

Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan
For

Idaho
FFY 2012-2013

**PART 1
ADMINISTRATION**

1.1 Contact Information

The agency shown below has been designated by the Chief Executive Officer of the State (or Territory), to represent the State (or Territory) as the Lead Agency. The Lead Agency agrees to administer the program in accordance with applicable Federal laws and regulations and the provisions of this Plan, including the assurances and certifications appended hereto.(658D, 658E)

1.1.1 Who is the Lead Agency designated to administer the CCDF program? Identify the Lead Agency and Lead Agency's Chief Executive Officer designated by the State/Territory. ACF will send official grant correspondence such as grant awards, grant adjustments, Plan approvals and disallowance notifications to the designated contact identified here. (658D(a), §98.10)

Name of Lead Agency: [Idaho Department of Health and Welfare](#)

Address of Lead Agency: [450 W. State Street, Boise, ID 83702](#)

Name and Title of the Lead Agency's Chief Executive Officer: [Richard M. Armstrong, Director](#), [Russell S. Barron, Division Administrator](#)

Phone Number: [\(208\) 334-5696](#)

Fax Number: [\(208\) 334-5817](#)

E-Mail Address: armstrongr@dhw.idaho.gov; barronr@dhw.idaho.gov

Web Address for Lead Agency (if any): <http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov>

1.1.2 Who is the CCDF administrator? Identify the CCDF administrator designated by the Lead Agency, the day-to-day contact, with responsibility for administering the State/Territory's CCDF program. ACF will send programmatic communications such as program announcements, program instructions, and data collection instructions to the designated contact identified here. **If there is more than one designated contact with equal or shared responsibility for administering the CCDF program, please identify the co-administrator or entity with administrative responsibilities and include contact information.** (§§98.16(a) and (c)(1))

a) Contact Information for CCDF Administrator:

Name of CCDF Administrator: [Genie Sue Weppner](#)

Title of CCDF Administrator: [Program Manager](#)

Address of CCDF Administrator: [450 W. State Street, Boise, ID 83702](#)

Phone Number: [\(208\) 334-5656](#)

Fax Number: [\(208\) 334-5817](#)

E-Mail Address: weppnerg@dhw.idaho.gov

Web Address for Lead Agency (if any): <http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov>

Phone Number for CCDF program information

(for the public) (if any): (208) 334-5656

Web Address for CCDF program

(for the public) (if any): <http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov>

Web Address for CCDF program policy manual

(if any): http://dhwportalp1/portals/manuals/selfreliance/iccp/iccp_handbook.htm

Web Address for CCDF program administrative rules

(if any): <http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa16/0612.pdf>

b) Contact Information for CCDF Co-Administrator (if applicable):

Name of CCDF Co-Administrator:

Title of CCDF Co-Administrator:

Address of CCDF Co-Administrator:

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

E-Mail Address:

Description of the role of the Co-Administrator:

1.2 Estimated Funding

1.2.1 What is your expected level of funding for the first year of the FY 2012 - FY 2013 plan period?

The Lead Agency estimates that the following amounts will be available for child care services and related activities during the 1-year period from October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012. (§98.13(a)).

FY 2012 Federal CCDF allocation (Discretionary, Mandatory and Matching): \$ 16,536,774

Federal TANF Transfer to CCDF: \$ 6,082,500

Direct Federal TANF Spending on Child Care: \$ 2,000,000

State CCDF Maintenance-of-Effort Funds: \$ 1,175,820

State Matching Funds: \$ 65,900

Reminder - Lead Agencies are reminded that not more than 5 percent of the aggregate CCDF funds, including federal funds and required State Matching funds, shall be expended on administration costs (§98.52) once all FY2012 funds have been liquidated. State Maintenance-of-Effort funds are not subject to this limitation.

1.2.2 Which of the following funds does the Lead Agency intend to use to meet the CCDF Matching and maintenance-of-effort (MOE) requirements described in 98.53(e) and 98.53(h)? Check all that apply.

Territories not required to meet CCDF Matching and MOE requirements should mark N/A here

Note: The Lead Agency must check at least public and/or private funds as matching, even if pre-kindergarten (pre-k) funds also will be used.

Public funds to meet the CCDF Matching Fund requirement. Public funds may include any general revenue funds, county or other local public funds, State/Territory-specific funds (tobacco tax, lottery), or any other public funds.
If checked, identify source of funds:

If known, identify the estimated amount of public funds the Lead Agency will receive: [not known at this time](#)

Private Donated Funds to meet the CCDF Matching Fund requirement. Only private received by the designated entities or by the Lead Agency may be counted for match purposes. (98.53(f))

If checked, are those funds:

donated directly to the State?

donated to a separate entity(ies) designated to receive private donated funds?

If checked, identify the number of entities designated to receive private donated funds and provide name, address, contact and type:

If known, identify the estimated amount of private donated funds the Lead Agency will receive:

State expenditures for Pre-K programs to meet the CCDF Matching Funds requirement.

If checked, provide the estimated percentage of Matching Fund requirement that will be met with pre-k expenditures (not to exceed 30%):

If percentage is more than 10% of the Matching fund requirement, describe how the State will coordinate its pre-k and child care services:

If known, identify the estimated amount of pre-k funds the Lead Agency will receive for Matching Funds requirement:

Describe the Lead Agency efforts to ensure that pre-k programs meet the needs of working parents:

State expenditures for Pre-K programs to meet the CCDF Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements.

If checked,

The Lead Agency assures that its level of effort in full-day/full-year child care services has not been reduced, pursuant to 98.53(h)(1).

Estimated percentage of MOE Fund requirement that will be met with pre-k expenditures (not to exceed 20%):

If percentage is more than 10% of the MOE fund requirement, describe how the State will coordinate its pre-k and child care services to expand the availability of child care:

If known, identify the estimated amount of pre-k funds the Lead Agency will receive for MOE Fund requirement:

Describe the Lead Agency efforts to ensure that pre-k programs meet the needs of working parents:

1.2.3 Describe the activities for which quality funds (including targeted quality funds for infants and toddlers, school-age children, and resource and referral) will be used in FY 2012. In as much detail possible, list the activities that will be funded, the estimated amount of CCDF quality funds that will be used for each activity, and how these activities relate to the Lead Agency's overall goal of improving the quality of child care for low-income children.

Activity	Estimated Amount of CCDF Quality Funds (indicate if targeted funds will be used)	Purpose	Projected Impact and Anticipated Results
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Mentor/Coaching (Incentive)	Mentor/Coaching - Infant/Toddler - \$4,410 School Age - \$2,205 Both - \$37,485 Both = Targeted and quality expenditures	Mentor/Coaching - To provide individualized support for providers to Implement Quality Practices.	Mentor/Coaching - 18 Mentor/Coaches will provide 3,500 hours of services to approx. 150 Child Care Providers
Child Care Health Consultants (Incentive)	CC Health Consultants - Infant/Toddler - \$2,500 School Age - \$1,205 Both - \$21,250	CC Health Consultants - To provide individualize support and training for providers to improve health, safety and nutrition practices	CC Health Consultants - In Pilot Phase: 3 Child Health Consultants will provide training and support to approx. 75 facilities
Resource and Referral Services	Resource & Referral - \$145,743.75 (Targeted Funds not Tracked for this Activity)	Resource & Referral - To provide engage, connect and provide technical assistance and support to local providers within an Idaho Region	Resource & Referral- 7 regional offices will receive approx. 13,200 calls, provide approx. 300 New Provider Orientations, 1,200 ICCP Orientations, 880
Professional Development (Incentive)	Professional Development - Infant/Toddler -\$11,388 School Age - \$5,694 Both \$96,794	Professional Development - To provide an entry level, career lattice and incentives for providers in the field of early care and education	Professional Development Orientations, and 88 QRIS Orientations. Professional Development - Approx 2,400 providers will enter the Professional Development System; approx 2,100 providers will apply for an pathway or anniversary incentive.
Training Scholarships (Incentive)	Training Scholarships - Infant/Toddler - \$9,500 School Age - \$4,750 Both - \$80,750	Training Scholarships - To provide quality training incentives and professional development for child care providers. Providers can attend local, regional and national trainings.	Training Scholarships - Approx. 1,500 Approved Trainings will be offered across the state of Idaho. Approx. 2,000 Training Scholarships will be given.
Academic Scholarships (Incentive)	Academic Scholarships Infant/Toddler-\$16,500 School Age - \$8,250 Both - \$140,250	Academic Scholarships - To provide academic scholarship opportunities for child care providers enrolled in the IdahoSTARS Profession Development System.	Academic Scholarships - Approx. 75-85 Child Care Providers will receive an Academic Scholarship to their local university of community college.
QRIS Program Improvement (Incentive)	QRIS Program Infant/Toddler-\$30,500 School Age - \$15,250 Both - \$259,250	QRIS Program - To provide a system of support for improving quality in child care facilities, and Family/Group Homes.	QRIS Program - Approx. 80 to 90 child care facilities will receive a QRIS Rating in 2012. Approx. 85% of those rated are ICCP Approved Facilities.

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1.2.4 Will the Lead Agency distribute quality funds to counties or local entities?

- No, the Lead Agency will manage all quality funds directly
- Yes, the Lead Agency will manage some quality funds directly and distribute a portion to local entities. Estimated amount or percentage to be distributed to localities

Of the quality expenditures, 99% is distributed to local entities.

Yes, all quality funds will be distributed to local entities

Other.

Describe:

1.3 CCDF Program Integrity and Accountability

Program integrity is defined to include efforts that ensure effective internal controls over the administration of CCDF funds. The Lead Agency is responsible for monitoring programs and services, ensuring compliance with the rules of the program, promulgating rules and regulations to govern the overall administration of the plan and oversee the expenditure of funds by sub-grantees and contractors. (§ 98.11(b)) Accountability measures should address administrative error, which includes unintentional agency error, **as well as address** program violations, both unintentional and intentional, that may or may not result in further action by the Lead Agency, including those cases suspected of and/or prosecuted for fraud.

1.3.1. Describe the strategies the Lead Agency will utilize to ensure effective internal controls are in place. The **description** of internal controls may include, but is not limited to a description of processes to ensure sound fiscal management, to identify areas of risk or to establish regular evaluation of control activities.

Describe:

The State of Idaho follows Generally Accepted Accounting Practices, has regular A133 audits, internal audits, and separation of duties. Budget reviews are held on a quarterly basis on all program budgets and financial reports are submitted to Program Managers, Administrators, and Bureau Chiefs on a monthly basis for their review.

1.3.2. Describe the processes the Lead Agency will use to monitor all sub-recipients. Lead Agencies that use other governmental or non-governmental sub-recipients to administer the program must have written agreements in place outlining roles and responsibilities for meeting CCDF requirements. (98.11 (a) (3))

Definition: A sub-recipient (including a sub-contractor and or sub-grantee) is a non-Federal entity that expends Federal awards (contract or grant) received from another entity to carry out a Federal program, but does not include a vendor nor does it include an individual who is a beneficiary of such a program. OMB Circular A-133 Section 210 provides additional information on the characteristics of a **sub-recipient and vendor** (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a133_compliance_supplement_2010). The description of monitoring may include, but is not limited to, a discussion of written agreements, fiscal management, review of policies and procedures to ensure compliance with CCDF regulations, monitoring/auditing contractors or grantees to ensure that eligible children are served and eligibility documentation is verified, and establishing performance indicators or measures related to improper payments.

Describe:

Division of Welfare Benefit Programs Contract Monitoring Standards

Overview

This document defines the process used by Division of Welfare's Contracts and External Resource Management (CERM) Team to ensure that the standards, techniques, and criteria are consistent and timely. This document attempts to define actions to be taken and the decisions to be made during the monitoring process and clear communication process to all stakeholders.

Objectives

An effective monitor will provide information to the contract manager (also known as the business lead) on the contractor's performance, the effectiveness of the contract, and the quality of the service being delivered. It will also inform the contractor as to their success in meeting the objectives of the contract, alert them to possible performance improvement, identify best practices, and possible corrective action needed as a result of the monitor.

Prepare for the Monitoring

In order to prepare for the monitoring, the CERM Team:

- Reviews for accuracy or creates a monitoring tool that aligns with the scope of work and performance metrics of the contract to be monitored.
- Schedules the monitor.
- Informs the contractor of the schedule and what will be monitored. (facility, documents, etc.)
- Shares the schedule with the contract manager.
- Makes a random selection of records /documents if applicable.

Conduct the Monitoring

The CERM Team conducts the monitoring on or off site. The monitor team must determine the following:

- Did the contractor meet performance requirements?
- Did the contractor perform the services defined in the contract?
- Did the contractor perform the services on time?
- Were the deliverables (reports, services, surveys, software, products, and outcomes) delivered or achieved on time and in the required format?
- Did the services meet the Department's expected (and defined) standard?
- Were the services billed on the invoice actually delivered?
- Did the contractor comply with the rules, regulations, and policies as outlined by the Department?

Analyze Potential Findings with the Contract Manager

If any of these items were found deficient, the monitor team meets with the contract manager to discuss possible adverse conditions and determine the severity of each.

Developing and organizing deficiencies is critical to the process. It will assist in determining whether all pertinent information was obtained during the monitor and facilitate discussions and decisions related to the potential findings. Each finding will be supported with specific examples and concrete details. The following steps should be utilized in order to identify possible adverse conditions, their severity, and

communicate that to the contract manager.

Compare the Condition with the Criteria

Most findings originate with comparisons of "what is" (the condition) with "what should be" (the criteria). Criteria are the standard for measuring performance or the goals to be achieved. Examples of criteria include laws, regulations, policies, procedures, management principles, good business practices, contract scope of work, accurate and complete case files, system updates, and performance standards.

For example: If voucher payments are found to have no supporting documentation to support their use (condition) and our criteria (scope of work) require that all vouchers are supported by documentation to verify the voucher use and purpose, the condition does not support the criteria.

Another example may be that case management charges are being processed for cases (condition) but no documentation is found in the case to support the expense (criteria) as outlined in the scope of work, the condition does not support the criteria. Final example, the agency does not have written procedures in place to refer clients to Child Support Services (condition) as required by Federal Regulations (criteria).

Determine the Severity of a Deficiency

The adverse conditions should be identified, discussed, and documented in terms of the following attributes:

- **Cause:** Cause describes how or why the condition came about and is the reason for the difference between what is and what should be (why the condition happened). It is very important that each finding include an attempt to identify the underlying root causes of the conditions reported.
Establishing cause and effect relationships is often the most difficult part the monitoring process, but is essential in order to identify the basic weakness that allowed a deviation to occur and to design a constructive recommendation. For example, the team may determine the cause relates to:
 - Lack of procedures or management controls.
 - Failure to follow established procedures or controls.
 - Misinterpretation of established procedures or controls.
 - Fraud, abuse or neglect
 - **Effect.** Effect tells what resulted from the condition, or the associated risk and its significance. It is important to identify the effect even though it might be difficult to identify the underlying root causes of the conditions identified. The teams must demonstrate whether an adverse condition found is an isolated example or widespread and the rate or frequency of occurrence. The attention that a finding gets depends largely on its significance, as judged by effect. Where possible, the effect should be expressed in quantitative terms (dollars, units of production, resources, etc.)
Examples include unnecessary expenditures, inefficiencies because of duplication of effort, costs associated loss of goods or inventory, violation of federal regulations resulting in a penalties, and improper use of funds. If the actual effect cannot be determined, comments should be made on the potential effect.
- When a difference is identified between the condition and the criteria and the severity of the deficiency is determined, the next step is to identify if the result is a finding, serious concern or warrants a comment/recommendation:
- **A Finding** is a serious performance or process error that is in violation of the contract or that puts the ability of the contractor to carry out the contract requirements at risk. Whether or not it is a finding depends on the cause and/or the effect. If the cause is such that its effect would be widespread and/or significant, then it is a finding. When there is a finding, the contractor is required to respond in some manner that will correct or prevent the finding from happening in the future.

- **Concern/Serious Concern** is a less serious performance or process error that is not in violation of the contract. However, the error is a concern because its cause and effect could be widespread and/or significant for potential non-compliance. When there is a serious concern noted, the contractor is required to respond in some manner that will correct or prevent the error from happening in the future.
- **FYI/comment/suggestion** may be suggestions for improvement, compliments, or comments regarding best practices. The contractor is not required to respond and is not required to comply with the suggestion.

Submit Initial Results Report

The team submits the initial results of the monitoring to the contractor within ten business days of the monitor.

If there are no deficiencies the process moves to Final Results. The contractor has ten business days to respond to any deficiencies with a clearance request. If there is no request, the process moves to Final Results.

Remedy the Deficiencies

Within ten days of receipt of contractor's response, the CERM Team collaborates with the contract manager to accomplish the following:

- Make decisions on any clearance requests made by contractor.
- Determine a remedy and/or penalty for any deficiency that still stands.

Remedies include:

- Performance Improvement Plan
- Reimbursement

Penalties include:

- Financial
- Corrective Action
- Termination of Contract

Targeted monitoring may be performed as determined by the contract manager.

If consensus is not reached on these decisions, the contract manager has the final decision. However, if the Bureau Chief over Compliance and Support believes the risk to contract standards is too high, the decision is escalated to the Welfare Administrator.

Submit Final Results

The monitor team will submit final results to contractor, contract manager, Division of Welfare Administrator, and Bureau Chief over Compliance and Support.

If there were findings, the contractor will be given a date by which to submit reimbursement, performance improvement, or corrective action plan.

If the submission is approved by the CERM Team, appropriate follow-up will be scheduled.

If the submission is not approved, the CERM Team and contractor will negotiate a plan that sufficiently addresses the deficiency(ies) until a consensus is reached.

1.3.3. Describe the activities the Lead Agency will have in place to identify program violations and administrative error to ensure program integrity using the chart below. Program violations may include intentional and unintentional client and/or provider violations as defined by the Lead Agency. Administrative error refers to **areas**

identified through the Error Rate Review process (98.100). Check which activities, if any, the Lead Agency has chosen to conduct.

