



National Association for the Education of Young Children

# Child Care and Development Block Grant: Where Are We Now?

May 2018

# Goals

In March 2018, the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) received the largest increase in its history—**\$2.37 billion for Fiscal Year 2018!**

Today, we want to answer the following questions and more:

- How did the increase come about?
- What opportunities does it present to help children, families, and educators?
- How can you be an advocate for wise spending of the dollars?
- What can we do now and in the future to make sure the funding continues?

# Introductions

- **Lauren Hogan**, Senior Director, Public Policy and Advocacy, National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- **Helen Blank**, Director of Child Care and Early Learning, National Women's Law Center (NWLC)
- **Hannah Matthews**, Director of Child Care and Early Education, Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

# What is CCDBG?

- Helps low-income families access child care by providing states with funding to address affordability and improve quality
  - Funds the child care subsidy programs in your state
- Created in 1990; last reauthorized in 2014 to help it better ensure the health and safety of children in care through more consistent standards and monitoring of those standards
  - Allows families to more easily access child care assistance that supports stable and continuous child care, and that can be coordinated with other programs
  - Improves the quality of care, including through increased quality set-aside, support for child care providers and targeted initiatives for priority populations
- CCDBG's reauthorization came without a guarantee of federal funding to support states' implementation of new requirements, while continuing to support access for children and families

# Some Things To Know

- State plans are created every three years
  - Requirements for health and safety regulations, eligibility requirements for families, training and professional development for early childhood educators, licensing and monitoring for programs, and opportunities for quality improvement
- Serves 1.4 million children
  - Approximately 373,100 fewer children received CCDBG-funded child care in 2015 than in 2006
  - Did you know? 83% of children do **not** receive the support for which they are eligible due to a lack of funding

Now this is a story all about how...

*...we got a \$2.37 billion increase.*

# Let's go back for a minute

“He will focus on making quality child care affordable and accessible for all.” – Ivanka Trump, July 2016

“As part of this new future, we will also be rolling out proposals to increase choice and reduce cost in child care, offering much-needed relief to American families.” – Donald Trump, Presidential Candidate, August 2016

“My administration wants to work with members of both parties to make childcare accessible and affordable.” – President Donald Trump, February 2017

# The Idea Takes Hold

SHARE



## Senators Urge Colleagues to Expand Child Care Assistance to Working Families

### CHILD CARE AND EARLY EDUCATION

Children, Youth & Families

Blog Post  
December 6, 2017

By: Hannah Matthews

PRINT

Today, Senators Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) outlined immediate federal spending priorities that would support hard-working families, including a nearly \$3 billion increase in funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) to make child care more affordable.

The federal government is currently operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) through December 8 for fiscal year 2018 (FY2018). Members of Congress are considering a short-term CR to give themselves additional time to negotiate a spending bill later this month that would fund the federal government for the remainder of FY2018 (through September 30, 2018).

A \$2.9 billion increase in CCDBG for the balance of FY2018 would give states the resources they need to expand the reach of CCDBG to more than 200,000 additional children and implement bipartisan reforms to improve the health, safety, and quality of child care.



## INCREASE FUNDING FOR CCDBG

As Congress debates its final budget, Senators Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren have [called](#) for a \$2.9 billion increase in the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). This critical increase in funding would:

- Double the current discretionary funding
- Give states the resources they need to expand the reach of CCDBG to more than 200,000 additional children and
- Help states implement bipartisan reforms to improve the health, safety, and quality of child care

*(Not sure what CCDBG is and why it matters? We've got you covered with [this NAEYC resource](#))*

What can you do now?

- Send a tweet or make a call thanking [Senator Warren](#) and [Senator Sanders](#)
- [Contact your own Senators and Representatives](#) to urge them to support this significant increase in CCDBG

[CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS](#)



# #DoubleCCDBG



ChildrensDefenseFund ✓

@ChildDefender

Following

Join @nwlc, @MomsRising, @NAEYC, @nafcc, @childcarelaw, @VotingforKids, @USACHildCare, @ZEROTOTHREE, @CLASP\_DC, and others for a twitter storm today at 4pm ET urging Congress to #DoubleCCDBG. [bit.ly/2GNMSsq](http://bit.ly/2GNMSsq)



NWLC ✓

@nwlc

Following

Many moms are forced to leave the workforce when they cannot find affordable, high-quality child care. Not everyone has an Aunt Bee. #DoubleCCDBG



It's Time to Double the Child Care and Development Block ...

Elizabeth Warren discusses the challenges she faced as a working mom and explains why we should support the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG).

