers, staff, and those with unsupervised access to children.



# Implementation Timeline for the New Law





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## What do you think ...?

- How can we document policy changes and their impact?
  - Continuity of care for children and parents
  - Choice of and access to higher quality programs for low-income families
  - Quality improvements and progression of professional development, especially for infant and toddler care
  - Effective, culturally and linguistically appropriate consumer education and family engagement in child development
  - Child health and safety