Type of Activity	Identify Program Violations	Identify Administrative Error
Share/match data from other programs (e.g. TANF, Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), Medicaid))	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Share/match data from other databases (e.g., State Directory of New Hires, Social Security Administration, Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS))	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Run system reports that flag errors (include types)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Review of attendance or billing records	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Audit provider records	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conduct quality control or quality assurance reviews	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conduct on-site visits to providers or sub-recipients to review attendance or enrollment documents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conduct supervisory staff reviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conduct data mining to identify trends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Train staff on policy and/or audits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other. Describe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For any option the Lead Agency checked in the chart above other than none, please describe:

Child Care eligibility workers have access to the Food Stamp, Medicaid, and TANF eligibility system to verify income and household composition and other informaton contained in this system that is pertinent to Child Care Subsidy eligibility.

Supervisors conduct regular file reviews on new and veteran staff to insure that eligibility is calculated correctly.

Training is provided by a state wide training unit when there are changes in rule, policy or process.

If the Lead Agency checked none, please describe what measures the Lead Agency has or plans to put in place to address program integrity:

1.3.4. What strategies will the Lead Agency use to investigate and collect improper payments due to program violations or administrative error? Check and describe in the chart below which strategies, if any, the Lead Agency will use for each of the following areas: Unintentional program violations (UPV), intentional program violations (IPV) and/or fraud, and administrative error as defined in your State/Territory. **The Lead Agency has the flexibility to recover misspent funds as a result of errors. The Lead Agency is required to recover misspent funds as a result of fraud (98.60(i)).**

Strategy	UPV	IPV and/or Fraud	Administrative Error
Require recovery after a minimum dollar amount in improper payment. Identify the minimum dollar amount: \$ 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Coordinate with and refer to other State/Territory agency (e.g. State/Territory collection agency, law enforcement). Describe: 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recover through repayment plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce payments in the subsequent months	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recover through State/Territory tax intercepts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recover through other means. Describe: 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Establish a unit to investigate and collect improper payments. Describe composition of unit:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Idaho has a fraud investigation unit that investigates fraud, and a revenue unit that arranges payment agreements, collects and tracks payments made.			
Other. Describe:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
n/a			
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

For any option the Lead Agency checked in the chart above other than none, please describe:

The Division of Financial Services operates a collection unit that is responsible to collect overpayments and improper payments from benefit recipients. This unit negotiates a plan with the individual, tracks, and collects the payments until the over payment/improper payment is paid off.

1.3.5. What type of sanction, if any, will the Lead Agency place on clients and providers to help reduce improper payments due to program violations?

- None
- Disqualify client.

If checked, please describe, including a description of the appeal process for clients who are disqualified

A client may be disqualified as a result of an intentional false or misleading action or statement, Intentional Program Violation (IPV). Failure to comply with a negotiated repayment agreement is also considered an IPV and will result in loss of the family's eligibility to receive child care benefits.

When the Department determines an IPV was committed, the party who committed the IPV loses eligibility for child care subsidy. The entire family is ineligible for child care benefits. The period of ineligibility for each offense, for clients is: 1st offense, 12 months or the length if time specified by the court. 2nd offense, 24 months or length specified by the court. 3rd offense, permanent ineligibility.

Clients may appeal Department decisions and are given contact information as part of the notice of decision. Clients must submit their request to appeal the decision within 28 days of the date the notice is mailed. Each notice has information on how to appeal.

- Disqualify provider.

If checked, please describe, including a description of the appeal process for providers who are disqualified

The Department may disqualify providers if they commit an IPV which includes failure to repay an overpayment. Providers are subject to the same lengths of disqualification that are mentioned above.

- Prosecute criminally
- Other.

Describe.

1.3.6 Based on responses provided from Question 14 in the most recent ACF-402 report, please describe those actions the Lead Agency has taken or plans to take to reduce identified errors in the table below. Territories not required to complete the Error Rate Review should mark

Activities identified in ACF-402	Cause/Type of Error (if known)	Actions Taken or Planned	Completion Date (Actual or planned) (if known)
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<p>Since errors were primarily in the basic eligibility processes, the quality improvement focuses on the eligibility processing.</p> <p>The improvement initiatives are:</p> <p>1. Rules: Modify rules to remove duplication and add clarity regarding computation of activity hours.</p> <p>2. Process Manual: Develop and implement an electronic Process Manual to set the processing, documentation, and verification standards and provide step-by-step instructions for staff to follow.</p> <p>3. Training: Provide back-to-basics training based on new processes and standards.</p> <p>4. Targeted Reviews: Develop and implement Child Care targeted reviews that will be completed on a monthly basis by supervisors and principal workers. The reviews will assure the staff is following the rules and processes and meeting the standards set in the Process Manual.</p>		<p>1. Rule Modification.</p> <p>2. Process Manual update and clarification.</p> <p>3. Back-to-basics training began 9-2010 and is ongoing with training on various elements of the eligibility process conducted each month.</p> <p>4. Target reviews on initial applications.</p>	<p>1. Rule modification completed 4-2011.</p> <p>2. Process Manual update and clarification. completed 1-2011.</p> <p>3. Back-to-basics training began 9-2010 and is ongoing.</p> <p>4. Target initial application reviews began 4-2011.</p>
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1.4 Consultation in the Development of the CCDF Plan

Lead Agencies are required to *consult* with appropriate agencies in the development of its CCDF Plan (§98.12, §98.14(a),(b), §98.16(d)).

Definition: *Consultation* involves the meeting with or otherwise obtaining input from an appropriate agency in the development of the State or Territory CCDF Plan. At a minimum, Lead Agencies must consult with representatives of general purpose local governments. (§§98.12(b), 98.14(a)(1))

1.4.1 Identify and describe in the table below who the Lead Agency consulted with in the development of the CCDF Plan (658D(b)(2), §§98.12(b), 98.14(b)).

Agency/Entity	Describe how the Lead Agency consulted with this Agency/entity in developing the CCDF Plan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Representatives of general purpose local government (required)</p> <p>This may include, but is not limited to: representatives from counties and municipalities, local human service agencies, local education representatives (e.g., school districts), or local public health agencies.</p>	<p>Representatives of these governmental organizations serve on the Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Panel. Central District Health Department City of Chubbuck Police Department Idaho Catholic Charities</p>
<p>For the remaining agencies, check and describe (optional) any which the Lead Agency has chosen to consult with in the development of its CCDF Plan.</p>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>State/Territory agency responsible for public education</p> <p>This may include, but is not limited to, State/Territory pre-kindergarten programs (if applicable), programs serving school-age children (including 21st Century Community Learning Centers), or higher education.</p>	<p>Representatives of educational organizations serve on the Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Panel. The panel advised on the contents of the plan.</p> <p>University of Idaho Child Development North Idaho College</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>State/Territory agency responsible for programs for children with special needs</p> <p>This may include, but is not limited to: State/Territory early intervention programs authorized under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Part C for infants and toddlers and Section 619 for preschool), or other State/Territory agencies that support children with special needs</p>	<p>Representatives serve on the Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Panel. The panel advised on the contents of the plan.</p> <p>Idaho Infant Toddler Program Idaho Head Start Association</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>State/Territory agency responsible for licensing (if separate from the Lead Agency)</p>	<p>State licensing staff attends the Idaho Child Care program Advisory panel meetings as staff. The panel advised on the contents of the plan.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>State/Territory agency with the Head Start Collaboration grant</p>	<p>The child care plan components are reviewed at the Head Start Collaboration Council since it is part of the Early Childhood Coordinating Council and the plan was reviewed by this council.</p>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statewide Advisory Council authorized by the Head Start Act	Idaho did not apply for the Advisory Council grants as we have two very active councils that provide stakeholder input and opportunities for cross program collaborative work. One is the Idaho Child Care Advisory panel and the other is the Early Childhood Coordinating council (SECCS) that also serves as the Council for the Infant Toddler/Head Start Collaboration programs. The child care plan components are reviewed by these councils.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Federal, State, local, Tribal (if applicable), and/or private agencies providing early childhood and school-age/youth-serving developmental services	Representatives of these organizations serve on the Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Panel. The panel advised on the contents of the plan. Coeur d'Alene Tribe Early Childhood Learning Center President of the Family Child Care Association and Child Care Provider
<input type="checkbox"/> State/Territory agency responsible for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Territory agency responsible for implementing the Maternal and Early Childhood Home Visitation programs grant	The State Child Care Administrator is on the Home Visiting Steering Committee.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Territory agency responsible for public health (including the agency responsible for immunizations and programs that promote children's emotional and mental health)	Representatives of these organizations serve on the Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Panel. The panel advised on the contents of the plan. Central District Health Department
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Territory agency responsible for child welfare	Representatives of child welfare serve on the Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Panel as staff. The panel advised on the contents of the plan.
<input type="checkbox"/> State/Territory liaison for military child care programs or other military child care representatives	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Territory agency responsible for employment services/workforce development	Child Care Administrator serves on the Work Force Development Council's working council.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Territory agency responsible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	The State Child Care Administrator is also serves as the policy specialist for the TANF program.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Indian Tribes/Tribal Organizations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>N/A: No such entities exist within the boundaries of the State</p>	<p>Tribal representatives serve on the Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Panel. The panel advised on the contents of the plan.</p> <p>Coeur d'Alene Tribe Early Childhood Learning Center</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Private agencies/entities including national initiatives that the Lead Agency is participating in such as BUILD, Strengthening Families, Mott Statewide After-school Networks, Ready by 21</p>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Provider groups, associations or labor organizations</p>	<p>Providers serve on the Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Panel. The panel advised on the contents of the plan.</p> <p>President of the Family Child Care Association and Child Care Provider Family Child Care provider</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Parent groups or organizations</p>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Local community organizations (child care resource and referral, Red Cross)</p>	<p>Representatives of the Resource and Referral agency serve on the Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Panel as staff. The panel advised on the contents of the plan.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other</p>	<p>Representatives from the Early Childhood Coordinating Council serve on the Idaho Child Care Advisory Panel. The panel advised on the contents of the plan.</p>

1.4.2. Describe the Statewide/Territory-wide public hearing process held to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the provision of child care services under this Plan. (658D(b)(1)(C), §§98.14(C)). At a minimum, the description should include:

a) Date(s) of notice of public hearing: [05/20/2011](#)

Reminder - Must be at least 20 days prior to the date of the public hearing.

b) How was the public notified about the public hearing? [Notices in the Newspapers.](#)c) Date(s) of public hearing(s): [06/20/2011](#)

Reminder - Must be no earlier than 9 months before effective date of Plan (October 1, 2011).

- d) Hearing site(s) [Pete T. Cenerussa Buidling; 450 W. State St. Boise, ID](#)
- e) How was the content of the Plan made available to the public in advance of the public hearing(s)? [The public could request a copy be mailed to them, access a copy on the web, or pick up a copy at the State Street office.](#)
- f) How will the information provided by the public be taken into consideration in the provision of child care services under this Plan? [Ample time was allowed to incorporate public input into the plan as allowed by State and Federal requirements.](#)

1.4.3. Describe any strategies used by the Lead Agency to increase public consultation on the Plan or access to the public hearing. For example, translating the public hearing notice into multiple languages, using a variety of sites or technology (e.g., video) for the public hearing, holding the hearing at times to accommodate parent and provider work schedules.

1.4.3. Describe:

[Idaho will engage a number of advisory groups to gather input for the plan, and utilize print and web applications to notify the public and make the plan available for review.](#)

1.5. Coordination Activities to Support the Implementation of CCDF Services

Lead Agencies are required to *coordinate* with other Federal, State, local, Tribal (if applicable) and private agencies providing child care and early childhood development services

Definition - *Coordination* involves child care and early childhood and school-age development services efforts to work across multiple entities, both public and private (such as in connection with a State Early Childhood Comprehensive System (SECCS) grant or the State Advisory Council funded under the Head Start Act of 2007). (658D(b)(1)(D), §§98.12(a), 98.14(a)(1))

1.5.1. Identify and describe in the table below with whom the Lead Agency coordinates in the delivery of child care and early childhood and school-age services (§98.14(a)(1)).

Agency/Entity (check all that apply)	Describe how the Lead Agency will coordinate with this Agency/entity in delivering child care and early childhood services	Describe the goals or results you are expecting from the coordination
<p>Representatives of general purpose local government (required)</p> <p>This may include, but is not limited to:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> representatives from counties and municipalities, local human service agencies, local education representatives (e.g., school districts), or local public health agencies.</p>	<p>Idaho has a multi-faceted child care licensing system that includes City Licensing Ordinances. We continue to work with the Association of Cities to communicate and coordinate licensing efforts.</p> <p>Local Public Health Districts contract with the Department to conduct Health and Safety inspections. We meet on a monthly basis to coordinate activities.</p>	<p>Examples might include increased supply of full-day/full-year services, aligned eligibility policies, blended funding, or access to more training and technical assistance resources shared across agencies.</p> <p>City and state licensing efforts are aligned.</p> <p>Effectively coordinate health and safety inspections with licensing activities and Idaho Child Care certification so that these processes are effective.</p>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>State/Territory agency responsible for public education (required) This may include, but is not limited to, State/Territory pre-kindergarten programs (if applicable), programs serving school-age children (including 21st Century Community Learning Centers), or higher education.</p>	<p>Idaho Child Care Advisory Panel holds a seat for the Department of Education which is vacant at the moment and is being filled.</p> <p>The State Child Care Administrator meets with 21st Century Community Learning Staff annually.</p>	<p>The Department of Education in Idaho defines its educational responsibilities to children grades kindergarten through 12th grade.</p> <p>Pre-school activities are limited to children with disabilities and an occasional school district that offers other preschool services to its community.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Other Federal, State, local, Tribal (if applicable), and/or private agencies providing early childhood and school-age/youth-serving developmental services (required)</p>	<p>University of Idaho Center on Disabilities and Human Development is the contractor that provides professional development, resource and referral services.</p>	<p>Continuous focus on providing quality child care services for children with disabilities.</p>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>State/Territory agency responsible for public health (required)</p> <p>This may include, but is not limited to, the agency responsible for immunizations and programs that promote children's emotional and mental health</p>	<p>Idaho Contracts with the District Health Departments for all child care inspections related to the subsidy program and to State licensing.</p>	<p>Quality health and safety inspections and increased numbers of children with current immunizations.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>State/Territory agency responsible for employment services / workforce development (required)</p>	<p>State Child Care Administrator serves on the Workforce Development Council work group for Idaho. This group meets quarterly to coordinate and discuss Idaho workforce issues.</p>	<p>Improve child care workforce training and certification. Members of the Workforce Development Council understand and value the need for quality early childhood programs.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>State/Territory agency responsible for providing Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) (required)</p>	<p>State Child Care Administrator also serves as the policy specialist for TANF for the State.</p>	<p>Families receiving TANF cash benefits in Idaho receive quality child care while they are receiving cash assistance and participating in required activities.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Indian Tribes/Tribal Organizations (required)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>N/A: No such entities exist within the boundaries of the State</p>	<p>Idaho holds three meetings annually to coordinate Benefit program activities that both the Tribes and the State provide. These include TANF, Child Care, and Child Support Enforcement.</p>	<p>Avoid duplication of services.</p> <p>Consult with Tribal Sovereign Nations when making adjustments in programs. Programs and policies of each entity are aligned.</p>

For the remaining agencies, check and describe (optional) any with which the Lead Agency has chosen to coordinate early childhood and school-age service delivery

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	State/Territory agency responsible for licensing (if separate from the Lead Agency)	<p>The Division of Welfare is responsible for the Idaho Child Care Program subsidy and quality activities. The Division of Family and Children Services is responsible for Licensing.</p> <p>Both Divisions are within the Department of Health and Welfare and both Division Administrators report to the same Deputy Director. CCDF is used to fund all licensing activities.</p>	<p>CCDF budget is managed effectively taking into account subsidy needs and quality improvement needs.</p> <p>Communication with providers is coordinated and clear.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	State/Territory agency with the Head Start Collaboration grant		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Statewide Advisory Council authorized by the Head Start Act	<p>We have two councils and neither one was authorized by the Head Start Act. State Child Care Administrator serves on both.</p>	<p>Early childhood services are coordinated.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	State/Territory agency responsible for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)		

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>State/Territory agency responsible for programs for children with special needs</p> <p>This may include, but is not limited to: State/Territory early intervention programs authorized under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Part C for infants and toddlers and Section 619 for preschool), or other State/Territory agencies that support children with special needs</p>	<p>The Division of Welfare is responsible for the Idaho Child Care Program subsidy and quality activities. The Division of Family and Children Services is responsible for the Infant Toddler program.</p> <p>Both Divisions are within the Department of Health and Welfare and both Division Administrators report to the same Deputy Director.</p>	<p>Coordinate early childhood service so that they address the needs of children with disabilities.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>State/Territory agency responsible for implementing the Maternal and Early Childhood Home Visitation programs grant</p>	<p>The State Child Care Administrator is on the Home Visiting Steering Committee.</p>	<p>Early childhood services are coordinated.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>State/Territory agency responsible for child welfare</p>	<p>The Division of Welfare is responsible for the Idaho Child Care Program subsidy and quality activities. The Division of Family and Children Services is responsible for Child Welfare.</p> <p>Both Divisions are within the Department of Health and Welfare and both Division Administrators report to the same Deputy Director.</p>	<p>Early childhood services are coordinated.</p>

<input type="checkbox"/>	State/Territory liaison for military child care programs or other military child care representatives		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private agencies/entities including national initiatives that the Lead Agency is participating in such as BUILD, Strengthening Families, Mott Statewide After-school Networks, Ready by 21	Idaho's QRIS includes Strengthening Families as one of the requirements.	<p>Providers use the 5 Protective Factors when interacting with parents. Parents get help they may need.</p> <p>Relationships between parent and provider are strong and effective.</p> <p>Children receive better quality and more loving and secure care from both parents and providers.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local community organizations (child care resource and referral, Red Cross)	Idaho Department staff meet monthly with the Resource and Referral.	Resource and Referral staff understands Department activities, can explain them accurately to providers, and help providers understand state regulations and programs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provider groups, associations or labor organizations		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent groups or organizations		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other		

1.5.2. Does the State/Territory have a formal early childhood and/or school-age coordination plan? Lead Agencies are not required to have an early childhood nor a school-age coordination plan, but the State/Territory may have such plans for other purposes, including fulfilling requirements of other programs.