[youtube.com](http://youtube.com)

4:03 PM - 5 Feb 2018



NAEYC

@NAEYC

What are you doing on Mon, 2/5 at 4pm ET? Joining us, of course! We need all your voices (and your tweets!) to tell #Congress that it's time to raise spending caps & #DoubleCCDBG to help more children access high-quality #childcare. @nwlc @MomsRising @ZEROTOTHREE @SupportEarlyEd

1:22 PM - 1 Feb 2018

# Advocacy in Many Forms

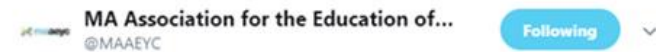


Investing in the early care and learning of our children is a needed investment in America's current workforce as well the future workforce of our country. By investing in child care, you are investing in working families, supporting businesses, and improving the potential for later success for millions of America's children. We urge Congress to make this important commitment by doubling the funding for CCDBG for children birth to age five.

Sincerely,

Rick Santorum  
Former U.S. Senator  
Pennsylvania

George Miller  
Former U.S. Representative  
California



Thank you [@SenWarren](#) for your leadership and support of early education. Thank you for working to fulfill the promise to [#DoubleCCDBG](#) and provide an important first step toward making high quality early education accessible to ALL children. [#PPF2018](#) [#ECEwins](#)



# Budget Deal?

In February 2018, in a sweeping bipartisan negotiation, Congress passed, and the President signed, a major budget deal to provide an additional \$5.8 billion to the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) over two years—an increase of \$2.9 billion per year. But the work wasn't over...



**Hannah Matthews**  
@HNMatthews

Follow

Congrats to all who worked hard to [#DoubleCCDBG](#). Now the work begins to make real the opportunities to expand [#childcarenow](#). [clasp.org/publications/r](http://clasp.org/publications/r) ...

8:08 AM - 9 Feb 2018



**NAEYC**  
@NAEYC

[#DoubleCCDBG](#)? Congress says yes! Budget deal makes historic investment in [#childcare](#) and [@RhianNAEYC](#) celebrates the work of our members & Affiliates here: [bit.ly/2H5iPg8](http://bit.ly/2H5iPg8) [#ECEwins](#)

4:40 PM - 9 Feb 2018

# Make it Real!

Via email

March 8, 2018

Dear Member of Congress,

We greatly appreciated the bipartisan endorsement of a significant increase in funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) under the budget agreement passed by Congress and signed into law in February. We want to ensure that Congress follows through with its commitment to increase CCDBG funding by \$5.8 billion over two years—\$2.9 billion in additional funding in FY 2018 and in FY 2019. This funding is necessary to enable families to access the affordable, high-quality child care that parents need to work and children need for their healthy development. It is essential that Congress maintain the bipartisan budget deal that includes not restricting available funding and approve an allocation for the Labor, Health, and Human Services Committee that allows for the agreed-to funding increase for Child Care and Development Block Grant as well as support for other early learning programs.

In agreeing to a substantial funding increase of \$5.8 billion for CCDBG, Congress demonstrated a recognition that child care is essential to the well-being of children, families, and our country. It is critical that Congress keep this commitment to families.

Sincerely,

Afterschool Alliance  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)  
Association of Child Development Specialists  
Child Care Aware of America  
Child Welfare League of America

Childcare Resources  
Children's Defense Fund  
CLASP  
Children's Leadership Council  
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)  
Early Care and Education Consortium  
Every Child Matters  
Family Focused Treatment Association  
First Five Years Fund  
First Focus Campaign for Children  
Forum for Youth Investment  
IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA)  
IFF  
Jumpstart  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)  
Low Income Investment Fund  
MomsRising  
National Association for Family Child Care  
National Association for the Education of Young Children  
National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Head Start Association  
National Human Services Assembly  
National Indian Child Care Association  
National Migrant Seasonal Head Start Association  
National Organization for Women

National Women's Law Center  
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
Parents as Teachers  
People For the American Way  
RESULTS  
Save the Children Action Network  
Service Employees International Union  
SparkAction  
Teaching Strategies  
United Parent Leaders Action Network  
United Way Worldwide  
Voices for Progress  
Wyandotte Nation  
YWCA USA  
ZERO TO THREE

# Celebrate Success!



**Helen Blank**  
@BlankHelen

Following

What a day for children-over \$3 billion investments in child care and early learning. It's time to celebrate the lawmakers who led this effort and the advocates who made the case [#Childcare4 All](#) [#ChildCareNOW](#)

3:03 PM - 23 Mar 2018



# What's Next? Three Big Things!

## FY18, FY19 and CCDF State Plans

# FY18: What Is The Money For?

## PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The agreement includes a \$2,370,000,000 increase for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act. It is expected that this increase will support the full implementation of the CCDBG Act as reauthorized in 2014, including activities to improve the quality and safety of child care programs, increasing provider reimbursement rates, and ensuring health and safety standards are met. The Department should work with States to ensure they are fully in compliance with, and meeting the goals of, the CCDBG Act. Further, the Department should work with States to ensure they are aware of the availability of funds under current law to make minor improvements to facilities to bring them into compliance with health and safety requirements and improve professional development for the child care workforce. Finally, the Department should work with States to ensure they are meeting the needs of families with non-traditional work hours. The funding will also increase access to affordable, high-quality child care to more low-income, working families.

