



CHILD CARE & EARLY LEARNING

## CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND PLANS FY 2016-2018: STATE WAIVERS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Earlier this month, the Office of Child Care (OCC) posted the FY 2016-2018 Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) State Plans.<sup>1</sup> In the plans, states indicate how they will implement the CCDF program, including the new requirements of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014.<sup>2</sup> All state and territory plans have been conditionally approved, meaning that they can move forward, but still have work to do. OCC published letters outlining criteria that each state and territory must meet for final approval of its CCDF plan and responding to any requests for waivers or extensions.<sup>3</sup> The plans will be fully approved if conditions are met based on waiver requests (if applicable) and based on implementation and corrective action plans for unmet requirements.

**Thirty-five states requested one or more waivers or extensions of unmet provisions of the new CCDBG law** (see tables pages 6-12). Waivers were granted for one year, though some with the opportunity to renew if progress is made in the interim. Waivers were approved in all cases except those regarding health and safety training (Section 5.1.6b of the CCDF State Plans). Additionally, all states were told that their provider payment rates may not be sufficient and thus will be reviewed further by OCC, and three states were put on corrective action plans to address unmet immunization requirements.

The following are provisions of the new CCDBG law for which states requested waivers or are required to take corrective action to address:

- **Statewide Child Care Disaster Plan (1.8.1):** The law says that states and territories must have a child care disaster plan that coordinates activities with multiple agencies and the State Advisory Council (SAC) or other state-designated cross-agency body if there is no SAC. The plan must include guidelines for continuing CCDF assistance and child care services after a disaster, requirements for child care providers in case of various emergencies, and requirements that child care providers have in place procedures for staff and volunteer emergency preparedness training and practice drills.
  - **4 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Consumer Education Information Is Disseminated to Parents, Providers, and General Public (2.2.1):** The law requires states and territories to collect and disseminate information regarding the full diversity of child care services available, quality of providers (if available), other programs for which families may also qualify, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act programs and services, research and best practices in child development, and policies regarding social-emotional, behavioral, and mental health to parents, providers, and the general public.
  - **1 state** requested a waiver for this provision and OCC approved it.
- **Coordination with Other Partners to Increase Access to Developmental Screenings (2.2.8):** The law requires states and territories to develop and describe procedures for providing information on and referring families to existing developmental screening resources and services.
  - **1 state** requested a waiver for this provision and OCC approved it.



- **Website for Consumer Education (2.3.1):** The law requires states and territories to have a website that describes the processes for licensing and monitoring child care providers and aggregates information on the number of deaths, serious injuries, and child abuse in child care settings.
  - **2 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them both.
- **Graduated Phase-Out (3.1.5):** The law requires states and territories to provide a graduated phase-out of assistance for families whose incomes have increased at the time of redetermination but remain below the federal threshold of 85 percent of state median income.
  - **10 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Fluctuation in Earnings (3.1.6):** The law requires states and territories to demonstrate how their processes for initial determination and redetermination of eligibility take into account irregular fluctuations in earnings.
  - **2 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them both.
- **Asset Limit (3.1.10):** The law requires that the CCDF lead agency has a family member certify that the family's assets do not exceed \$1,000,000.
  - **1 state** requested a waiver for this provision and OCC approved it.
- **Improving Access for Homeless Children and Families (3.2.2):** The law requires states and territories to use CCDF funds to 1) allow homeless children to receive CCDF assistance after an initial eligibility determination but before providing required documentation, 2) provide training and technical assistance to child care providers on identifying and serving homeless children and families, and 3) conduct specific outreach to homeless families. States and territories must also establish a grace period that allows these children to receive assistance while they are taking the necessary actions to comply with immunization and other health and safety requirements.
  - **4 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Twelve-Month Eligibility (3.3.1):** The law requires states and territories to establish a minimum 12-month eligibility and redetermination period so that each child receives assistance for a minimum of 12 months before the state or territory redetermines the eligibility of the child, regardless of changes in work or income so long as income does not exceed the federal threshold of 85 percent of state median income.
  - **11 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Prevent Disruption of Work (3.3.3):** The law requires states and territories to have procedures and policies in place to ensure that parents are not required to unduly disrupt their employment, education, or job training activities in order to comply with the requirements for redetermination of eligibility for assistance.
  - **1 state** requested a waiver for this provision and OCC approved it.
- **Equal Access (4.4.2):** The law requires states and territories to provide a summary of data and facts they relied on to certify that payments to child care providers are sufficient to ensure that families receiving child care assistance have access to child care services comparable to those provided to other families. Payment rates must be sufficient to ensure this equal access.
  - **5 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
  - **All states and territories have payment rates that may not be sufficient to ensure equal access, and therefore OCC plans to make review of payment rates a priority for its upcoming implementation monitoring visits.**
- **Payment Practices and Timeliness of Payments (4.5.1):** The law requires that states and territories describe their payment practices for CCDF child care providers, which must reflect generally accepted payment practices of non-CCDF child care providers in the area.
  - **4 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Supply-Building Strategies to Meet the Needs of Certain Populations (4.6.3):** The law requires that states and territories describe the procedures and processes they use to give priority in their supply-building investments to areas that have significant concentrations of poverty and unemployment and that do not have high-quality child care programs.
  - **2 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them both.