Yes. If yes,

a)

Provide the name of the entity responsible for the coordination plan(s):

c)

Indicate whether this entity also operates as the State Advisory Council (as authorized under the Head Start Act of 2007):

Yes

No

d)

Provide a web address for the plan(s), if available:

No

1.5.3. Does the State/Territory have a designated entity(ies) responsible for coordination across early childhood and school-age programs? (658D(b)(1)(D), §98.14(a)(1)) Check which entity(ies), if any, the State/Territory has chosen to designate.

State/Territory-wide early childhood and/or school-age cabinet/advisory council/task force/commission.

If yes, describe entity, age groups and the role of the Lead Agency

Early Childhood Coordinating Council, birth through eight. The council is appointed by the Governor and also serves statutorily as the Infant Toddler Council and the Head Start Collaboration Council. There is also a Idaho Child Care Program Advisory Council that is appointed by the Governor and serves to provide advice to the Department on the activities, policies and processes for all activities funded with CCDF funds.

State Advisory Council (as described under the Head Start Act of 2007).

If yes, describe entity, age groups and the role of the Lead Agency

Local Coordination/Council

If yes, describe entity, age groups and the role of the Lead Agency

Other

Describe

None

1.5.4 Does the Lead Agency conduct or plan to conduct activities to encourage public-private partnerships that promote private sector involvement in meeting child care needs? (§98.16(d))

Yes .

If yes, **describe** these activities or planned activities, including the tangible results expected from the public-private partnership:

Idaho engages in a public private partnership between the Department, University of Idaho, local Health Districts and IdahoAEYC. As a result, these agencies carry out quality improvement activities such as health and safety inspections, QRIS, Professional Development Systems, and licensing and provider certification activities.

No

1.6. Child Care Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan

It is recommended, but not required, that each Lead Agency develop a plan to address preparedness, response, and recovery efforts specific to child care services and programs. Plans should cover the following areas: 1) planning for continuation of services to CCDF families; 2) coordination with other State/Territory agencies and key partners; 3) emergency preparedness regulatory requirements for child care providers; 4) provision of temporary child care services after a disaster; and 5) rebuilding child care after a disaster. For further guidance on developing Child Care Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans see the Information Memorandum (CCDF-ACF-IM-2011-XX) located on the Office of Child Care website at:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/law/state_topic_emergency.htm

1.6.1. Indicate which of the following best describes the current status of your efforts in this area. Check only ONE.

Planning. Indicate whether steps are under way to develop a plan. If so, describe the time frames for completion and/or implementation, the steps anticipated and how the plan will be coordinated with other emergency planning efforts within the State/Territory.

Developed. A plan has been developed as of **[insert date]:** [3/20/2011](#) and put into operation as of **[insert date]:** [7/1/2011](#), if available. Provide a web address for this plan, if available: [Idaho borrowed Montana's emergency preparedness plan for providers to use. The plan is called Your Inventory for Keeping Everyone Safe \(YIKES\) and is included in the "New Provider" Orientation and during each site visit conducted at least annually by the local Child Care Consultant. A booklet and a wall handout are provided to each provider. It is being provided to both new and existing providers. The plan addresses continuation of child care services and relocation planning. It provides steps providers can take after the emergency that will provide some assurance for rebuilding child care after the disaster. The Division of Welfare has a COOP plan that provides assurance that the benefit](#)

services will not be interrupted. The plan should be available at [www. IdahoSTARS.org](http://www.IdahoSTARS.org). In keeping with the Idaho philosophy to keep government small, there is no requirement that providers have an emergency preparedness plan.

Other.
Describe:

1.6.2. Indicate which of the core elements identified in the Information Memorandum are or will be covered in the Lead Agency child care emergency preparedness and response plan. Check which elements, if any, the Lead Agency includes in the plan.

- Planning for continuation of services to CCDF families
- Coordination with other State/Territory agencies and key partners
- Emergency preparedness regulatory requirements for child care providers
- Provision of temporary child care services after a disaster
- Rebuilding child care facilities and infrastructure after a disaster
- None

PART 2

CCDF SUBSIDY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Administration of the Program

The Lead Agency has broad authority to administer (i.e., establish rules) and operate (i.e., implement activities) the CCDF program through other governmental, non-governmental, or other public or private local agencies as long as it retains overall responsibility for the administration of the program. (658D(b), §98.11(a))

2.1.1. Which of the following CCDF program rules and policies are set or established at the State/Territory versus the local level? Identify the level at which the following CCDF program rules and policies are established.

Eligibility rules and policies (e.g., income limits) are set by the:

- State/Territory
- Local entity.

If checked, provide the name(s) of the local entity:

- Other.
- Describe:

Sliding fee scale is set by the:

- State/Territory
- Local entity.

If checked, provide the name(s) of the local entity:

- Other.
- Describe:

Payment rates are set by the:

- State/Territory
- Local entity.

If checked, provide the name(s) of the local entity:

Other.

Describe:

2.1.2. How is the CCDF program operated in your State/Territory? In the table below, identify which agency(ies) performs these CCDF services and activities.

Implementation of CCDF Services/Activities

Who determines eligibility?

Note: If different for families receiving TANF benefits and families not receiving TANF benefits, please describe:

CCDF and TANF Agencies are the same state agency. State staff determines eligibility.

Agency (Check all that apply)

- CCDF Lead Agency
- TANF agency
- Other State/Territory agency.

Describe:

- Local government agencies such as county welfare or social services departments
- Child care resource and referral agencies
- Community-based organizations
- Other.

Describe:

Who assists parents in locating child care (consumer education)?

Agency (Check all that apply)

- CCDF Lead Agency
- TANF agency
- Other State/Territory agency.

Describe:

- Local government agencies such as county welfare or social services departments
- Child care resource and referral agencies
- Community-based organizations
- Other.

Describe:

Who issues payments?

Agency (Check all that apply)

- CCDF Lead Agency
- TANF agency
- Other State/Territory agency.

Describe:

- Local government agencies such as county welfare or social services departments
- Child care resource and referral agencies
- Community-based organizations
- Other.

Describe:

Describe to whom is the payment issued (e.g., parent or provider) and how are payments distributed (e.g., electronically, cash, etc)

Payments are issued to the provider on behalf of the family and are issued through electronic fund transfer to provider accounts.

Other. List and describe:

2.2. Family Outreach and Application Process

Lead Agencies must inform parents of eligible children and the general public of the process by which they can apply for and potentially receive child care services. (658D(b)(1)(A), 658E(c)(2)(D) & (3)(B), §§98.16(k), 98.30(a)-(e). **Note** - For any information in questions 2.2.1 through 2.2.10 that differs or will differ for families receiving TANF, please describe in 2.2.11.

2.2.1. By whom and how are parents informed of the availability of child care assistance services under CCDF? (658E(c)(2)(A), §98.30(a)) Check all agencies and strategies that will be used in your State/Territory.

- CCDF Lead Agency
- TANF offices
- Other government offices
- Child care resource and referral agencies
- Contractors
- Community-based organizations
- Public schools
- Internet

(provide website): <http://www.211.idaho.gov/> or

<http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Children/ChildCareAssistance/tabid/292/Default.aspx>

- Promotional materials
- Community outreach meetings, workshops or other in-person meetings
- Radio and/or television
- Print media
- Other.

Describe:

Social Marketing strategies will be explored and the more effective strategies implemented during the next two years.

2.2.2. How can parents apply for CCDF services? Check all application methods that your State/Territory has chosen to implement.

- In person interview or orientation
- By mail
- By Phone/Fax
- Through the Internet

(provide website):

- By Email
- Other.

Describe:

Planning for on-line applications will occur as a result of the Ford Foundation planning grant and requirements in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Planning will occur during 2011 and early 2012. Implementation of an on-line application is scheduled for late 2012.

2.2.3. Describe how the Lead Agency provides consumer education to parents applying for CCDF assistance to promote informed choices about the quality of care provided by various providers.

Lead Agencies must certify that the State/Territory will collect and disseminate to parents of eligible children and the general public, consumer education information that will promote informed child care choices (658E (c)(2)(G), §98.33).

For example, memorandums of understanding with resource and referral agencies to provide consumer education to families applying for CCDF assistance, providing parents with provider lists showing licensing history and/or Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) ratings, or informational brochures that address importance of quality and different care options available.

Idaho utilizes informational brochures, informed choice discussions with case workers, Idaho 2-1-1 Careline, Quality Rating Improvement System ratings, and a contract with the Resource and Referral Agency in the state to provide consumer education to families seeking child care.

2.2.4. Describe how the Lead Agency will support child care programs to increase the likelihood that CCDF-served children receive higher quality care as defined in your State/Territory.

For example, methods used to promote upward movement in quality rating and improvement system, methods used to encourage high quality programs to participate in the subsidy program such as tiered reimbursement, or incentives used to support high quality programs in rural, suburban, urban, and low-income communities.

Idaho provides a Voluntary Professional Development System that includes incentives. In the next couple of years, Idaho plans to provide incentives related to engagement in the Professional Development System only to providers who care for ICCP subsidized children.

2.2.5. How will the Lead Agency promote access to the CCDF subsidy program?

Check the strategies that will be implemented by your State/Territory.

- Provide access to program office/workers such as by:
- Providing extended office hours
- Accepting applications at multiple office locations
- Providing a toll-free number for clients
- Other.

Describe:

Idaho received a Ford Foundation year-long Planning Grant in 2011 to improve access to benefit programs. The Idaho Child Care Program is one of the programs targeted for improve access. There is an opportunity for further Ford Foundation grant funds for implementation of the plan.

- Using a simplified eligibility determination process such as by:
- Simplifying the application form (such as eliminating unnecessary questions, lowering the reading level)
- Developing a single application for multiple programs
- Developing web-based and/or phone-based application procedures
- Coordinating eligibility policies across programs.

List the program names: Idaho is in the process of moving the Idaho Child Care Subsidy Program eligibility process to the new eligibility system that manages the SNAP, TANF, and Medicaid programs.

- Streamlining verification procedures, such as linking to other program data systems
- Providing information multi-lingually
- Including temporary periods of unemployment in eligibility criteria for new applicants (job search, seasonal unemployment).

Length of time:

Other.

Describe:

Idaho received a Ford Foundation Planning Grant in 2011 to improve access and simplify eligibility for benefit programs. The Idaho Child Care Program is one of the programs targeted for strategies to improve access and simplification of program requirements.

Other.

Describe:

None

2.2.6. Describe the Lead Agencies policies to promote continuity of care for children and stability for families. Check the strategies, if any, that your State/Territory has chosen to implement.

Provide CCDF assistance during periods of job search.

Length of time: Only for those families who are participating in Enhanced Work Programs funded by TANF or Office of Refugee Resettlement funding. The period of time allowed for job search is limited by the period of time a person is eligible for TANF (24 months life time limit in Idaho) or ORR (8 months only) assistance.

Establish two-tiered income eligibility to allow families to continue to receive child care subsidies if they experience an increase in income but still remain below 85% of State median income (SMI)

Synchronize review date across programs

List programs:

Longer eligibility re-determination periods (e.g., 1 year).

Describe:

Extend periods of eligibility for families who are also enrolled in either Early Head Start or Head Start and pre-k programs.

Describe:

Extend periods of eligibility for school-age children under age 13 to cover the school year.

Describe:

Minimize reporting requirements for changes in family's circumstances that do not impact families' eligibility, such as changes in income below a certain threshold or change in employment

Targeted case management to help families find and keep stable child care arrangements

Using non-CCDF Funds to continue subsidy for families who no longer meet eligibility, such as for children who turn 13 years of age during the middle of a program year

Other.

Describe:

None

2.2.7. How will the Lead Agency provide outreach and services to eligible families with limited English proficiency? Check the strategies, if any, that your State/Territory has chosen to implement.

Application in other languages

Informational materials in non-English languages

Training and technical assistance in non-English languages

Website in non-English languages

Lead Agency accepts applications at local community-based locations

Bilingual caseworkers or translators available

Other.

Describe:

The Resource and Referral contractor employs a non-English native speaker to conduct out-reach to Hispanic and other families and potential providers. The child care eligibility unit has a single point of contact for all refugees applying for child care assistance. In addition, refugee resettlement agency job developers are working with IdahoSTARS to recruit refugees as child care providers or employees of child care centers while connecting them with the Professional Development System benefits.

None

(Optional) If the Lead Agency checked any option above related to providing information or services in other non-English languages, please describe the

languages offered :

2.2.8. How will the Lead Agency overcome language barriers with providers? Check the strategies, if any, that your State/Territory has chosen to implement.

- Informational materials in non-English languages
- Training and technical assistance in non-English languages
- CCDF health and safety requirements in non-English languages
- Provider contracts or agreements in non-English languages
- Website in non-English languages
- Bilingual caseworkers or translators available
- Other.

Describe:

The Resource and Referral contractor employs a non-English native speaker to conduct out reach to Hispanic and other families and potential providers.

None

(Optional) If the Lead Agency checked any option above related to providing information or services in other non-English languages, please describe the languages offered:

2.2.9. Describe how the Lead Agency documents and verifies applicant information using the table below. (§98.20(a))

Check the strategies that will be implemented by your State/Territory. **Attach** a copy of your parent application for the child care subsidy program(s) as **Attachment 2.2.9** or provide a web address, if available:

<http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Children/ChildCareAssistance/tabid/292/Default.aspx>

The Lead Agency requires documentation of:	Describe how the Lead Agency documents and verifies applicant information:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant identity	Social Security number information in other benefit systems. In addition, Idaho has an automated verification system called e-verify that access multiple systems such as vital statistics, Social Security, Dept of Labor, Child Support, and other automated systems that is used to verify income and identity of all family members.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Household composition	Household declaration or information in other benefit systems.
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant's relationship to the child	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child's information for determining eligibility (e.g., identity, age, etc.)	As declared by the applicant or information in other benefit systems.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work, Job Training or Educational Program	Work verification or class schedules or collateral contact with employer or school.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income	Work verification, pay stubs, and collateral contact with employer.
<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe:	

2.2.10. Which strategies, if any, will the Lead Agency use to assure the timeliness of eligibility determinations upon receipt of applications?

Time limit for making eligibility determinations.

Describe length of time [Staff have up to 30 days to complete an application, but the expectation is that they will do 75% or more in 5 days.](#)

Track and monitor the eligibility determination process

Other.

Describe

[Case management activities related to processing an application are now tracked in the IBES eligibility system. That allows us to see the status of all applications, track the application, and report on all application activity.](#)

None

2.2.11. Are the policies, strategies or processes provided in questions 2.1.1. through 2.1.10 different for families receiving TANF? (658E(c)(2)(H) & (3)(D), §§98.16(g)(4), 98.33(b), 98.50(e))

Yes.

If yes, describe:

No.

2.2.12. Informing parents who receive TANF benefits about the exception to the individual penalties associated with the TANF work requirement.

The regulations at §98.33(b) require the Lead Agency to inform parents who receive TANF benefits about the exception to the individual penalties associated with the work

requirement for any single custodial parent who has a demonstrated inability to obtain needed child care for a child under 6 years of age. Lead Agencies must coordinate with TANF programs to ensure, pursuant that TANF families with young children will be informed of their right not to be sanctioned if they meet the criteria set forth by the State TANF agency in accordance with section 407(e)(2) of the Social Security Act. In fulfilling this requirement, the following criteria or definitions are applied by the TANF agency to determine whether the parent has a demonstrated inability to obtain needed child care. **NOTE:** The TANF agency, not the CCDF Lead Agency, is responsible for establishing the following criteria or definitions. These criteria or definitions are offered in this Plan as a matter of public record.

a) Identify the TANF agency that established these criteria or definitions:
State/Territory TANF Agency [Idaho Department of Health and Welfare](#)

b) Provide the following definitions established by the TANF agency.

- "appropriate child care": [Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis by a reasonable person concept. Reasonable person is defined as a person whose conduct would be that of a reasonably prudent person in the same or similar circumstances.](#)
- "reasonable distance": [Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis by a reasonable person concept. Reasonable person is defined as a person whose conduct would be that of a reasonably prudent person in the same or similar circumstances.](#)
- "unsuitability of informal child care": [Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis by a reasonable person concept. Reasonable person is defined as a person whose conduct would be that of a reasonably prudent person in the same or similar circumstances.](#)
- "affordable child care arrangements": [Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis by a reasonable person concept. Reasonable person is defined as a person whose conduct would be that of a reasonably prudent person in the same or similar circumstances.](#)

c) How are parents who receive TANF benefits informed about the exception to individual penalties associated with the TANF work requirements?

- In writing
- Verbally
- Other.

Describe:

2.3. Eligibility Criteria for Child Care

In order to be eligible for services, children must (1) be under the age of 13, or under the age of 19 if the child is physically or mentally disabled or under court supervision; (2) reside with a family whose income is less than 85 percent of the State's median income for a family of the same size; and (3) reside with a parent or parents who is working or attending job training or an educational program; or (4) be receiving or needs to receive

protective services. (658P(3), §98.20(a))

2.3.1. How does the Lead Agency define the following eligibility terms?

residing with -

We do not define "residing with." However, we believe that the definition of "family composition" is the equivalent to "residing with". We define Family composition as a group of individuals living in a common residence, whose combined income is considered in determining eligibility and the child care benefit amount. No individual may be considered a member of more than one family in the same month.

in loco parentis -

Acting "in Loco parentis" means a person who acts in place of a parent, assuming care and custody of a child by a formal or informal agreement with the child's parent.

2.3.2. Eligibility Criteria Based Upon Age

a) The Lead Agency serves children from 1 weeks to 13 years (maximum age under age 13).

b) Does the Lead Agency allow CCDF-funded child care for children age 13 and above but below age 19 years who are physically and/or mentally incapable of self-care? (658E(c)(3)(B), 658P(3), §98.20(a)(1)(ii))

Yes, and the upper age is 18

Provide the Lead Agency definition of *physical or mental incapacity* -

If the child is physically or mentally incapable of self-care, as verified by a licensed mental health professional or licensed practitioner of the healing arts.