# Spending Priorities

In addition to expanding access and implementing policies that support continuity and consistency for families, **states should prioritize quality by investing in the early childhood education workforce.**

- \* Raise payment rates
- \* Don't supplant TANF funding



# Invest in the Workforce!

- Tier reimbursement rates to financially reward the highest quality programs while providing additional support to lower quality programs so they can improve
- Use quality set-aside funds to support training and professional development, alongside methods such as wage supplements and tax credits, to keep educators in the field once they have received additional training and education
- Fund linguistically and culturally appropriate outreach, application, monitoring, and assessment processes to promote a strong and diverse workforce that meets the needs of all families

# Some More Things To Know

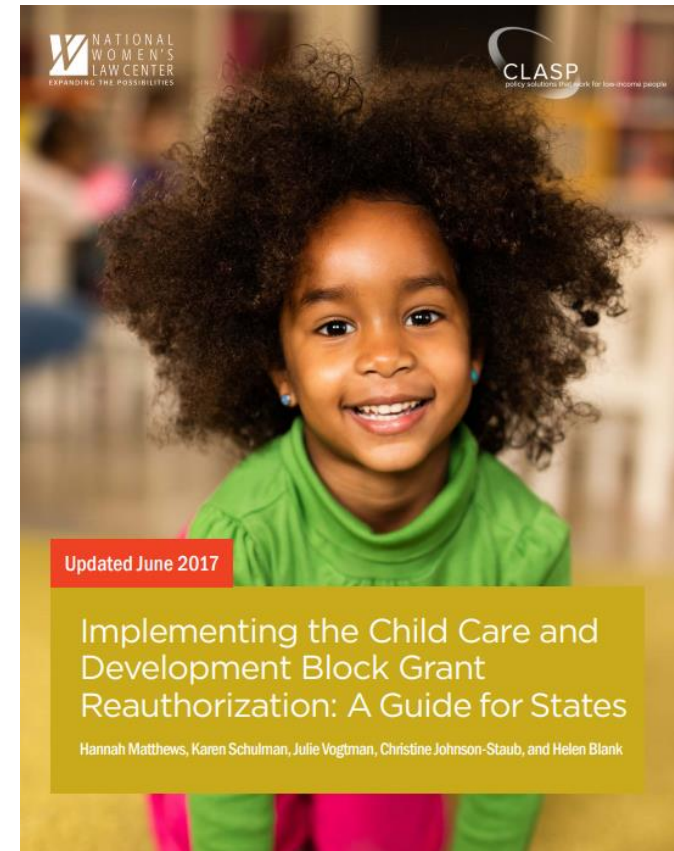
- **These are baseline dollars** provided in the context of a regular appropriations bill.
- They are not intended to be stimulus dollars.
- We will have to fight for funding in FY19, FY20 and beyond, just like always.
  - There is no such thing as “permanent” when it comes to annual appropriations,
- **So use the money well and wisely** so that everyone knows that **more money means more kids in higher quality care.**

# FY19: Where do we stand?

- Coalition letter to Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray
- Thanked Congress for the FY 2018 omnibus appropriations bill
- Urged them to sustain the commitment to early childhood education
  - include funding for the CCDBG at a level that at a minimum, fulfills the \$5.8 billion increase included in the bi-partisan budget agreement for FY 2018 and FY 2019,
  - provide \$11.3 billion for Head Start and Early Head Start
  - fund Preschool Development Grants, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C (Grants for Infants and Families) and Part B, Section 619 (Preschool Grants).

# CCDF Plans and Beyond

What should states be doing as they think about the next three years and beyond?



# How and When To Engage

- Check your child care state administrator's webpage to read your state's draft plan; learn about due dates for comments; and put public meetings in your calendar
  - Some due dates are already past, but don't worry! There are lots of opportunities to amend the plan and engage with the work.
  - Show up at the public hearings. Seriously. Just be there. They need to see & hear from you.
- Work in partnership with other state advocates to reinforce messages and priorities
  - Reach out to your AEYC Affiliate and others for more information and to connect!
- Identify and lift up the strengths of the plan
- Identify opportunities for improvement
  - In written comments especially, be specific about the changes you want to see by referencing exact sections; providing language changes where appropriate; etc.