- **Child Care Standards that Address Ratios and Group Size (5.1.3):** The law requires that states and territories define and implement child care standards for providers regarding appropriate child-to-provider ratios and group size limits in terms of the age of the children for each type of setting.
  - **5 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Health and Safety Requirements - 10 topics (5.1.6a):** The law requires states and territories to certify that they have health and safety requirements for providers receiving CCDF in the following areas: 1) prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunization), 2) prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices, 3) administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent, 4) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions, 5) building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic, 6) prevention of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma, 7) emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster, or a man-caused event, 8) handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants, 9) precautions in transporting children (if applicable), and 10) first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification.
  - **7 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
  - **3 states** do not meet existing **immunizations requirements**—to ensure that all families comply with immunization requirements for their children, with exemptions only for medical or religious reasons—and are now on corrective action plans to meet this provision.
- **Health and Safety Training (5.1.6b):** The law requires that states and territories have pre-service or orientation and ongoing training requirements in the 10 topic areas listed above in 5.1.6a.
  - **33 states** requested waivers for this provision and they were not approved because OCC considers health and safety training critical to reducing risk of injury and death for children receiving assistance. These states are on corrective action plans and must complete or revise their implementation plans for this provision.
- **Enforcement of Licensing Requirements (5.2.1):** The law requires that states and territories have in effect policies and practices to ensure that providers and facilities for children receiving assistance comply with applicable state or local licensing and health and safety requirements.
  - **6 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Licensing Inspectors (5.2.2a):** The law requires states and territories to have policies and practices that ensure that individuals who are hired as licensing inspectors are qualified to inspect child care providers and facilities.
  - **1 state** requested a waiver for this provision and OCC approved it.
- **Inspections for Licensed Providers (5.2.2b):** The law requires states and territories to have licensing inspectors to perform inspections for compliance with health, safety, and fire standards for each child care provider and facility. It also requires licensing inspectors to perform not less than annually, one unannounced inspection of licensed CCDF providers.
  - **6 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Inspections for Exempt Providers (5.2.2c):** The law requires states and territories to have policies and practices that require licensing inspectors of child care providers and facilities to perform an annual monitoring visit of each license-exempt CCDF provider.
  - **7 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Ratios of Licensing Inspectors (5.2.2d):** The law requires states and territories to maintain the ratio of licensing inspectors to child care providers and facilities at a level sufficient to conduct inspections on a timely basis.
  - **5 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting (5.2.2e):** The law requires states and territories to have child abuse reporting requirements in place that comply with the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.
  - **2 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them both.



- **Professional Development Requirements (6.1.1):** The law requires states and territories to develop training and professional development requirements designed to enable child care providers to promote the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development of children and to improve the knowledge and skills of the child care workforce. The requirements must be applicable to child care providers caring for children receiving CCDF across the entire age span from birth through age 12. It should be accessible and appropriate across settings and types of providers, including family child care home providers and child care center staff.
  - **3 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them all.
- **Training and Technical Assistance Related to Homeless Children and Families (6.1.10):** The law requires states and territories to use CCDF funds to improve the quality or availability of child care specifically through training and technical assistance to providers on identifying and serving homeless children and families.
  - **2 states** requested waivers for this provision and OCC approved them both.
- **Business Practices (6.2.3):** The law requires states and territories to outline policies and practices to strengthen providers' business practices.
  - **1 state** requested a waiver for this provision and OCC approved it.
- **Early Learning and Development Guidelines (6.3.1):** The law requires states and territories to develop, maintain, or implement early learning and developmental guidelines that are appropriate for children, describing what such children should know and be able to do, and covering the essential domains of early childhood development. Optionally, early learning and development guidelines for out-of-school time may be developed.
  - **1 state** requested a waiver for this provision and OCC approved it.