No.

c) Does the Lead Agency allow CCDF-funded child care for children age 13 and above but below age 19 years who are under court supervision? (658P(3), 658E(c)(3)(B), §98.20(a)(1)(ii))

Yes, and the upper age is

No.

2.3.3. Eligibility Criteria Based Upon Work, Job Training or Educational Program

a) How does the Lead Agency define "working" for the purposes of eligibility? Provide a

narrative description below, including allowable activities and if a minimum number of hours is required.

Reminder - Lead Agencies have the flexibility to include any work-related activities in its definition of working, including periods of job search and travel time. (§§98.16(f)(3), 98.20(b))
working-

The parent must be currently employed. Restrictions apply for self-employment. For the first six months of benefit assistance, actual activity hours are used to determine benefit assistance for a parent who is self-employed. After receiving six months of benefit assistance, the number of self-employment activity hours that will be used to calculate benefits can be limited for a parent who is self-employed.

To calculate the activity hours allowed, the gross monthly self-employment income is divided by the current federal minimum hourly wage to determine the number of self-employment activity hours allowed. The lesser of the calculated activity hours or actual activity hours will be used to determine the benefit assistance.

b) Does the Lead Agency provide CCDF child care assistance to parents who are attending job training or an educational program? (§§98.16(g)(5), 98.20(b))

Yes.

If yes, how does the Lead Agency define "attending job training or educational program" for the purposes of eligibility? Provide a narrative description below.

Reminder - Lead Agencies have the flexibility to include any training or education-related activities in its definition of job training or education, including study time and travel time.

attending job training or educational program -

The parent is attending an accredited education or training program. The following restrictions apply to training or education activities:

- a. On-line classes cannot be counted as a qualifying activity for child care.
- b. Persons with baccalaureate degrees or who are attending post-baccalaureate classes do not qualify for child care benefits.
- c. More than forty (40) months of post-secondary education has been used as a qualifying activity.

No.

2.3.4. Eligibility Criteria Based Upon Receiving or Needing to Receive Protective Services

a) Does the Lead Agency provide child care to children in protective services?
(§§98.16(f)(7), 98.20(a)(3)(ii)(A) & (B))

Yes.

If yes, how does the Lead Agency define "protective services" for the purposes of eligibility? Provide a narrative description below.

Reminder - Lead Agencies have the flexibility to define protective services beyond formal child welfare or foster care cases. Lead Agencies may elect to include homeless children and other vulnerable populations in the definition of protective services.

Note - If the Lead Agency elects to provide CCDF-funded child care to children in foster care whose foster care parents are not working, or who are not in education/training activities for CCDF purposes these children are considered to be in protective services and should be included in this definition.

protective services

Services needed to reduce or eliminate the need for protective intervention. Preventive services permit families to participate in activities designed to reduce or eliminate the need for out-of-home placement of a child by the Department.

No.

b) Does the Lead Agency waive, on a case-by-case basis, the co-payment and income eligibility requirements for cases in which children receive, or need to receive, protective services? (658E(c)(3)(B), 658P(3)(C)(ii), §98.20(a)(3)(ii)(A))

Yes,

No.

2.3.5. Income Eligibility Criteria

a) How does the Lead Agency define "income" for the purposes of eligibility? Provide the Lead Agency's definition of "income" for purposes of eligibility determination.
(§§98.16(g)(5), 98.20(b))

income -

All gross earned and unearned income is counted in determining eligibility and the child care benefit amount unless it is excluded.

b) Which of the following sources of income, if any, will the Lead Agency exclude from calculations of total family income for the purposes of eligibility determination? Check any income the Lead Agency chooses to exclude, if any.

- Adoption subsidies
- Foster care payments
- Alimony received or paid
- Child support received
- Child support paid
- Federal nutrition programs
- Federal tax credits
- State/Territory tax credits
- Housing allotments, Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) or energy assistance
- Medical expenses or health insurance related expenses
- Military housing or other allotment/bonuses
- Scholarships, education loans, grants, income from work study
- Social Security Income
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran's benefits
- Unemployment Insurance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Worker Compensation
- Other types of income not listed above:

- Tribal income,
- Travel Reimbursements,
- Temporary Census employment income,
- Americorps/VISTA allowances, wages and stipends,
- Income received for person not residing with the family, and
- Earned income of a dependent child.

None

c) Whose income will be excluded, if any, for purposes of eligibility determination? Check anyone the Lead Agency chooses to exclude, if any.

- Children under age 18
- Children age 18 and over - still attending school
- Teen parents living with parents
- Unrelated members of household
- All members of household except for parents/legal guardians
- Other.

Describe:

None

d) Provide the CCDF income eligibility limits in the table below. **Complete** columns (a) and (b) based upon maximum eligibility initial entry into the CCDF program. Complete Columns (c) and (d) **ONLY IF** the Lead Agency is using income eligibility limits lower than 85% of the SMI.

Reminder - Income limits must be provided in terms of State Median Income (SMI) (or Territory Median Income) even if federal poverty level is used in implementing the program. (§98.20(a)(2)). FY 2011 poverty guidelines are available at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/11poverty.shtml>.

Family Size	(a) 100% of State Median Income (SMI)(\$/month)	(b) 85% of State Median Income (SMI)(\$/month) [Multiply (a) by 0.85]	IF APPLICABLE Income Level if lower than 85% SMI	
			(c) \$/month	(d) % of SMI [Divide (c) by (a), multiply by 100]
1		0		
2	3,989	3,391	1,540	39
3	4,547	3,865	1,932	42
4	5,041	4,285	2,323	46
5	4,811	4,089	2,715	56

e) Will the Lead Agency have "tiered eligibility" (i.e., a separate income limit at re-determination to remain eligible for the CCDF program)?

Yes.

If yes, provide the requested information from the table in 2.3.5d and **describe below**:

Note: This information can be included in the table below.

No.

Family Size	(a) 100% of State Median Income (SMI) (\$/month)	(b) 85% of State Median Income (SMI) (\$/month)[Multiply (a) by 0.85]	IF APPLICABLE Income Level if lower than 85% SMI	
			(c) \$/month	(d) % of SMI[Divide (c) by (a), multiply by 100]

1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

f) SMI Year 2009 and SMI Source US
 Census <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/income/data/statemedian/index.html>

g) These eligibility limits in column (c) became or will become effective on:
 4/2/2008

2.3.6. Eligibility Re-determination

a) What is the re-determination period upon initial authorization of CCDF services for most families?

- 6 months
- 12 months
- 24 months
- Other.

Describe:

- Length of eligibility varies by county or other jurisdiction.

Describe:

b) Is the re-determination period the same for all CCDF eligible families?

- Yes.
- No. If no, **check the categories of families for whom authorizations are different and describe the redetermination period for each.**

- Families enrolled in Head Start and/or Early Head Start Programs.

Re-determination period:

- Families enrolled in pre-kindergarten programs.

Re-determination period:

- Families receiving TANF.

Re-determination period:

- Families who are very-low income, but not receiving TANF.

Re-determination period:

Other.

Describe:

c) Does the Lead Agency use a simplified process at re-determination?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

No.

2.3.7. Waiting Lists

Describe the Lead Agency's waiting list status. Select **ONE of these options.**

Lead Agency currently does not have a waiting list and:

All eligible families *who apply* will be served under State/Territory eligibility rules

Not all eligible families *who apply* will be served under State/Territory eligibility rules

Lead Agency has an active waiting list for:

Any eligible family who applies when they cannot be served at the time of application

Only certain eligible families.

Describe those families:

Waiting lists are a county/local decision.

Describe:

Other.

Describe:

2.3.8. Appeal Process for Eligibility Determinations

Describe the process for families to appeal eligibility determinations:

Appeals must be filed in writing with the appellant's name, address, phone number, and remedy requested. Appeals should be accompanied by a copy of the decision that is the subject of the appeal. Appeals must be filed within 28 days of the date the decision is mailed. An appellant will be notified of that hearing date at least 10 days in advance. The hearing is held, the hearing officer provides a decision. The appellant may appeal the decision by requesting an administrative review. The decision is rendered after the administrative review is final.

2.4. Sliding Fee Scale and Family Contribution

The statute and regulations require Lead Agencies to establish a sliding fee scale that varies based on income and the size of the family to be used in determining each family's contribution (i.e., co-payment) to the cost of child care (658E(c)(3)(B) §98.42).

2.4.1. Attach a copy of the sliding fee scale as Attachment 2.4.1.

The attached sliding fee scale was or will be effective as of: [May 2008](#)

2.4.2. Will the attached sliding fee scale provided as Attachment 2.4.1. be used in all parts of the State/Territory?

- Yes
 No.

If no, attach other sliding fee scales and their effective date(s) as **Attachment 2.4.2a, 2.4.2b**, etc.

2.4.3. What income source and year will be used in creating the sliding fee scale? (658E(c)(3)(B)) Check only one option.

- State Median Income,
Year:
 Federal Poverty Level,
Year:
 Income source and year varies by geographic region.
Describe income source and year:
 Other.

Describe income source and year: [Federal Poverty Rate - 135% of 2007 Federal poverty guidelines](#)

2.4.4. How will the family's contribution be calculated and to whom will it be applied? Check all that the Lead Agency has chosen to use. (§98.42(b))

- Fee as dollar amount and
 - Fee is per child with the same fee for each child
 - Fee is per child and discounted fee for two or more children
 - No additional fee charged after certain number of children
 - Fee per family
- Fee as percent of income and
 - Fee is per child with the same percentage applied for each child
 - Fee is per child and discounted percentage applied for two or more children
 - No additional percentage applied charged after certain number of children
 - Fee per family

Contribution schedule varies by geographic area.

Describe:

[There are seven regions in Idaho that have varying economic bases so the market rates are different.](#)

Other.

Describe:

[Family co-pay percentage is based on income and the fee charged per child. It is not necessarily the same fee for each child as that will change according to the age of the child and the type of care.](#)

If the Lead Agency checked more than one of the options above, describe:

[We have varying rates across the state and we use a co-pay process that is "other" than the two choices above.](#)

2.4.5. Will the Lead Agency use other factors in addition to income and family size to determine each family's contribution to the cost of child care? (658E(c)(3)(B), §98.42(b))

Yes,

and describe those additional factors:

No.

2.4.6. The Lead Agency may waive contributions from families whose incomes are at or below the poverty level for a family of the same size. (§98.42(c)). Select **ONE** of these options.

Reminder - Lead Agencies are reminded that the co-payments may be waived for only two circumstances - for families at or below the poverty level or on a case-by-case basis for children falling under the definition of "protective services" (as defined in 2.3.4.a).

ALL families, including those with incomes at or below the poverty level for families of the same size, ARE required to pay a fee.

NO families with income at or below the poverty level for a family of the same size ARE required to pay a fee.

The poverty level used by the Lead Agency for a family of 3 is:

SOME families with income at or below the poverty level for a family of the same size ARE NOT required to pay a fee. The Lead Agency waives the fee for the following families:

The Lead Agency waives the fee for the following families:

[Families participating in Idaho's TAFI program who are completing non-income producing required activities are not required to make a co-payment.](#)

2.5. Prioritizing Services for Eligible Children and Families

At a minimum, CCDF requires Lead Agencies to give priority for child care assistance to children with special needs, or in families with very low incomes. Prioritization of CCDF assistance services is not limited to eligibility determination (i.e., establishment of a waiting list or ranking of eligible families in priority order to be served). Lead Agencies may fulfill priority requirements in other ways such as higher payment rates for providers caring for children with special needs or waiving co-payments for families with very low incomes (at or below the federal poverty level). (658E(c)(3)(B), §98.44)

2.5.1. How will the Lead Agency prioritize child care services to children with special needs or in families with very low incomes? (658E(c)(3)(B), §98.44) Lead Agencies have the discretion to define *children with special needs* and *children in families with very low incomes*. Lead Agencies are not limited in defining *children with special needs* to only those children with physical or mental disabilities (e.g., with a formal Individual Education Plan (IEP) required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)). Lead Agencies could consider children in the child welfare system, children of teen parents, or homeless children as examples of *children with special needs*.

Children with special needs

Provide the Lead Agency definition of *Children with Special Needs*:

Means: Any child with physical, mental, emotional, behavioral disabilities, or developmental delays identified on and Individual Education Plan (IEP) or an individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

Describe:

Children in families with very low incomes

Provide the Lead Agency definition of *Children in Families with Very Low Incomes*:

Children in Families with Very Low Incomes are not prioritized. Families are eligible when their income is at or below 135% of 2007 federal poverty level.

Describe:

How will the Lead Agency prioritize CCDF services for:	Eligibility Priority (Check only one)	Is there a time limit on the eligibility priority or guarantee?	Other Priority Rules
Children with special needs	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority over other CCDF-eligible families <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same priority as other CCDF-eligible families <input type="checkbox"/> Guaranteed subsidy eligibility <input type="checkbox"/> Other.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. The time limit is: <input type="text"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Different eligibility thresholds. Describe: <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Higher rates for providers caring for children with special needs requiring additional care <input type="checkbox"/> Prioritizes quality funds for providers serving these children <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: <input type="text"/> Idaho serves all children. There is no priority.

<p>Children in families with very low incomes</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Priority over other CCDF-eligible families</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same priority as other CCDF-eligible families</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Guaranteed subsidy eligibility</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes.</p> <p>The time limit is: <input type="text"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Different eligibility thresholds.</p> <p>Describe: <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Waiving co-payments for families with incomes at or below the Federal Poverty Level</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other.</p> <p>Describe: <input type="text" value="Waiving co-payments for families participating in Idaho's TAFI program that are participating in non-income producing activities."/></p>
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2.5.2. How will CCDF funds be used to provide child care assistance to meet the needs of families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), those attempting to transition off TANF through work activities, and those at risk of becoming dependent on TANF? (658E(c)(2)(H), Section 418(b)(2) of the Social Security Act, §§98.50(e), 98.16(g)(4)) **Reminder** - CCDF requires that not less than 70 percent of CCDF Mandatory and Matching funds be used to provide child care assistance for families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), those attempting to transition off TANF through work activities, and those at risk of becoming dependent on TANF.

- Use priority rules to meet the needs of TANF families (describe in 2.5.1 or 2.5.3.)
 - Waive fees (co-payments) for some or all TANF families who are below poverty level
 - Coordinate with other entities (i.e. TANF office, other State/Territory agencies, and contractors)
 - Other.
- Describe:

Fees or co-pays are waived for all Temporary Assistance for Families in Idaho(TAFI) with no income who are participating in required activities.

2.5.3. List and define any other eligibility conditions, priority rules and definitions that will be established by the Lead Agency. (658E(c)(3)(B), §98.16(g)(5), §98.20(b))
 Reminder - Lead Agencies are reminded that any eligibility criteria and terms provided below must comply with the eligibility requirements of §98.20 and provided in section 2.2. Any priority rules provided must comply with the priority requirements of §98.44 and provided in section 2.4.1.

Term(s) - Definition(s)

Describe:

n/a

2.6. Parental Choice In Relation to Certificates, Grants or Contracts

The parent(s) of each eligible child who receives or is offered financial assistance for child care services has the option of either enrolling such child with a provider that has a grant or contract for the provision of service or receiving a child care certificate. (658E(c)(2)(A), §98.15(a))

2.6.1. Child Care Certificates

a) When is the child care certificate (also referred to as voucher or authorization) issued to parents? (658E(c)(2)(A)(iii), 658P(2), §98.2, §98.30(c)(4) & (e)(1) & (2))

- Before parent has selected a provider
- After parent has selected a provider
- Other.

Describe:

Idaho provides a notice of eligibility to the parent which serves as a certificate

b) How does the Lead Agency inform parents that the child care certificate permits them to choose from a variety of child care categories, including child care centers, child care group homes, family child care homes, and in-home providers? (§98.30(e)(2))

- Certificate form provides information about choice of providers
- Certificate is not linked to a specific provider so parents can choose provider of choice
- Consumer education materials (flyers, forms, brochures)
- Referral to child care resource and referral agencies
- Verbal communication at the time of application
- Public Services Announcement
- Agency

Website:

- Community outreach meetings, workshops, other in person activities
- Multiple points of communication throughout the eligibility and renew process
- Other.

Describe:

c) What information is included on the child care certificate? **Attach a copy of the child care certificate as Attachment 2.6.1.** (658E(c)(2)(A)(iii))

- Authorized provider(s)
- Authorized payment rate(s)
- Authorized hours
- Co-payment amount
- Authorization period
- Other.

Describe:

.

d) What is the estimated proportion of services that will be available for child care services through certificates?

100%

2.6.2. Child Care Services Available through Grants or Contracts

a) In addition to offering certificates, does the Lead Agency provide child care services through grants or contracts for child care slots? (658A(b)(1), 658P(4), §§98.16(g)(1), 98.30(a)(1) & (b)). **Note:** Do not check "yes" if every provider is simply required to sign an agreement in order to be paid in the certificate program.

Yes.

If yes, **describe** the type(s) of child care services available through grants or contracts, the process for accessing grants or contracts, and the range of providers that will be available through grants or contracts:

No.

b) Will the Lead Agency use grants or contracts for child care services to achieve any of the following? Check the strategies, if any, that your State/Territory chooses to implement.

- Increase the supply of specific types of care
- Programs to serve children with special needs
- Wrap-around or integrated child care in Head Start, Early Head Start, pre-k, summer or other programs
- Programs to serve infant/toddler
- School-age programs
- Center-based providers
- Family child care providers
- Group-home providers
- Programs that serve specific geographic areas
- Urban
- Rural
- Other.

Describe:

- Support programs in providing higher quality services
- Support programs in providing comprehensive services
- Serve underserved families.

Specify:

- Other.

Describe:

c) Are child care services provided through grants or contracts offered throughout the State/Territory? (658E(a), §98.16(g)(3))

Yes.

No,

and **identify** the localities (political subdivisions) and services that are not offered:

[We do not provide grants and contracts at all.](#)

d) How are payment rates for child care services provided through grants/contracts determined?

e) What is the estimated proportion of direct services that will be available for child care services through grants/contracts?