# State Early Childhood Professional Development Systems

- CCDBG regulations from the Administration for Children and Families included six components of a professional development framework aligned with those that NAEYC has identified and supported: Professional Standards, Career Pathways, Articulation, Advisory Structures, Data, and Financing.
- This offers a potential way to frame some of your comments around the workforce in particular.
- Think about the four essential questions:
  - How does a policy put forth in each area increase professional development system integration across early childhood education sectors and settings from birth through age 8?
  - How does it include quality assurances for professional development?
  - How does it support workforce diversity and equitable access to professional development?
  - How does it increase compensation parity across early childhood education sectors and settings from birth through age 8?

[Build It Better: Indicators of Progress to Support Integrated Early Childhood Professional Development Systems](#)

**Be an advocate.**

# Why advocacy matters

- › You can make a difference!
- › People working together can change policies & laws.
- › Policymakers need your expertise.



# What can you do?

- Thank your Members of Congress. Let them know how much increased funding matters.
  - This increase means so much to our state and community. It will help us begin to reverse long-standing declines to serve more children, raise payment rates, and improve the quality of care.
- Ask your Members of Congress to ensure that the FY 2019 appropriations bill includes the full \$5.8 billion over two years for CCDBG
  - Keep the commitment made to child care in the Budget Agreement!
- Participate in your written and in-person CCDF state plan outreach and comment processes and opportunities
- Testify at budget hearings
- Invite them to visit to see high-quality early childhood education in action!
- Tell your child care and early learning story
- Vote.

# QUALITY EDUCATION

*Access to high-quality  
early learning is about  
realizing the  
American Dream.*



[www.americaforearlyed.org](http://www.americaforearlyed.org)

[@supportearlyed](#)

# Resources

## JOIN US IN OUR KITCHEN TABLE TALKS

Our weekly newsletter, Kitchen Table Talk, shares early childhood education wins from across the country, ways for you to get involved, resources you don't want to miss, and important updates on government policy that will keep you up to date. Check out past issues and sign up today!

[CATCH UP AND JOIN](#)



## EXPAND YOUR PUBLIC POLICY KNOWLEDGE

Learn about federal programs and strategies to advance child care, early learning, and our current and future workforce.

[GROW YOUR KNOWLEDGE](#)



## BUILD YOUR ADVOCACY SKILLS

You have the passion. Now, gain the knowledge and skills to take your voice and advocacy efforts to new heights.

[ACCESS RESOURCES](#)



## BECOME A PROACTIVE ADVOCATE

Download our advocacy postcard and commit to supporting greater investments in early childhood education! Print it out, write down the efforts you promise to participate in, and share your postcard via social media with the hashtag #ECEWins!

[DOWNLOAD NOW](#)



## TAKE ACTION WITH AMERICA FOR EARLY ED!

Help us mobilize support from voters and policymakers to create better opportunities for children, families, and educators. Help us ensure #ECEwins for all!

[DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)



## ELEVATE OUR CAUSE!

People of all walks of life agree: Investing in high-quality early childhood education and early childhood educators will make America brighter, stronger, and more competitive. You have a role in spreading this message with others.

[DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)



# Kitchen Table Talk Weekly Emails

At America for Early Ed, we want you to have the information, tools, and resources you need to spark a conversation about high-quality early childhood education no matter who or where you are.

Keep reading, talking, and engaging – together we can make sure #ECEwins.

11/14/17



*Take Action With America for Early Ed!*

11/03/17



*Your Advocacy Matters*

10/26/17



*Make Time for America for Early Ed!*

10/20/17



*Actions & Resources for Early Childhood Education Advocacy*

10/13/17



*News Around Early Childhood Education*

10/06/17



*Connecting with America for Early Ed*

# Additional Resources

- NAEYC: [Build Your Public Policy Knowledge](#) and [Build Your Advocacy Skills](#)
- CLASP & NWLC: [Implementing the Child Care and Development Block Grant Reauthorization: An Updated Guide for States](#) and [Child Care in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018: Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- NWLC: [Persistent Gaps: State Child Care Assistance Policies 2017](#)
- Urban Institute. [A historic boost to child care funding means states can start to realize the potential of the Child Care and Development Block Grant](#).
- Child Care Aware of America: [CCDBG Implementation Station](#)
- BUILD: [Maximizing CCDBG for Infants and Toddlers](#)

# Thank you!

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