Three states requested 11 or more waivers.<sup>4</sup> Another six states requested between six and 10 waivers, and 26 states requested between one and five waivers. Sixteen states requested no waivers. The breakdown is as follows:

- States requesting 11 or more waivers: California (13), Hawaii (19), New York (11)
- States requesting 6 to 10 waivers: Alaska (8), Florida (7), Illinois (6), Michigan (6), Minnesota (10), New Hampshire (6)
- States requesting 1 to 5 waivers: Alabama (1), Connecticut (1), Delaware (2), District of Columbia (2), Georgia (2), Idaho (1), Iowa (1), Kansas (1), Maine (1), Maryland (1), Missouri (1), Nebraska (2), Nevada (2), New Jersey (1), North Carolina (1), Ohio (1), Oklahoma (1), Oregon (1), Pennsylvania (1), Rhode Island (1), South Dakota (2), Vermont (4), Virginia (4), Washington (2), West Virginia (2), Wisconsin (2)
- States requesting no waivers: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Wyoming

While states have made progress toward meeting the complex requirements of the CCDBG reauthorization law, the fact that all states' plans have only conditional approval indicates that they all must make additional efforts to successfully implement the law. At the same time, states must work to ensure more—not fewer—families receive child care assistance. Currently, only one in six children eligible for child care assistance receives it.<sup>5</sup> The number of children receiving assistance has been declining, with 43,000 fewer children receiving assistance in 2014 than in 2013.<sup>6</sup> Federal and state policymakers must invest significantly more resources in child care so that states can fully implement the reauthorization law and expand access to child care assistance, enabling families to find and afford the high-quality child care that parents need to work and children need to thrive.



- 1 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care, Approved CCDF Plans (FY 2016-2018), *available at* <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/state-plans>.
- 2 For more information about the law, see Hannah Matthews, Karen Schulman, Julie Vogtman, Christine Johnson-Staub, and Helen Blank, *Implementing the Child Care and Development Block Grant Reauthorization: A Guide for States* (Washington, DC: National Women's Law Center and Center for Law and Social Policy, 2015), *available at* [https://nwlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/final\\_nwlc\\_ccdbg\\_report2015\\_6\\_18\\_2015.pdf](https://nwlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/final_nwlc_ccdbg_report2015_6_18_2015.pdf).
- 3 For the purposes of this analysis, the District of Columbia is counted as a state. The U.S. territories are not counted as such.
- 4 These counts include both approved and denied waivers. The concern OCC raised about payment rates is not included in the waiver counts. Requests for waivers regarding background checks were neither approved nor denied by OCC, so they are not included in the waiver counts. Corrective actions to address immunization requirements were also not included in these counts.
- 5 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, *Estimates of Child Care Eligibility and Receipt for Fiscal Year 2012* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2015), *available at* <https://aspe.hhs.gov/pdf-report/estimates-child-care-eligibility-and-receipt-fiscal-year-2012>.
- 6 Hannah Matthews and Christina Walker, *Child Care Assistance Spending and Participation in 2014* (Washington, DC: Center for Law and Social Policy, 2016), 4-9, *available at* <http://www.clasp.org/resources-and-publications/publication-1/CC-Spending-and-Participation-2014-1.pdf>.



**TABLE 1: Total Number of State Waiver Requests Approved and Denied**

State	Total Waivers Denied	Total Waivers Approved
Alabama	1	0
Alaska	1	7
Arizona	0	0
Arkansas	0	0
California	1	12
Colorado	0	0
Connecticut	1	0
Delaware	1	1
District of Columbia	1	1
Florida	1	6
Georgia	1	1
Hawaii	1	18
Idaho	1	0
Illinois	1	5
Indiana	0	0
Iowa	1	0
Kansas	1	0
Kentucky	0	0
Louisiana	0	0
Maine	1	0
Maryland	1	0
Massachusetts	0	0
Michigan	1	5
Minnesota	1	9
Mississippi	0	0
Missouri	1	0
Montana	0	0
Nebraska	1	1
Nevada	1	1
New Hampshire	1	5
New Jersey	0	1
New Mexico	0	0
New York	1	10
North Carolina	1	0
North Dakota	0	0
Ohio	1	0
Oklahoma	0	1
Oregon	1	0
Pennsylvania	1	0
Rhode Island	1	0
South Carolina	0	0
South Dakota	1	1
Tennessee	0	0
Texas	0	0
Utah	0	0
Vermont	1	3
Virginia	1	3
Washington	1	1
West Virginia	1	1
Wisconsin	1	1
Wyoming	0	0

**Total Number of Waivers Denied: 33**

**Total Number of Waivers Approved: 94**

See table notes on page 13.