2.6.3. How will the Lead Agency inform parents and providers of policies and procedures for affording parents unlimited access to their children whenever their children are in the care of a provider who receives CCDF funds? (658E(c)(2)(B), §98.31)) Check the strategies that will be implemented by your State/Territory.

- Signed declaration
- Parent Application
- Parent Orientation
- Provider Agreement
- Provider Orientation
- Other.

Describe:

Case workers conduct an “Informed Choice” discussion with every applicant for benefit assistance. That discussion includes information on all programs that might be of assistance to the applicant and includes information on how the Idaho Child Care Program works.

2.6.4. The Lead Agency must allow for in-home care (i.e., care provided in the child's own home) but may limit its use. (§§98.16(g)(2), 98.30(e)(1)(iv)) Will the Lead Agency limit the use of in-home care in any way?

- No
- Yes. If checked, what limits will the Lead Agency set on the use of in-home care?
Check all limits the Lead Agency will establish.
- Restricted based on minimum number of children in the care of the provider to meet minimum wage law or Fair Labor Standards Act
- Restricted based on provider meeting a minimum age requirement
- Restricted based on hours of care (certain number of hours, non-traditional work hours)
- Restricted to care by relatives
- Restricted to care for children with special needs or medical condition
- Restricted to in-home providers that meet some basic health and safety requirements
- Other.

Describe:

Restricted to families where out-of-home child care services are not available.

2.6.5. Describe how the Lead Agency maintains a record of substantiated parental complaints about providers and makes substantiated parental complaints available to the public on request. (658E(c)(2)(C), §98.32)

The public reports any child care complaints by calling 2-1-1 IdahoCareline. The Careline staff take the complaint and through an automated tracking system refer the complaint to the appropriate responder.

- If it is a licensing complaint that is located in a city with licensing ordinances, the complaint is referred to that city contact. If it is a state licensing complaint it is referred to state licensing contact.
- If it is a health and safety issue, it is referred to the appropriate Health District.
- If it is a business practice issue, it is referred to IdahoSTARS,
- If it involves endangerment of a child, the police are contacted immediately.

The entity that received the complaint referral logs the result of their follow-up on the complaint in the automated system. The system tracks complaints, follow-up, and resolution. Complaint information is provided upon request when a public records request is made.

2.7. Payment Rates for Child Care Services

The statute at 658E(c)(4) and the regulations at §98.43(b)(1) require the Lead Agency to establish adequate payment rates for child care services that ensure eligible children equal access to comparable care.

2.7.1. Provide a copy of your payment rates as Attachment 2.7.1.

The attached payment rates were or will be effective as of: [January 1, 2001](#)

2.7.2. Are the attached payment rates provided in Attachment 2.7.1 used in all parts of the State/Territory?

- Yes.
- No. If no, attach other payment rates and their effective date(s) as **Attachment 2.7.2a, 2.7.2b**, etc.

2.7.3. Which strategies, if any, will the Lead Agency use to ensure the timeliness of payments?

- Policy on length of time for making payments.

Describe length of time:

Track and monitor the payment process

Other.

Describe:

None

2.7.4. Market Rate Survey

Lead Agencies must complete a local Market Rate Survey (MRS) no earlier than two years prior to the effective date of the Plan (no earlier than October 1, 2009). The MRS must be completed prior to the submission of the CCDF Plan (see Program Instruction CCDF-ACF-PI-2009-02

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/law/guidance/current/pi2009-02/pi2009-02.htm> for more information on the MRS deadline).

a) Provide the month and year when the local Market Rate Survey(s) was completed (§98.43(b)(2)): [04/2011](#)

b) Attach a copy of the **MRS instrument** and a **summary of the results** of the survey as **Attachment 2.7.4**. For Lead Agencies that use an administrative provider database, provide a copy of the intake form as the instrument. The summary should include a description of the sample population, data source, the type of methodology used, response rate, description of analyses, and key findings.

2.7.5. Will the Lead Agency use the local Market Rate Survey identified in 2.7.4a (i.e., the most recent MRS) to set its payment rates?

Yes

No.

If no, list the MRS year that the payment rate ceiling is based upon: [2001](#)

2.7.6. At what percentile of the most recent local MRS are or will payment rates be set? Provide the percentile for your payment rate ceiling in relation to the most recent survey and describe:

Note: Identify the percentile where payment rates fall according to the most recent local MRS (identified in 2.7.4a) regardless of whether or not you use the most recent survey to set rates. If the percentile(s) varies across categories of care (e.g., different for centers and family child care homes), regions or ages of children, provide the range of the highest and lowest percentile in relation to the most recent survey.

Idaho's market rates are set using three elements; region, age of child, and type of care. The lowest percentile for payment rate is 28%, the highest is 81%.

Percentile of Current Market Rates Based on 2011 Survey

Percentile	Child Care Center					Group Home Care					Family Day Care			
	13-30	31-60	61-72	73+		0-12	13-30	31-60	61-72	73+	0-12	13-30	31-60	61-72
25th	66%	75%	67%	58%	81%	56%	72%	54%	64%	66%	60%	56%	55%	61%
75th	43%	41%	40%	31%		33%	34%	39%	40%	35%	28%	29%	37%	28%

2.7.7. Will the Lead Agency provide any type of tiered reimbursement or differential rates on top of its base reimbursement rates for providing care for children receiving CCDF subsidies? Check which types of tiered reimbursement, if any, the Lead Agency has chosen to implement.

Differential rate for nontraditional hours.
Describe:

Differential rate for children with special needs as defined by the State/Territory.
Describe:

Differential rate for infants and toddlers.
Describe:

Differential rate for school-age programs.
Describe:

Differential rate for higher quality as defined by the State/Territory.
Describe:

Other differential rate.

Describe:

None.

2.7.8. Will the Lead Agency allow providers to charge parents any additional fees?

Check the policies, if any, the Lead Agency has chosen to establish regarding additional fees.

Providers are allowed to charge the difference between the maximum reimbursement rate and their private pay rate

Providers are allowed to charge registration fees

Providers are allowed to charge for transportation fees

Providers are allowed to charge for meals.

Providers are allowed to charge additional incidental fees such as field trips or supplies

Policies vary across region, counties and or geographic areas.

Describe:

No, providers may not charge parents any additional fees

Other.

Describe:

None

2.7.9. Describe how payment rates are adequate to ensure equal access to the full range of providers based on the Market Rate Survey.

CCDF regulations require the Lead Agency to certify that the payment rates for the provision of child care services are sufficient to ensure equal access for eligible families to child care services comparable to those provided to families not eligible to receive CCDF assistance. To demonstrate equal access, the Lead Agency shall provide at a minimum a summary of facts describing: (§98.43(a))

a) How a choice of the full range of providers, e.g., child care centers, family child care homes, group child care homes and in-home care, is made available (§98.43(a)(1)):

There are 659 city licensed providers, 720 State licensed providers, and 461 exempt providers in the state providing child care. Of these, there are 261 unlicensed family providers, 200 relative providers, 281 licensed family providers, 494 group providers, and 609 Centers in the state.

82 % of these providers are ICCP eligible providers

b) How payment rates are adequate based on the most recent local MRS (§98.43(a)(2)):

In general, Idaho is not concerned about access to child care as we currently have 1845 providers enrolled in our referral system and 1609 of those providers are enrolled in the Idaho Child Care Program which is the CCDF subsidy program in Idaho. Idaho ensures that parents have equal access to a full range of child care providers represented in the number of known providers and the number enrolled in the system.

c) How family co-payments based on a sliding fee scale are affordable (§98.43(a)(3)):

Co-payments are calculated on the amount paid to the provider which is based on Idaho's market rates. In addition, the co-payment scale increases gradually so that when a family receives a small increase in income its co-pay increases accordingly, but not dramatically.

d) Any additional facts the Lead Agency considered to determine that its payment rates ensure equal access:

In general, Idaho is not concerned about access to child care as we currently have 1845 providers enrolled in our referral system and 1609 of those providers are enrolled in the Idaho Child Care Program which is the CCDF subsidy program in Idaho. Idaho ensures that parents have equal access to a full range of child care providers represented in the number of known providers and the number enrolled in the system.

2.7.10 Goals for the next Biennium -

In this section, Lead Agencies are asked to identify at least one goal for the upcoming biennium. Lead Agencies are encouraged to include measurable and achievable goals. Lead Agencies may include existing goals (e.g., already identified in a State strategic plan or established by the Governor for a Lead Agency). ACF will target technical assistance efforts to help Lead Agencies achieve their goal(s). What are the Lead Agency's goals for the administration of the CCDF subsidy program in the coming Biennium? For example, what progress does the State/Territory expect to make on continuing improved services to parents and providers, continuity of care for children, improving outreach to parents and providers, building or expanding information technology systems, or revising rate setting policies or practices):

During 2011-2012, Idaho will be conducting the planning funded by a Ford Foundation grant to -

- Streamline the CCDF application process,
- Improve retention,
- Explore the use of web based application and information sites,
- Identify steps needed to add child care eligibility determination to the new eligibility system (IBES), and
- Include new data elements that provide more information on low income children in child care.

By 2013, elements of the streamlined process will be identified, budgets, and strategies for implementing will be developed.

PART 3

Health and Safety and Quality Improvement Activities

3.1. Activities to Ensure the Health and Safety of Children in Child Care (Component #1)

This section is intended to collect information on how Lead Agencies meet the statutory and regulatory provisions related to licensing and health and safety requirements. The CCDBG statute and the CCDF regulations address health and safety primarily in two ways.

First, Lead Agencies shall certify that they have in effect licensing requirements applicable to child care services provided within the area served by the Lead Agency (§98.40(a)(1)). These licensing requirements need not be applied to specific types of providers of child care services (658(E)(c)(2)(E)(i)). Lead Agencies must describe those licensing requirements and how they are effectively enforced. Second, Each Lead Agency shall certify that there are in effect, within the State or local law, requirements designed to protect the health and safety of children that are applicable to child care providers of services for which assistance is provided under CCDF.

The relationship between licensing requirements and health and safety requirements varies by State/Territory depending on how comprehensive the licensing system is. In some States and Territories, licensing may apply to the majority of CCDF-eligible providers and the licensing standards cover the three CCDF health and safety requirements so the State/Territory has few, if any, providers for whom they need to establish additional CCDF health and safety requirements. In other cases, States and Territories have elected to exempt large numbers of providers from licensing which means that those exempted providers who care for children receiving assistance from CCDF will have to meet to the CCDF health and safety requirements through an alternative process outside of licensing. The State/Territory may also elect to impose more stringent standards and licensing or regulatory requirements on child care providers of services for which assistance is provided under the CCDF than the standards or requirements imposed on other child care providers. (§98.40(b)(1)) Section 3.1 asks the State/Territory to identify and describe the components of both the licensing and CCDF health and safety requirements, indicate which providers are subject to the requirements, and describe compliance and enforcement activities. (658E(c)(2)(F), §98.41)

3.1.1. Compliance with Applicable State/Territory and Local Regulatory Requirements on Licensing

Lead Agencies shall certify that they have in effect licensing requirements applicable to

child care services provided within the area served by the Lead Agency (§98.40(a)(1)). These licensing requirements need not be applied to specific types of providers of child care services (658(E)(c)(2)(E)(i). Lead Agencies must describe those licensing requirements and how they are effectively enforced.

Definition: Licensing requirements are defined as regulatory requirements, including registration or certification requirements established under State, local, or tribal law, necessary for a provider to legally operate and provide child care services in a State or locality (§98.2). This does not include registration or certification requirements solely for child care providers to be eligible to participate in the CCDF program. Those requirements will be addressed in 3.1.2.

a) Is the Lead Agency responsible for child care licensing? (§98.11(a))

Yes.

No.

Please identify the State or local (if applicable) entity/agency responsible for licensing:

The lead agency is the Department of Health and Welfare. The Department of Health and Welfare is made up of seven Divisions. The Division that manages the CCDF program and in which the Child Care Administrator resides is the Division of Welfare. The Division of Family and Community Services (FACS) is the Division that is responsible for licensing. Each Division is led by a Division Administrator. The Division Administrators of Welfare and FACS report to the same Deputy Director.

b) **Provide a brief overview** of the relationship between the licensing requirements and CCDF health and safety requirements in your State/Territory. At a minimum, describe whether the State/Territory's licensing requirements serve as the CCDF health and safety requirements.

Idaho's licensing requirements are less stringent than the requirements to be eligible to receive Idaho Child Care Program (ICCP) subsidy payments. Only Center and Group providers are required to be licensed and they only need to be licensed every two years. ICCP eligibility requires annual health and safety inspections for all providers who wish to participate in the subsidy program.

c) CCDF identifies and defines four categories of care: child care centers, family child care homes, group child care homes and in-home child care providers (§98.2). The CCDF definition for each category is listed below. Within each CCDF category of care, please identify which types of providers are exempt from licensing in your State/Territory in the chart below.

CCDF Category of Care	CCDF Definition (§98.2)	Are any providers in your State/Territory which fall under this CCDF category exempt from licensing?
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<p>Center-Based Child Care</p>	<p>Center-based child care providers are defined as a provider licensed or otherwise authorized to provide child care services for fewer than 24 hours per day per child in a non-residential setting, unless care in excess of 24 hours is due to the nature of the parent(s)' work.</p>	<p>Describe which types of center-based settings are exempt from licensing in your State/Territory.</p> <p>For example, some jurisdictions exempt school-based centers, centers operated by religious organizations, summer camps, or Head Start programs</p> <p>Facilities that are -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensed by a city or county, Occasional or irregular care of a neighbor's, relative's, friend's child, A private or religious school for educational purposes for children over 4 years, Provision of occasional care exclusively for children of parents who are simultaneously in the same building, Operation for day camps for less than twelve weeks during a year, Provision of care for children of a family within the second degree of relationship.
<p>Group Home Child Care</p> <p>N/A. Check if your State/Territory does not have group home child care.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Group home child care provider is defined as two or more individuals who provide child care services for fewer than 24 hours per day per child, in a private residence other than the child's residence, unless care in excess of 24 hours is due to the nature of the parent(s)' work.</p>	<p>Describe which types of group homes are exempt from licensing:</p> <p>Group Homes that are -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensed by a city or county, Occasional or irregular care of a neighbor's, relative's, friend's child, A private or religious school for educational purposes for children over 4 years, Provision of occasional care exclusively for children of parents who are simultaneously in the same building, Operation for day camps for less than twelve weeks during a year, Provision of care for children of a family within the second degree of relationship.

Family Child Care	Family child care provider is defined as one individual who provides child care services for fewer than 24 hours per day per child, as the sole caregiver, in a private residence other than the child's residence, unless care in excess of 24 hours is due to the nature of the parent(s)'s work. Reminder - Do not check if family child care home providers simply must register or be certified to participate in the CCDF program separate from the State/Territory regulatory requirements.	Describe which types of family child care home providers are exempt from licensing: <i>All family child care providers are exempt from licensing.</i>
In-Home Care	In-home child care provider is defined as an individual who provides child care services in the child's own home. Reminder - Do not respond if in-home child care providers simply must register or be certified to participate in the CCDF program separate from the State/Territory regulatory requirements.	Describe which types of in-home child care providers are exempt from licensing: <i>All in-home child care providers are exempt from licensing.</i>

Note: In lieu of submitting or attaching licensing regulations to certify the requirements of §98.40(a)(1), Lead Agencies may provide their licensing regulations to the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education. Please check the NRCKid's website at <http://nrckids.org/> to verify the accuracy of your licensing regulations and provide any updates to the National Resource Center. **Check this box to indicate that the licensing requirements were submitted and verified at NRCKid's:**

d) **Indicate** whether your State/Territory licensing requirements include any of the following four indicators for each category of care*.

*Source: National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education. (2003) Stepping Stones to Using Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards, 2nd Ed. Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau. Available online: <http://nrckids.org/stepping>

Indicator	Center-Based Child Care	Group Home Child Care	Family Child Care	In-Home Care
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Do the licensing requirements include **child:staff ratios and group sizes**? If yes, specify age group, where appropriate:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child:staff ratio requirement:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child:staff ratio requirement:	<input type="checkbox"/> Child:staff ratio requirement:	<input type="checkbox"/> Child:staff ratio requirement:
<p>Child:Staff ratio is based on a point system Daycare Child-Staff Ratio Point System. The maximum allowable points for each staff member is twelve (12), using the following point system which is based on the age of each child in attendance: a. Under the age of twenty-four (24) months, each child equals two (2) points. b. From the age of twenty-four (24) months to under the age of thirty-six (36) months, each child equals one and one-half (1 1/2) points. c. From the age of thirty-six (36) months to under the age of five (5) years, each child equals one (1) point. d. From the age of five (5) years to under the age of thirteen (13) years, each child equals one-half (1/2) point. m.</p>	<p>Child:Staff ratio is based on a point system Daycare Child-Staff Ratio Point System. The maximum allowable points for each staff member is twelve (12), using the following point system which is based on the age of each child in attendance: a. Under the age of twenty-four (24) months, each child equals two (2) points. b. From the age of twenty-four (24) months to under the age of thirty-six (36) months, each child equals one and one-half (1 1/2) points. c. From the age of thirty-six (36) months to under the age of five (5) years, each child equals one (1) point. d. From the age of five (5) years to under the age of thirteen (13) years, each child equals one-half (1/2) point. m.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Group size requirement: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No requirements.	<input type="checkbox"/> Group size requirement: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No requirements.