**TABLE 2: State Waivers for Provisions on Coordination, Engagement, and Outreach**

State	Statewide Child Care Disaster Plan (1.8.1)	Consumer Education Information Is Disseminated to Parents, Providers, and General Public (2.2.1)	Coordination with Other Partners to Increase Access to Developmental Screenings (2.2.8)	Website for Consumer Education (2.3.1)
	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved
Alabama				
Alaska	X			
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California				
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia	X			
Florida				
Georgia				
Hawaii	X	X	X	X
Idaho				
Illinois				
Indiana				
Iowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine				
Maryland				
Massachusetts				
Michigan	X			X
Minnesota				
Mississippi				
Missouri				
Montana				
Nebraska				
Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina				
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma				
Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
<b>Total Number of States</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

See table notes on page 13.



**TABLE 3: State Waivers for Provisions on Stable Child Care Assistance for Families**

State	Graduated Phase-Out (3.1.5)	Fluctuation in Earnings (3.1.6)	Asset Limit (3.1.10)	Improving Access for Homeless Children and Families (3.2.2)	12-Month Eligibility (3.3.1)	Prevent Disruption of Work (3.3.3)
	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved
Alabama						
Alaska	X			X	X	
Arizona						
Arkansas						
California	X	X			X	X
Colorado						
Connecticut						
Delaware	X					
District of Columbia						
Florida	X				X	
Georgia						
Hawaii	X			X	X	
Idaho						
Illinois					X	
Indiana						
Iowa						
Kansas						
Kentucky						
Louisiana						
Maine						
Maryland						
Massachusetts						
Michigan						
Minnesota			X <sup>2</sup>	X	X	
Mississippi						
Missouri						
Montana						
Nebraska						
Nevada						
New Hampshire	X	X		X	X	
New Jersey						
New Mexico						
New York	X <sup>1</sup>				X <sup>1</sup>	
North Carolina						
North Dakota						
Ohio						
Oklahoma	X					
Oregon						
Pennsylvania						
Rhode Island						
South Carolina						
South Dakota						
Tennessee						
Texas						
Utah						
Vermont	X					
Virginia	X				X	
Washington					X	
West Virginia					X <sup>1</sup>	
Wisconsin						
Wyoming						
<b>Total Number of States</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>

See table notes on page 13.





**TABLE 4: State Waivers for Provisions on Equal Access to High-Quality Child Care for Low-Income Children**

State	Insufficient Payment Rates <sup>3</sup>	Equal Access (4.4.2)	Payment Practices and Timeliness of Payments (4.5.1)	Supply-Building Strategies to Meet the Needs of Certain Populations (4.6.3)
	Subject to Further Review	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved
Alabama	X			
Alaska	X	X		
Arizona	X			
Arkansas	X			
California	X	X	X	
Colorado	X			
Connecticut	X			
Delaware	X			
District of Columbia	X			
Florida	X			
Georgia	X			
Hawaii	X	X		
Idaho	X			
Illinois	X			
Indiana	X			
Iowa	X			
Kansas	X			
Kentucky	X			
Louisiana	X			
Maine	X			
Maryland	X			
Massachusetts	X			
Michigan	X			
Minnesota	X			
Mississippi	X			
Missouri	X			
Montana	X			
Nebraska	X			
Nevada	X	X		
New Hampshire	X		X	
New Jersey	X	X		
New Mexico	X			
New York	X		X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>
North Carolina	X			
North Dakota	X			
Ohio	X			
Oklahoma	X			
Oregon	X			
Pennsylvania	X			
Rhode Island	X			
South Carolina	X			
South Dakota	X			
Tennessee	X			
Texas	X			
Utah	X			
Vermont	X			
Virginia	X			X
Washington	X			
West Virginia	X			
Wisconsin	X		X	
Wyoming	X			
<b>Total Number of States</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

See table notes on page 13.