	<input type="checkbox"/> Group size requirement:	<input type="checkbox"/> Group size requirement:		
	<input type="checkbox"/> No requirements.	<input type="checkbox"/> No requirements.		
Do the licensing requirements identify specific experience and educational credentials for child care directors?	<input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED	<input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED	<input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED	<input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED
	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Development Associate (CDA)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> State/ Territory Credential			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree
	<input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No credential required for licensing			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

<p>Do the licensing requirements identify specific experience and educational credentials for child care teachers?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED <input type="checkbox"/> Child Development Associate (CDA) <input type="checkbox"/> State/ Territory Credential <input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No credential required for licensing <input type="checkbox"/> Other: 	<input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED <input type="checkbox"/> Child Development Associate (CDA) <input type="checkbox"/> State/ Territory Credential <input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No credential required for licensing <input type="checkbox"/> Other: 	<input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED <input type="checkbox"/> Child Development Associate (CDA) <input type="checkbox"/> State/ Territory Credential <input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No credential required for licensing <input type="checkbox"/> Other: 	<input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED <input type="checkbox"/> Child Development Associate (CDA) <input type="checkbox"/> State/ Territory Credential <input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No credential required for licensing <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<p>Do the licensing requirements specify that directors and caregivers must attain a specific number of training hours per year?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> At least 30 training hours required in first year <input type="checkbox"/> At least 24 training hours per year after first year <input type="checkbox"/> No training requirement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: 4 hours every 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/> At least 30 training hours required in first year <input type="checkbox"/> At least 24 training hours per year after first year <input type="checkbox"/> No training requirement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: 4 hours every 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/> At least 30 training hours required in first year <input type="checkbox"/> At least 24 training hours per year after first year <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No training requirement <input type="checkbox"/> Other: 	<input type="checkbox"/> At least 30 training hours required in first year <input type="checkbox"/> At least 24 training hours per year after first year <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No training requirement <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

e) Do you expect the licensing requirements for child care providers to change in FY2012-2013?

Yes.

Describe:

We are currently operating under temporary rules based on statute that passed in 2008. We are expecting a revised statute to pass in 2011 which may require changes to rules in 2012. These rules will apply to Centers, Group, and Family child care providers.

No.

3.1.2. Compliance with Applicable State/Territory and Local Regulatory Requirements on Health and Safety

Each Lead Agency shall certify that there are in effect, within the State or local law, requirements designed to protect the health and safety of children that are applicable to child care providers of services for which assistance is provided under CCDF. Such requirements shall include the prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunization), building and physical premises safety, and minimum health and safety training appropriate to the provider setting. These health and safety requirements apply to all providers caring for children receiving CCDF services and which also may be covered by the licensing requirements. (658E(c)(2)(F), §98.41)

a) **Describe** the Lead Agency's health and safety requirements for prevention and control of infectious disease in effect for child care providers of services for which assistance is provided under CCDF using the table below. (658E(c)(2)(F)(i), §98.41(a)(1))

For each health and safety requirement checked, identify which providers under the CCDF category must meet the requirement. Check all that apply.				
The Lead Agency requires:	Center-based child care providers	Family child care home providers	Group home child care providers	In-home child care providers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical exam or health statement for providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical exam or health statement for children				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuberculosis check for providers				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuberculosis check for children				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provider immunizations				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Child immunizations				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hand-washing policy for providers and children				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Diapering policy and procedures				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Providers to submit a self-certification or complete health and safety checklist				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providers to meet the requirements of another oversight entity that fulfill the CCDF health and safety requirements				

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Other.				
Describe:				

b) **Describe** the Lead Agency's health and safety requirements for building and physical premises safety, including policies and practices to protect from environmental hazards, in effect for child care providers of services for which assistance is provided under CCDF using the table below. (658E(c)(2)(F)(ii), §98.41(a)(2))

The Lead Agency requires:	Center-based child care providers	Family child care home providers	Group home child care providers	In-home child care providers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire inspection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Building inspection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health inspection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inaccessibility of toxic substances policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Safe sleep policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tobacco exposure reduction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Providers to submit a self-certification or complete health and safety checklist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providers to meet the requirements of another oversight entity that fulfill the CCDF health and safety requirements				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other.				
Describe:				

c) **Describe** the Lead Agency's health and safety requirements for health and safety training in effect for child care providers of services for which assistance is provided under CCDF using the table below. (658E(c)(2)(F)(iii), §98.41(a)(3))

CCDF Categories of Care	Health and safety training requirements	Pre-Service	On-Going
Child Care Centers	CPR (Child Care Centers)	yes	yes
	First Aid (Child Care Centers)	yes	yes
	Training on infectious diseases (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	SIDS prevention (i.e., safe sleep) (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Medication administration (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Mandatory reporting of suspected abuse or neglect (Child Care Centers)	yes	yes
	Child development (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Supervision of children (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Behavior management (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Nutrition (Child Care Centers)	none	none

	Breastfeeding (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Physical activity (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Working with children with special needs or disabilities (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Emergency preparedness and response (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Other. (Child Care Centers)	none	none
	Describe: none		
Group Home Child Care	CPR (Group Home Child Care)	yes	yes
	First Aid (Group Home Child Care)	yes	yes
	Training on infectious diseases (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	SIDS prevention (i.e., safe sleep) (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Medication administration (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Mandatory reporting of suspected abuse or neglect (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Child development (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Supervision of children (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Behavior management (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Nutrition (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Breastfeeding (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Physical activity (Group Home Child Care)	none	none

	Working with children with special needs or disabilities (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Emergency preparedness and response (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Other. (Group Home Child Care)	none	none
	Describe: none		
Family Child Care Providers	CPR (Family Child Care Providers)	yes	yes
	First Aid (Family Child Care Providers)	yes	yes
	Training on infectious diseases (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	SIDS prevention (i.e., safe sleep) (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Medication administration (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Mandatory reporting of suspected abuse or neglect (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Child development (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Supervision of children (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Behavior management (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Nutrition (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Breastfeeding (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Physical activity (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Working with children with special needs or disabilities (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none

	Emergency preparedness and response (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Other. (Family Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Describe: none		
In-Home Child Care Providers	CPR (In-Home Child Care Providers)	yes	yes
	First Aid (In-Home Child Care Providers)	yes	yes
	Training on infectious diseases (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	SIDS prevention (i.e., safe sleep) (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Medication administration (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Mandatory reporting of suspected abuse or neglect (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Child development (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Supervision of children (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Behavior management (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Nutrition (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Breastfeeding (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Physical activity (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Working with children with special needs or disabilities (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Emergency preparedness and response (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none

	Other. (In-Home Child Care Providers)	none	none
	Describe: none		

d) CCDF allows Lead Agencies to exempt relative providers (grandparents, great-grandparents, siblings if living in a separate residence, aunts, and uncles) from these health and safety requirements. What are the Lead Agency's requirements for relative providers? (§98.41(A)(ii)(A))

- All relative providers are subject to the same health and safety requirements as described in 3.1.2a-c, as appropriate; there are no exceptions for relatives.
- Relative providers are NOT required to meet any health and safety requirements as described in 3.1.2a-c, as appropriate.
- Relative providers are subject to certain requirements.

Describe the different requirements:

e) Provide a web address for the State/Territory's health and safety requirements, if available:

<http://www.idahocareline.org/daycare/daycarelicensing.html>

3.1.3 Enforcement of Licensing Requirements

Each Lead Agency is required to provide a detailed description of the State/Territory's licensing requirements and how its licensing requirements are effectively enforced. (658E(c)(2)(E), §98.40(a)(2)) The Lead Agency is also required to certify that that procedures are in effect to ensure that child care providers caring for children receiving CCDF services comply with the applicable health and safety requirements. (658E(c)(2)(G), §98.41(d))

Describe the State/Territory's policies for effective enforcement of the licensing requirements using questions 3.1.3a through 3.1.3e below. This description includes whether and how the State/Territory uses visits (announced and unannounced), background checks, and any other enforcement policies and practices for the licensing requirements.

a) Does your State/Territory include **announced** and/or **unannounced** visits in its policies as a way to effectively enforce the licensing requirements?

Yes. If "Yes" please refer to the chart below and check all that apply.

No.

CCDF Categories of Care	Frequency of Routine Announced Visits	Frequency of Routine Unannounced Visits
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Center-Based Child Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Once a Year <input type="checkbox"/> More than Once a Year <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Once Every Two Years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: When there is a complaint, that complaint will trigger a visit to determine the validity of the complaint.	<input type="checkbox"/> Once a Year <input type="checkbox"/> More than Once a Year <input type="checkbox"/> Once Every Two Years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: As a follow-up to failure to pass the health and safety inspection or as a result of a valid complaint. An unannounced visit may be made to verify the provider has corrected the problem.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Home Child Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Once a Year <input type="checkbox"/> More than Once a Year <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Once Every Two Years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: When there is a complaint that will trigger a visit to determine the validity of the complaint.	<input type="checkbox"/> Once a Year <input type="checkbox"/> More than Once a Year <input type="checkbox"/> Once Every Two Years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: As a follow-up to failure to pass the health and safety inspection or as a result of a valid complaint. An unannounced visit may be made to verify the provider has corrected the problem.

<input type="checkbox"/> Family Child Care Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Once a Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Once a Year
	<input type="checkbox"/> More than Once a Year	<input type="checkbox"/> More than Once a Year
	<input type="checkbox"/> Once Every Two Years	<input type="checkbox"/> Once Every Two Years
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other.	<input type="checkbox"/> Other.
	Describe:	Describe:
<input type="checkbox"/> In-Home Child Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Once a Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Once a Year
	<input type="checkbox"/> More than Once a Year	<input type="checkbox"/> More than Once a Year
	<input type="checkbox"/> Once Every Two Years	<input type="checkbox"/> Once Every Two Years
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other.	<input type="checkbox"/> Other.
	Describe:	Describe:

b) Does your State/Territory have any of the following procedures in place for effective enforcement of the licensing requirements? If procedures differ based on the category of care, please indicate how in the "Describe" box.

Yes. If "Yes" please refer to the chart below and check all that apply.

No.

Licensing Procedures	Describe which procedures are used by the State/Territory for enforcement of the licensing requirements.
-----------------------------	---

The State/Territory requires providers to attend or participate in training relating to opening a child care facility prior to issuing a license.

Yes.

Describe:

No.

Other.

Describe:

Licensing staff has procedures in place to address violations found in an inspection.

Providers are required to submit plans to correct violations cited during inspections.

Licensing staff approve the plans of correction submitted by providers.

Licensing staff verify correction of violation.

Licensing staff provide technical assistance regarding how to comply with a regulation.

No procedures in place.

Other.

Describe:

Health District Staff verify correction and licensing staff provide Technical Assistance.

Licensing staff has procedures in place to issue a negative sanction to a noncompliant facility.



Provisional or probationary license



License revocation or non-renewal



Injunctions through court



Emergency or immediate closure not through court action



Fines for regulatory violations



No procedures in place.



Other.

Describe:

The State/Territory has procedures in place to respond to illegally operating child care facilities.



Cease and desist action



Injunction



Emergency or immediate closure not through court action



Fines



No procedures in place.



Other.

Describe:

The State/Territory has procedures in place for providers to appeal licensing enforcement actions.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes.
	Describe: Providers may appeal Department decisions to deny or revoke their license and are given contact information as part of the notice of decision. Clients must submit their request to appeal the decision within 15 days of the date the notice is received and the request must be hand delivered or sent via registered/certified mail. Each notice has information on how to appeal.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other.
	Describe:

c) Describe what types of licensing violations, if any, would make a provider ineligible to participate in CCDF:

If they are required to have a license and they do not have one, they would be ineligible to participate in CCDF.

d) Does your State/Territory use **background checks** as a way to effectively enforce the licensing requirements?

Yes.

If "Yes" please use refer to the chart below to identify who is required to have background checks, what types of checks, and with what frequency. Please **also provide a brief overview** of the State/Territory's process for conducting background checks for child care. For example, describe what types of violations would make providers ineligible for CCDF, funding for background checks, and the process for providers to appeal background check findings.

The process for providers to appeal background check findings is the same process for all appeals to the department.

No.

CCDF Categories of Care	Types of Background Check	Frequency
-------------------------	---------------------------	-----------

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Center-Based Child Care Who is subject to background checks for center-based care? For example, director, teaching staff, non-teaching staff, volunteers: All adults who are regularly on the premises	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Abuse Registry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Entrance into the System <input type="checkbox"/> Checks Conducted Annually <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: When they renew their license, every two years.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Territory Criminal Background	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Entrance into the System <input type="checkbox"/> Checks Conducted Annually <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: When they renew their license, every two years.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI Criminal Background (e.g., fingerprint)	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Entrance into the System <input type="checkbox"/> Checks Conducted Annually <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: When they renew their license, every two years.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sex Offender Registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Entrance into the System <input type="checkbox"/> Checks Conducted Annually <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: When they renew their license, every two years.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Child Care Homes Who is subject to background checks for group homes? For example, provider, non-provider residents of the home: All who are regularly on the premises.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Abuse Registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Entrance into the System
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Territory Criminal Background	<input type="checkbox"/> Checks Conducted Annually
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI Criminal Background (e.g., fingerprint)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: When they renew their license, every two years.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sex Offender Registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Entrance into the System
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Abuse Registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Checks Conducted Annually
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Territory Criminal Background	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: When they renew their license, every two years.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI Criminal Background (e.g., fingerprint)	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Entrance into the System
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sex Offender Registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Checks Conducted Annually
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: When they renew their license, every two years.

Family Child Care Homes

Who is subject to background checks for family child care homes? For example, provider, non-provider residents of the home:
Family Child Care Home Providers may obtain a child care license on a voluntary basis. When they do, they must abide by the requirements that apply to both Centers and Group Homes.

Child Abuse Registry

State/Territory Criminal Background

FBI Criminal Background (e.g., fingerprint)

Sex Offender Registry

Initial Entrance into the System

Checks Conducted Annually

Other.

Describe:
Family Child Care Home Providers may obtain a child care license on a voluntary basis. When they do, they must abide by the requirements that apply to both Centers and Group Homes.

Initial Entrance into the System

Checks Conducted Annually

Other.

Describe:
Family Child Care Home Providers may obtain a child care license on a voluntary basis. When they do, they must abide by the requirements that apply to both Centers and Group Homes.

Initial Entrance into the System

Checks Conducted Annually

Other.

Describe:

Family Child Care Home
Providers may obtain a child care license on a voluntary basis. When they do, they must abide by the requirements that apply to both Centers and Group Homes.

Initial Entrance into the System

Checks Conducted Annually

Other.

Describe:

Family Child Care Home
Providers may obtain a child care license on a voluntary basis. When they do, they must abide by the requirements that apply to both Centers and Group Homes.

<input type="checkbox"/> <p>In-Home Child Care Providers</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Child Abuse Registry</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Initial Entrance into the System</p>
<p>Who is subject to background checks for in-home child care? For example, provider, non-provider residents of the home:</p>		<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Checks Conducted Annually</p>
<p>provider but For ICCP only not licensing</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>State/Territory Criminal Background</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Other.</p>
		<p>Describe:</p> <p>To be an eligible CCDF provider, they must have a background check renewed every three years.</p>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>FBI Criminal Background (e.g., fingerprint)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Initial Entrance into the System</p>
		<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Checks Conducted Annually</p>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Sex Offender Registry</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Other.</p>
		<p>Describe:</p> <p>To be an eligible CCDF provider they must have a background check renewed every three years.</p>
		<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Initial Entrance into the System</p>
		<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Checks Conducted Annually</p>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Other.</p>
		<p>Describe:</p> <p>To be an eligible CCDF provider they must have a background check renewed every three years.</p>
		<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Initial Entrance into the System</p>
		<input type="checkbox"/> <p>Checks Conducted Annually</p>

		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: To be an eligible CCDF provider they must have a background check renewed every three years.
--	--	--

e) If not performing visits (announced or unannounced) or background checks, describe how the State/Territory will ensure that its licensing requirements are effectively enforced per the CCDF regulations? (658E(c)(2)(E), §98.40(a)(2)):

In order to be a CCDF eligible provider, all eligible providers must have annual health and safety inspections, licensed or not. The annual inspections assist us in making sure that the providers and their staff are meeting ICCP certification requirements as well as licensing requirements if they are licensed.

f) Does the State/Territory disseminate information to parents and the public, including the use of on-line tools or other "search tools," about child care program licensing status and compliance records?

Yes.
Describe:

No.

3.1.4 Describe the State/Territory's policies for effective enforcement of the CCDF health and safety requirements. For providers who care for children receiving CCDF assistance and who are NOT subject to the enforcement procedures described above for licensed providers, please describe the health and safety enforcement measures in place. Include in this description whether and how the State/Territory uses on-site visits (announced and unannounced) and background checks and any other enforcement policies and practices for the health and safety requirements.

In order to be a CCDF eligible provider, all eligible providers must have annual health and safety inspections, licensed or not. The annual inspections are announced and assist us in making sure that the providers and their staff are meeting ICCP certification requirements as well as licensing requirements. Only when we have a concern about the provider complying with ICCP rules, do we conduct an unannounced visit. These are done on a case by case basis. ICCP rules require that all ICCP eligible providers must abide by licensing requirements. Licensing is conducted by the State or by Cities. There are 18 cities in Idaho that require a child care license. In addition, the child care provider must complete a provider agreement and all adults that have *contact* with children in care must have a background check.

3.1.5 Does the State/Territory encourage or require child care programs to conduct developmental screening and referral for children participating in child care programs? Lead Agencies are not required to conduct developmental screenings of children, but are encouraged to work with child care providers to promote screening in the areas of physical health (including vision and hearing), mental health, oral health, and developmental disabilities..

Yes.

Describe

a) If yes, are training, resources and supports offered to programs to assist them in ensuring that children receive appropriate developmental screenings?

Yes.

Describe

No

Other.

Describe

b) If yes, are resources and supports provided to programs to help them understand how families are referred to indicated services and how to work with the health, mental health, and developmental disabilities agencies to support children when follow-up to screening is needed?

Yes.

Describe

No

Other.

Describe

No

Other.

Describe

3.1.6 Data & Performance Measures on Licensing and Health and Safety

Compliance - What data elements, if any, does the State/Territory currently have access to related to licensing compliance? What, if any, performance measures does the Lead Agency use for ensuring health and safety? The purpose of these questions is for Lead Agencies to provide a description of their capacity to provide information, not to require Lead Agencies to collect or report this information. For any data elements checked in (a) below, Lead Agencies may provide an optional description about the data they have access to (e.g., the Lead Agency may have data for only licensed programs, only programs caring for children receiving CCDF subsidies, only providers participating in quality improvement systems, or only for certain age groups (e.g., infants and toddlers or school-age children).

a) **Data on licensing and health and safety.** Indicate if the Lead Agency or another agency has access to data on:

Number of licensed programs.

Describe (optional):

Numbers of programs operating that are legally exempt from licensing.

Describe (optional):

If a program is operating legally without a license, the only way we would be able to track them is if they enrolled with IdahoSTARS to receive referrals or enrolled in the Professional Development Program or are ICCP eligible providers. Otherwise we have no mechanism to know how many legally exempt programs exist in the state.

Number of programs whose licenses were suspended or revoked due to non-compliance.

Describe (optional):

Number of injuries and fatalities in child care as defined by the State/Territory.

Describe (optional):

Number of monitoring visits received by programs.

Describe (optional):

Caseload of licensing staff.

Describe (optional):

Number of programs revoked from CCDF due to non-compliance with health and safety requirements.

Describe (optional):

Other.

Describe:

None.

b) **Performance measurement.** What, if any, performance measures does the State/Territory use in its licensing system to monitor compliance with CCDF health and safety requirements?

[Idaho contracts for health and safety inspections for both licensing and ICCP eligibility. These contracts are monitored for performance each quarter. The monitor includes review of the contractor's adherence to enforcing the health and safety requirements.](#)

c) **Evaluation.** What, if any, are the State/Territory's plans for evaluation related to licensing and health and safety? Evaluation can include efforts related to monitoring implementation of an initiative, validation of standards or assessment tools, or looking at outcomes in programs or the system and may be ongoing or conducted periodically.

[None.](#)

3.1.7 Goals for the next Biennium - In this section, Lead Agencies are asked to identify at least one goal for the upcoming biennium. Lead Agencies are encouraged to include measurable and achievable goals. Lead Agencies may include existing goals (e.g., already identified in a State strategic plan or established by the Governor for a Lead Agency). ACF will target technical assistance efforts to help Lead Agencies achieve their

goal(s). Lead Agencies are not required to establish a goal for each sub-section of 3.1. What are the Lead Agency's goals for the licensing and health and safety system in the coming biennium? What progress does the State/Territory expect to make on core areas (e.g. licensing standards, monitoring visits or other effective enforcement, improved technical assistance, or fewer serious non-compliances?)

After 3 years of effort, Idaho passed an improved child care licensing statute. Temporary rules will be approved in the 2012 session. It is believed that these rules will be adopted with little opposition. Our goals for the next two years are to be successful in getting these rules finalized and begin to polish the implementation of what has been approved. The goals are:

- By the end of 2012, finalized licensing rules will be approved and proposed rules that align ICCP rules with licensing rules will be completed for presentation to the legislature during the 2013 session.
- A public awareness plan including the marketing of QRIS, will be drafted for implementation by the fall of 2012. The effort would focus on child care consumers as well as providers. This plan will include strategies to utilize the R&R staff to carry out the campaign.
- A list of improvements to Licensing regulations will be completed by spring of 2013 for rule promulgation in 2014, these improvements will consider the following: Immunization policies; diapering policies; handwashing policies; and more specificity as to training requirements in order to keep a license with emphasis on social emotional aspects of child development.

3.2 Establishing Voluntary Early Learning Guidelines (Component #2)

For purposes of this section, voluntary early learning guidelines include the expectations for what children should know (content) and be able to do (skills). The term *early learning guidelines* (ELGs) refers to age-appropriate developmental learning guidelines for infants and toddlers and school-age children. These guidelines are voluntary in that States/Territory are not mandated to develop such guidelines or implement them in a specified manner.

3.2.1 Has the State/Territory developed voluntary early learning guidelines for children? Check any early learning guidelines the State/Territory has developed.

- Birth-to-three
- Three-to-five
- Five years and older
- None. **Skip to 3.2.6.**

If yes, insert web addresses, where possible:

http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Portals/0/Children/IELeGuidelines/Idaho_Early_Learning_eGuidelines.htm

Which State/Territory agency is the lead for the early learning guidelines?

Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Family and Community Services

3.2.2 Do the early learning guidelines cover a range of domains across physical, cognitive, and social and emotional development? Check all that apply for each age group as applicable in the chart below. Because States vary in their domain names and which domains to include, we have used the domains identified in the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework for reference purposes.

Domains	Birth-to-Three ELGs	Three-to-Five ELGs	Five and Older ELGs
Physical development and health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Social and emotional development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Approaches to learning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Logic and reasoning (e.g., problem-solving)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Language development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Literacy knowledge and skills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mathematics knowledge and skills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Science knowledge and skills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Creative arts expression (e.g., music, art, drama)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Social studies knowledge and skills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
English language development (for dual language learners)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
List any domains not covered in the above: Cognitive Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other. Describe:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.2.3 To whom are the early learning guidelines disseminated and in what manner? Check all audiences and methods that your State/Territory has chosen to use in the chart below.

	Information Dissemination	Voluntary Training	Mandatory Training
Parents in the child care subsidy system	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parents using child care more broadly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Practitioners in child care centers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providers in family child care homes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Practitioners in Head Start	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Practitioners in Early Head Start	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Practitioners in public Pre-K program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Practitioners in elementary schools	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other. List:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.2.4 Are voluntary early learning guidelines incorporated into other parts of the child care system? Check which ways, if any, the State/Territory incorporates its early learning guidelines into other parts of the child care system.

- To define the content of training required to meet licensing requirements
- To define the content of training required for program quality improvement standards (e.g., QRIS standards)
- To define the content of training required for the career lattice or professional credential
- To require programs in licensing standards to develop curriculum/learning activities based on the voluntary ELGs
- To require programs in quality improvement standards to develop curriculum/learning activities based on the voluntary ELGs
- To develop State-/Territory -approved curricula
- Other.

List:

The Early Learning Guidelines are being taught at the Institutions of Higher Education (AA and BA).

None.

3.2.5 Are voluntary early learning guidelines aligned with into other parts of the child care system? Check the standards, if any, with which the State/Territory aligns its early learning guidelines.

Cross-walked to align with Head Start Outcomes Framework

Cross-walked to align with K-12 content standards

Cross-walked to align with State/Territory pre-k standards

Cross-walked with accreditation standards

Other.

List:

Cross-walked with accepted commercial curriculums such as High Scope and Creative Curriculum.

None.

3.2.6 Describe how your State/Territory uses ongoing assessments and measures of school readiness assessment using the following series of questions. In this section, assessment is framed with two distinct purposes/tools - 1) ongoing assessment of children's progress within the classroom to improve and individualize instruction (this corresponds to 3.2.6a) and 2) assessments conducted at kindergarten entry to inform policymakers about the school readiness of children across the State on a broad range of domains, used to guide program initiatives (this corresponds to 3.2.6b).

In the description for each Yes response, please include a) who administers, and b) how often assessments are conducted, and c) what assessment tools are used.

a) Are programs required to conduct ongoing assessments of children's progress of children using valid, reliable and age-appropriate tools aligned with the early learning guidelines or other child standards?

Yes.

Describe:

b-1) If yes, are programs encouraged to use information from ongoing assessments to improve practice and individual children's needs?

Yes.

Describe:

No

Other.

Describe:

b-2) If yes, is information on child's progress reported to parents?

Yes.

Describe:

No

Other.

Describe:

No

Other.

Describe:

b) Does the State/Territory use tools that are valid, reliable and age-appropriate to track the readiness of children as they enter kindergarten?

Yes.

Describe:

c-1) If yes, do the tools cover the developmental domains identified in 3.2.2?

Yes.

Describe:

No

Other.

Describe:

c-2) If yes, are the tools used on all children or samples of children?

All children.

Describe:

Samples of children.

Describe:

Other.

Describe:

c-3) If yes, is the information from the school readiness measures used to target program quality improvement activities?

Yes.

Describe:

No

Other.

Describe:

No

Other.

Describe:

c) Is school readiness information linked to the statewide longitudinal data system (SLDS, program of the Department of Education)?

Yes.

Describe:

No

Not applicable. State does not have an SLDS.

3.2.7 Data & Performance Measures on Voluntary Early Learning Guidelines (Click for additional instructions)

a) **Data on voluntary early learning guidelines.** Indicate if the Lead Agency or another agency has access to data on:

Number/percentage of child care providers trained on ELG's for preschool aged children.

Describe (optional):

Number/percentage of child care providers trained on ELG's for infants and toddlers.
Describe (optional):

Number of programs using ELG's in planning for their work.
Describe (optional):

Number of parents trained on or served in family support programs that use ELG's.
Describe (optional):

Other.
Describe:

None.

b) **Performance measurement.** What, if any, are the Lead Agency's performance measures related to dissemination and implementation of the early learning guidelines?

None

c) **Evaluation.** What are the State/Territory's plans, if any, for evaluation related to early learning guidelines? Evaluation can include efforts related to monitoring implementation of an initiative validation of standards or program assessment tools, or looking at outcomes in programs or the system and may be ongoing or conducted periodically.

None

3.2.8 Goals for the next Biennium -

In this section, Lead Agencies are asked to identify at least one goal for the upcoming biennium. Lead Agencies are encouraged to include measurable and achievable goals. Lead Agencies may include existing goals (e.g., already identified in a State strategic plan or established by the Governor for a Lead Agency). ACF will target technical assistance efforts to help Lead Agencies achieve their goal(s). What are the Lead Agency's goals for using voluntary early learning guidelines in the coming biennium? What progress does the Lead Agency expect to make related to early learning guidelines?

Collateral materials that can be used by programs such as Pre-K, Head Start, and Child Care. Tools for tracking the use of Early Learning Guidelines will be developed by the next biennium. In addition, Early Learning Guidelines curriculum/learning activities will be included in the Quality Rating and Improvement

3.3 Creating Pathways to Excellence for Child Care Programs through Program Quality Improvement Activities (Component #3) (Click for additional instructions)

a) Describe which entities are involved in planning and administering the program quality improvement activities in 3.3, including State/Territory entities and local or community level entities.

Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Welfare, Division of Family and Community Services, Idaho AEYC, University of Idaho, Idaho Child Care Advisory Panel, and Idaho child care providers representing Center, Group, and Family care.

3.3.1 Element 1 - Program Standards

Definition - For purposes of this section, program standards refers to the expectations for quality, or quality indicators, which identify different levels of and pathways to improved quality. Minimum licensing standards and health and safety requirements provided in section 3.1 are also program standards but in this section, we focus on those standards that build upon and go beyond those minimum requirements.

a) Does your State/Territory's have quality improvement standards that include indicators covering the following areas beyond what is required for licensing? Check any indicators, if any, that your State/Territory has chosen to establish.

- Ratios and group size
- Health, nutrition and safety
- Learning environment and curriculum
- Staff/Provider qualifications and professional development
- Teacher/providers-child relationships
- Teacher/provider instructional practices
- Family partnerships and family strengthening
- Community relationships
- Administration and management
- Developmental screenings
- Child assessment for the purposes of individualizing instruction and/or targeting program improvement
- Cultural competence
- Other.

Describe:

None. If checked, **skip to 3.3.2.**

b) Does your State/Territory have quality improvement standards with provisions about the care of any of these groups of children? Check any provisions your State/Territory has chosen to establish.

- Children with special needs as defined by your State/Territory
- Infants and toddlers
- School-age children
- Children who are dual language learners
- None

c) How do your State/Territory's quality standards link to State/Territory licensing requirements? Check any links between your State/Territory's quality standards and licensing requirements.

- Licensing is a pre-requisite for participation
- Licensing is the first tier of the quality levels
- State/Territory license is a "rated" license.
- Other.

Describe:

- Not linked.

d) Do your State/Territory's quality improvement standards align with or have reciprocity with any of the following standards? Check any alignment, if any, between your State/Territory's quality standards and other standards.

- Programs that meet State/Territory pre-k standards are able to meet all or part of the quality improvement standards (e.g., content of the standards is the same, or there is a reciprocal agreement between pre-k and the quality improvement system)
- Programs that meet Federal Head Start Performance Standards are able to meet all or part of the quality improvement standards (e.g., content of the standards is the same, or there is a reciprocal agreement between Head Start and the quality improvement system)
- Programs that meet national accreditation standards are able to meet all or part of the quality improvement standards (e.g., content of the standards is the same, or an alternative pathway to meeting the standards)

- Other.

Describe:

- None.

3.3.2 Element 2 - Supports to Programs to Improve Quality

Definition - For purposes of this section, supports to programs to improve quality refers to such activities as technical assistance and consultation services for programs to assist

in meeting child care quality improvement standards.

a) Check which types of and for what purposes the State/Territory uses supports to child care programs, if any, in the following chart. If none, **skip to 3.3.3.**

None. **skip to 3.3.3.**

Types and Purposes of Support	Information or Written Materials	Training	On-Site Consultation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attaining and maintaining licensing compliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attaining and maintaining quality improvement standards beyond licensing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attaining and maintaining accreditation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Providing targeted technical assistance in specialized content areas:			
Health and safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Infant/toddler care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
School-age care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Inclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teaching dual language learners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mental health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Business management practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other. Describe: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) Methods used to customize quality improvement supports to the needs of individual programs include:

- Program improvement plans
- Technical assistance on the use of program assessment tools
- Other.

Describe:

c) Is technical assistance linked to entering the QRIS or targeted to help programs forward on QRIS?

- Yes.

Describe:

Technical assistance is provided through onsite visits by regional consultants. An on site orientation to the QRIS is conducted. Once the application for QRIS is completed, a mentor coach is assigned. A Child Care Health Consultant is available.

- No
- Other.

Describe:

3.3.3 Element 3 - Financial Incentives and Supports

Definition - For purposes of this section, financial incentives refers to the types of monetary supports offered to programs in meeting and sustaining licensing and QRIS or other child care quality improvement standards for programs.

a) Identify which types of financial incentives are offered and to which providers in the following chart. Check which incentives and supports, if any, the State/Territory chooses to offer. If none, **skip to 3.3.4.**

- None. **skip to 3.3.4.**

Types of Financial Incentives and Supports for Programs	Child Care Centers	Child Care Homes	License-Exempt Providers

<input type="checkbox"/> Grants to programs to meet or maintain licensing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grants to programs to meet QRIS or similar quality level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-time awards or bonuses on completion of quality standard attainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tiered reimbursement tied to quality for children receiving subsidy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-going, periodic grants or stipends tied to maintaining quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tax credits tied to meeting program quality standards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: We provide grants to providers who want to be an ICCP eligible provider and need financial assistance to complete the minimal standards.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3.3.4 - Element 4 - Quality Assurance and Monitoring

Definition - For purposes of this section, quality assurance and monitoring refers to the ways that the State/Territory measures program quality for the purposes of its QRIS or other quality improvement system and the methods for measuring that the child care quality improvement standards for programs are met initially and maintained over time.

a) What tools, if any, does the State/Territory use to measure and monitor the quality of programs? Check all that apply and briefly describe using the chart below, including which programs are required to participate and the frequency of assessments. **If none, skip to 3.3.5.**

None. skip to 3.3.5.

Types of Program Quality Assessment Tools	Child Care Centers	Child Care Homes	License-Exempt Providers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment Rating Scales (e.g., ECERS, ITERS, SACERS, FDCRS) Describe, including frequency of assessments. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; color: blue; font-size: small;"> QRIS requires a pre-and-post assessment for first year and validation assessment for two additional years. After the three years, the provider must re-apply for a STAR rating. </div>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infant/Toddler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preschool <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School-Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Describe, including frequency of assessments. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Program Administration Scale (PAS) for child care centers or Business Administration Scale (BAS) for family child care homes Describe, including frequency of assessments. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customized instrument, including submission of written documentation, developed for State/Territory quality improvement system. This may include instruments developed for quality improvements in 21st Century Learning Center programs Describe, including frequency of assessments. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; color: blue; font-size: small;"> Idaho has developed a customized instrument for measuring Strengthening Families elements and measuring quality Business Practices. </div>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) What steps, if any, has the State/Territory taken to align quality assurance and monitoring across funding streams and sectors in order to minimize duplication?

- Have a mechanism to track different quality assessments/monitoring activities to avoid duplication
- Include QRIS or other quality reviews as part of licensing enforcement
- Have compliance monitoring in one sector (e.g., Head Start/Early Head Start, State/Territory pre-k) serve as validation for compliance with quality improvement system (e.g., QRIS) without further review
- Have monitoring for meeting accreditation standards serve as validation for compliance with quality improvement system (e.g., QRIS) without further review
- Other.

Describe:

None.

3.3.5 - Element 5 - Outreach and Consumer Education

Definition - For purposes of this section, outreach and consumer education refers to the strategies used to promote the child care quality improvement standards to parents, programs and the general public.

a) Does the State/Territory use symbols or simple icons to communicate levels of quality for child care programs beyond what may communicated to parents about licensing status and licensing compliance as reported in 3.1.3? (e.g. stars, or gold/silver/bronze levels).

Yes. If yes, how is it used?



Resource and referral/consumer education services use with parents seeking care



Parents enrolling in child care subsidy are educated about the system and the quality level of the provider that they are selecting



Searchable database on the web



Voluntarily, visibly posted in programs



Mandatory to post visibly in programs

Used in marketing and public awareness campaigns

Other.

Describe:

No. If no, **skip to 3.3.6.**

b) Does the State/Territory use any forms of media to reach parents and the public to communicate about levels of quality for child care programs? Check which forms, if any, the State/Territory uses to communicate levels of quality for child care programs.

Print

Radio

Television

Web

Telephone

Social Marketing

Other.

Describe:

[Presented to each germane committee in 2010.](#)

None.

c) Describe any targeted outreach for culturally and linguistically diverse families.

3.3.6. Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)

a) **Based on the five key elements of a QRIS described above in 3.3.1 through 3.3.5,** does your State/Territory have a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) or similar quality improvement system in place?

Yes, the State/Territory has a QRIS or similar quality improvement system that includes linked activities in all five elements operating State/Territory-wide.



Participation is voluntary for:

[all child care providers](#)



Participation is mandatory for:

Yes, the State/Territory has a QRIS or similar quality improvement system that includes linked activities in all five elements operating as a pilot or in a few localities but not State/Territory-wide.

No, the State/Territory does not have a QRIS or similar quality improvement system that includes linked activities in all five elements.