**TABLE 5: State Waivers for Provisions on Health and Safety Standards and Monitoring, Part 1**

State	Child Care Standards that Address Ratios and Group Size (5.1.3)	Health and Safety Requirements - 10 Topics (5.1.6a)	Immunization Requirements (part of 5.1.6a)	Health and Safety Training (5.1.6b)	Policies to Enforce Licensing Requirements (5.2.1)
	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Corrective Action Needed	Corrective Action Needed (Waiver Not Approved)	Waiver Approved
Alabama				X	
Alaska		X		X	
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California	X	X		X	X
Colorado					
Connecticut				X	
Delaware				X	
District of Columbia				X	
Florida	X			X	X
Georgia				X	
Hawaii	X	X		X	X
Idaho				X	
Illinois		X		X	X
Indiana					
Iowa				X	
Kansas				X	
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine				X	
Maryland				X	
Massachusetts					
Michigan		X	X	X	X
Minnesota	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>		X	X <sup>1</sup>
Mississippi					
Missouri				X	
Montana					
Nebraska	X			X	
Nevada				X	
New Hampshire				X	
New Jersey					
New Mexico					
New York		X <sup>1</sup>		X	
North Carolina				X	
North Dakota					
Ohio			X	X	
Oklahoma					
Oregon				X	
Pennsylvania				X	
Rhode Island				X	
South Carolina					
South Dakota				X	
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah					
Vermont				X	
Virginia				X	
Washington				X	
West Virginia				X	
Wisconsin			X	X	
Wyoming					

**Total Number of States**

5

7

3

33

6

See table notes on page 13.



**TABLE 6: State Waivers for Provisions on Health and Safety Standards and Monitoring, Part 2**

State	Licensing Inspectors (5.2.2a)	Inspections for Licensed Providers (5.2.2b)	Inspections for Exempt Providers (5.2.2c)	Ratios of Licensing Inspectors (5.2.2d)	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting (5.2.2e)
	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved
Alabama					
Alaska			X		
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California		X	X		
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
District of Columbia					
Florida			X		
Georgia					
Hawaii	X	X	X	X <sup>1</sup>	X
Idaho					
Illinois			X	X	
Indiana					
Iowa					
Kansas					
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
Michigan		X			
Minnesota		X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	
Mississippi					
Missouri					
Montana					
Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey					
New Mexico					
New York		X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>
North Carolina					
North Dakota					
Ohio					
Oklahoma					
Oregon					
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island					
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah					
Vermont		X		X	
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					

**Total Number of States**

1                      6                      7                      5                      2

See table notes on page 13.



**TABLE 7: State Waivers for Provisions on Ensuring a Qualified and Effective Child Care Workforce**

State	Professional Development Requirements (6.1.1)	Training and Technical Assistance Related to Homeless Children and Families (6.1.10)	Business Practices (6.2.3)	Early Learning and Development Guidelines (6.3.1)
	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved	Waiver Approved
Alabama				
Alaska				
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California			X	
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia				
Florida	X			
Georgia		X		
Hawaii	X	X		
Idaho				
Illinois				
Indiana				
Iowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine				
Maryland				
Massachusetts				
Michigan				
Minnesota				
Mississippi				
Missouri				
Montana				
Nebraska				
Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York	X <sup>1</sup>			
North Carolina				
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma				
Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				X
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
<b>Total Number of States</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

See table notes on page 13.



**Table notes:**

All waivers are approved for a time not to exceed one year unless otherwise noted, such as possible renewals.

Background check provisions (5.3.1) were not considered under this waiver implementation process because the Act provided for a separate extension process for states and territories unable to comply by September 30, 2017. The states that applied for such a waiver (District of Columbia, Georgia, Vermont, and Wisconsin) are now on hold. These waiver requests are not included in the tables or the totals.

The totals in Table 1 for the number of waivers approved and denied in each state do not include instances where the state's payment rates are subject to further review or where the state must take corrective action to meet immunization requirements.

The District of Columbia is counted as a state in the tables.

- 1 This waiver can be renewed beyond one year if progress is shown.
- 2 The state still must submit an implementation plan for this component.
- 3 The OCC included the following statement in its letters for all states and territories: "Key principles of the CCDF are to provide equal access to child care for children receiving child care assistance and to ensure parental choice. Provider payment rates set too low undermine these principles. As you are aware, the CCDBG Act of 2014 requires states and territories to take the cost of quality into account when setting rates, and to set rates based on the results of the most recent market rate survey or alternative methodology. We continue to be concerned that your rates may not allow for equal access. OCC plans to make review of payment rates a priority for our upcoming implementation monitoring visits. Thus, the conditional approval of your Plan does not constitute a final determination that your payment rates are sufficient to provide access to child care services for eligible families that are comparable to those provided to families that do not receive subsidies, as required by law."