State/Territory is in the development phase

State/Territory has no plans for development



Other.

Describe:

b) If yes to 3.3.6a, **CHECK** the types of providers eligible to participate in the QRIS:



Child care centers



Group child care homes



Family child care homes



In-home child care



License exempt providers



Early Head Start programs



Head Start programs



Pre-kindergarten programs



School-age programs



Other.

Describe:

Idaho allows Pre-K programs as long as they are extended day and parents are working or going to school.

3.3.7. If the State/Territory has or will have any quality improvement strategies for targeted groups of providers (e.g., relative caregivers or caregivers who are legally exempt from licensing) that are not described in your responses to any question in section 3.3 above,

please describe:

none

3.3.8 Data & Performance Measures on Program Quality (Click for additional instructions)

a) Data on program quality. Indicate if the Lead Agency or another agency has access to data on:



Data on the quality level for individual programs (e.g. QRIS level) as defined by your State/Territory.

Describe:

[Evaluation data on STAR rated facilities by year.](#)



Number of programs that move program quality levels annually (up or down).

Describe:

[Evaluation data on STAR rated facilities by year.](#)



Program scores on program assessment instruments.

List instruments:

Describe:



Classroom scores on program assessment instruments.

List instruments:

ERS's

Describe:

[Pre, Post and validation process](#)



Qualifications for teachers or caregivers within each program.

Describe:

Education and professional development standards for registering and improvement in the professional development system.

Number/Percentage of children receiving CCDF assistance in licensed care.

Describe:

Number/percentage of children receiving CCDF assistance who attend care at each of the tiers of the quality as defined by the State/Territory

Number/Percentage of programs receiving financial assistance to meet higher program standards.

Describe:

Data on programs and teachers that have received financial assistance related to professional development and increasing the quality standards of their programs.

Other.

Describe:

None.

b) **Performance measurement.** What, if any, are the Lead Agency's performance measures on program quality?

IdahoSTARS measures quality through quality assurance observations, surveys, and the numbers enrolled in the programs that improve quality.

c) **Evaluation.** What, if any, are the State/Territory's plans for evaluation related to program quality? Evaluation can include efforts related to monitoring implementation of an initiative, validation of standards or assessment tools, or looking at outcomes in programs or the system and may be ongoing or conducted periodically.

IdahoSTARS maintains assessment reliability standards, assessors/mentor coaches are trained and monitored for reliability and quality assurance in the use of the assessment tools and additional quality assurance reviews of assessments and data collected are conducted. The State of Idaho's contract performance standards related to assessment are monitored quarterly.

3.3.9 Goals for the next Biennium -

In this section, Lead Agencies are asked to identify at least one goal for the upcoming biennium. Lead Agencies are encouraged to include measurable and achievable goals. Lead Agencies may include existing goals (e.g., already identified in a State strategic plan or established by the Governor for a Lead Agency). ACF will target technical assistance efforts to help Lead Agencies achieve their goal(s). Lead Agencies are not required to establish a goal for each sub-section in 3.3. What are the State/Territory's goals for the program quality improvement system in the coming biennium? What progress does the State/Territory expect to make across the five key elements for quality improvement systems?

Idaho's primary goal will be to increase the number of facilities enrolled in the QRIS system. The funding currently available will allow Idaho to increase the numbers enrolled to 99 by 2012 and add an additional 24 in 2013.

3.4 Pathways to Excellence for the Workforce - Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives (Component #4)

Pathways to excellence for the workforce builds on the significant investments States and Territories have made in the area of professional development systems to ensure a well-qualified workforce with opportunities for growth from entry level through master teacher, with an increasing emphasis on the many additional roles in the child care system (e.g. adult educators such as consultants, technical assistance providers, trainers, and higher education faculty). In this section, States and Territories provide a self-assessment on current professional development and workforce activities and describe their goals for the upcoming Biennium.

For purposes of this section, States and Territories will respond according to five key elements for workforce systems:

- 1) Core Knowledge and Competencies
- 2) Career Pathways (or Career Lattice)
- 3) Professional Development Capacity
- 4) Access to Professional Development
- 5) Compensation, Benefits and Workforce Conditions

a) Describe which entities are involved in planning and administering the activities in Section 3.4, including State/Territory entities and local or community level entities.

State of Idaho, Idaho AEYC, University of Idaho, other Higher Education institutions, Idaho child care providers representing Center, Group, Family programs, and the Idaho Child Care Advisory Panel.

3.4.1 Workforce Element 1 - Core Knowledge and Competencies

Definition - For purposes of this section, core knowledge and competencies (CKCs) refers to the expectations for what the workforce should know (content) and be able to do (skills) in their role working with and/or on behalf of children and their families. These CKCs provide a foundation for professional development design (including instructional practices) and other quality improvement efforts.

a) Has the State/Territory developed core knowledge and competencies (CKCs) for practitioners working with and/or on behalf of children?

Yes

No, the State/Territory has not developed core knowledge and competencies. **Skip to question 3.4.2.**

Other.

Describe:

<http://www.idahostars.org/idahostars/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=zDSkF3Moleg%3d&tabid=102&mid=472>

b) Check which of the following teaching and learning topics, if any, are covered in the CKCs.

Child growth, development and learning

Health, nutrition, and safety

Learning environment and curriculum

Interactions with children

Family and community relationships

Professionalism and leadership

Observation and assessment

Program planning and management

Diversity

Other.

Describe:

None.

c) Are the CKCs incorporated into other parts of the child care system? Check which ways, if any, the State/Territory incorporates its CKCs into other parts of the child care system.

- To define the content of training required to meet licensing requirements
- To define the content of training required for program quality improvement standards (as reported in section 3.3)
- To define the content of training required for the career lattice or credential
- To correspond to the early learning guidelines
- To define curriculum and degree requirements at institutions of higher education
- Other.

Describe:

None.

d) Are the CKCs aligned with other State/Territory or national standards? Check which ways, if any, the State/Territory aligns its CKCs with other standards.

- Cross-walked with the Child Development Associate (CDA) competencies
- Cross-walked with national teacher preparation standards (e.g., NAEYC standards for early childhood professional preparation, National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, Head Start SOLAR staff skills indicators)
- Cross-walked with apprenticeship competencies
- Other.

Describe:

Aligned with CDA, but not cross-walked.

None.

e) Check for which roles, if any, the State/Territory developed supplemental or specialized competencies.

- Staff working directly with children in centers, including aides, assistants, teachers, master teachers.

Describe:

- Providers working directly with children in family child care homes, including aides and assistants.

Describe:

Administrators in centers (including educational coordinators, directors).

Describe:

[IdahoSTARS Director's specialization](#)

Technical assistance providers (including mentors, coaches, consultants, home visitors, etc.).

Describe:

[Idaho's Mentor Coaches and Child Care Health Consultants have a certification requirement.](#)

Education and training staff (such as trainers, CCR&R staff, faculty).

Describe:

Other.

Describe:

None.

f) Check if the State/Territory has developed any supplemental or specialized competencies for practitioners/providers working with the following ages.

Birth-to-three

Three-to-five

Five and older

Other.

Describe:

None.

3.4.2 Workforce Element 2 - Career Pathways

Definition - For purposes of this section, career pathways (or career lattice) defines the options and sequence of qualifications and ongoing professional development to work with children. Career pathways assist professionals in understanding their career options and identify steps for advancement for the workforce recognizing and rewarding higher levels of preparation and mastery of practice to promote higher quality services for children.

a) Does the State/Territory have a career pathway which defines the sequence of qualifications related to professional development (education, training and technical assistance) and experience required to work with children?

Yes.

Describe:

[The Professional Development Registry has defined pathway levels.](#)

No, the State/Territory has not developed a career pathway. **Skip to question 3.4.3.**

<http://www.idahostars.org/idahostars/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=LdyfNgfFgT8%3d&tabid=68>

b) Check for which roles, if any, the career pathway (or lattice) include qualifications, specializations or credentials.

Staff working directly with children in centers, including aides, assistants, teachers, master teachers.

Describe:

[Professional Development System pathways outline training, college credit requirements per pathway level.](#)

Providers working directly with children in family child care homes, including aides and assistants.

Describe:

[Professional Development System pathways outline training, college credit requirements per pathway level.](#)

Administrators in centers (including educational coordinators, directors).

Describe:

[Professional Development System pathways outline training, college credit requirements per pathway level.](#)

Technical assistance providers (including mentors, coaches, consultants, home visitors, etc.).

Describe:

Professional Development System pathways outline training, college credit requirements per pathway level.

Education and training staff (such as trainers, CCR&R staff, faculty).

Describe:

Other.

Describe:

None.

c) Does the career pathway (or lattice) include specializations or credentials, if any, for working with any of the following children?

Infants and toddlers

Preschoolers

School-age children

Dual language learners

Children with disabilities, children with developmental delays, and children with other special needs

Other.

Describe:

None.

d) In what ways, if any, is the career pathway (or lattice) used?

Voluntary guide and planning resource

Required placement for all practitioners and providers working in programs that are licensed or regulated in the State/Territory to serve children birth to 13

Required placement for all practitioners working in programs that receive public funds to serve children birth to 13

Required placement for adult educators (i.e., those that provide training, education and/or technical assistance)

Required placement for participation in scholarship and/or other incentive and support programs

Required placement for participation in the QRIS or other quality improvement system

Other.

Describe:

None.

e) Are individuals' qualifications, professional development, and work experience verified prior to placement on the career pathway (or lattice?)?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

Idaho verifies career level via transcripts, pay stubs, diploma's, training registry, and certificates of completion.

No.

3.4.3 Workforce Element 3 - Professional Development Capacity

Definition - For purposes of this section, professional development incorporates higher education, training and technical assistance. Higher education capacity refers to capability of the higher education system to meet the needs of the diverse workforce including the provision of content that addresses the full range of development and needs of children. Training and technical assistance capacity refers to capability of the training and technical assistance system to meet the needs of the diverse workforce including the provision of content that addresses the full range of development and needs of children.

a) Has the State/Territory assessed the availability of degree programs in early-childhood education, school-age care or youth development, and related fields in the State/Territory (e.g., both physical location and distance-based, accessibility to practitioners, etc.)?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

The Early Childhood Coordinating Council, also referred to as EC3, (ECCS grant funded advisory council) conducted a survey of Higher Ed capacity related to the blended certificate. The State Early Childhood Higher Ed Consortium developed a compendium of available ECE degree programs.

No.

b) Has the State/Territory assessed the availability of early-childhood and school-age and related training and technical assistance programs in the State/Territory (e.g., both physical location and distance-based, degree level, etc.)?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

[IdahoSTARS manages a State Early Childhood Training Registry.](#)

No.

c) What quality assurance mechanisms, if any, are in place for the degree programs and courses offered by the State/Territory institutions?

Standards set by the institution

Standards set by the State/Territory higher education board

Standards set by program accreditors

Other.

Describe:

None.

d) What quality assurance mechanisms, if any, are in place for the training and technical assistance programs offered by the State/Territory?

Training approval process.

Describe:

[Idaho requires an application and approval process for training. There is a quality assurance process in place to continuously monitor training quality.](#)

Trainer approval process.

Describe:

[Idaho requires an application and approval process for training. There is a quality assurance process in place to continuously monitor training quality.](#)

Training and/or technical assistance evaluations.

Describe:

[Post training evaluation submitted by the trainee.](#)

Other.

Describe:

None.

e) Does the State/Territory have articulation agreements in place across and within institutions of higher education?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

[The State Early Childhood Higher Ed Consortium maintains articulation agreements.](#)

No.

f) Does the State/Territory have articulation agreements that translate training and/or technical assistance into higher education credit?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

[Idaho has articulation agreements with some state institutions the provide the CDA and the AA.](#)

No.

3.4.4 Workforce Element 4 - Access to Professional Development

Definition - For purposes of this section, access to professional development (training, education and technical assistance) refers to the degree to which practitioners are made aware of, and receive supports and assistance to utilize, professional development opportunities.

a) Does the State/Territory have professional development opportunities accessible for professionals in various or all sectors of the early childhood and school-age field?

Yes. If yes, for which sectors?

Child care

Head Start/Early Head Start

- Pre-Kindergarten
- Public schools
- Early intervention/special education
- Other.

Describe:

Pre-kindergarten services when they provided extended day services to working parents.

No.

b) Does the State/Territory have a State/Territory-wide, coordinated and easily accessible clearinghouse of information about professional development opportunities available to all members of the early childhood and school-age workforce? Lead Agencies are not required to have a professional development system, but States/Territories may develop such clearinghouses to promote access to professional development opportunities.

Yes.

If yes, describe:

Idaho contracts with the University of Idaho to manage the State Training Registry.

No.

<http://jtc.idahostars.org/CalendarofEvents.aspx>

c) What supports, if any, does the State/Territory provide to promote access to training and education activities?

Scholarships.

Describe:

Training scholarship funds are available for those enrolled in the PDS registry.

Free training and education.

Describe:

The IdahoSTARS Resource and Referral Consultants provide free education and technical assistance to all providers who request it.

Reimbursement for training and education expenses.

Describe:

Provider attending approved training may apply for reimbursement for the training costs.

Grants.

Describe:

Quality improvement grants are available to providers enrolled in the PDS.

Loans.

Describe:

Loan forgiveness programs.

Describe:

Substitute pools.

Describe:

Release time.

Describe:

Those enrolled in the apprenticeship or are receiving a scholarship in a two year university receive funding for release time if they are a home provider.

Other.

Describe:

None.

d) Does the State/Territory have career advisors for early childhood and school-age practitioners?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

IdahoSTARS has two scholarship counselors.

No.

e) Does the State/Territory have mentors, coaches, consultants, and/or other specialists available to provide technical assistance to the workforce?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

Mentor/Coaches and Child Care Nurse Consultants.

No.

3.4.5 Workforce Element 5 - Compensation, Benefits and Workforce

Conditions Definition - For purposes of this section, rewards for education and training refers to any financial supports provided to practitioners for participating in and completing education or training or for increasing compensation.

a) Does the State/Territory have a salary or wage scale for various professional roles?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

No.

b) Does the State/Territory provide financial rewards for participation in professional development, such as one-time salary bonuses for completing a training or education program?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

For IdahoSTARS PDS participants who are pursuing an academic degree are considered to be Academic Scholars and completion of a degree results in increased compensation as agreed to by the participants employer.

No.

c) Does the State/Territory provide sustained financial support on a periodic, predictable basis, such as annual wage supplements, based on the highest level of training and education achieved?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

Idaho provides an anniversary award for continued progress on the career lattice based on level of achievement.

No.

d) Does the State/Territory have a program to offer or facilitate benefits (e.g. health insurance coverage, retirement, etc.) to the workforce?

Yes.

If yes, describe:

No.

3.4.6 Data & Performance Measures on the Child Care Workforce - What data elements, if any, does the State/Territory currently have access to related to the child care workforce? What, if any, does the State/Territory use for performance measures on professional development and workforce initiatives? The purpose of these questions is for Lead Agencies to provide a description of their capacity to provide information, not to require Lead Agencies to collect or report this information. For any data elements checked in (a) below, Lead Agencies may provide an optional description about the data they have access to (e.g., the Lead Agency may have data for only licensed programs, only programs caring for children receiving CCDF subsidies, only providers participating in quality improvement systems, or only for certain age groups (e.g., infants and toddlers or school-age children).

a) Data on the child care workforce. Indicate if the Lead Agency or another agency has access to data on:

Data on the size of the child care workforce.

Describe (optional):

Data on the demographic characteristics of practitioners or providers working directly

with children.

Describe (optional):

This represents data ONLY on those enrolled with IdahoSTARS PDS.

Records of individual teachers or caregivers and their qualifications.

Describe (optional):

This represents data ONLY on those enrolled with IdahoSTARS PDS.

Retention rates.

Describe (optional):

This represents data on those enrolled with IdahoSTARS for any services.

Records of individual professional development specialists and their qualifications.

Describe (optional):

Qualifications of teachers or caregivers linked to the programs in which they teach.

Describe (optional):

This represents data ONLY on those enrolled with IdahoSTARS PDS.

Number of scholarships awarded .

Describe (optional):

This represents data ONLY on those enrolled with IdahoSTARS PDS.

Number of individuals receiving bonuses or other financial rewards or incentives.

Describe (optional):

This represents data ONLY on those enrolled with IdahoSTARS PDS.

Number of credentials and degrees conferred annually.

Describe (optional):

This represents data ONLY on those enrolled with IdahoSTARS PDS.

Data on T/TA completion or attrition rates.
Describe (optional):

This represents data ONLY on those enrolled with IdahoSTARS PDS.

Data on degree completion or attrition rates.
Describe (optional):

This represents data ONLY on those enrolled with IdahoSTARS PDS.

Other.
Describe:

None.

b) Does the State/Territory have a workforce data system, such as a workforce registry, which tracks workforce demographics, compensation, and qualifications and ongoing professional development for practitioners working with children birth to age 13?

Definition - For purposes of this section, a workforce data system refers to a system, such as a workforce registry, that tracks the size and characteristics of the child care workforce, including longitudinal data to monitor changes over time. The data system also can produce records to validate and verify qualifications or ongoing professional development for licensing, accreditation, QRIS, wage incentives, and credentials.

Yes.

b-1) If yes, which roles are included in the workforce data system? For each role checked, indicate in your description whether participation is voluntary or mandatory.

Staff working directly with children in centers, including aides, assistants, teachers, master teachers.
Describe:

Voluntary

Providers working directly with children in family child care homes, including aides and assistants.

Describe:

Voluntary

Administrators in centers (including educational coordinators, directors).

Describe:

Voluntary

Technical assistance providers (including mentors, coaches, consultants, home visitors, etc.).

Describe:

Voluntary

Education and training staff (such as trainers, CCR&R staff, faculty).

Describe:

Other.

Describe:

None.

b-2) Does the workforce data system apply to:

all practitioners working in programs that are licensed or regulated by the State/Territory to serve children birth to 13?

all practitioners working in programs that receive public funds to serve children birth to age 13?

No.

c) **Performance measurement.** What, if any, performance measures does the State/Territory use related to its workforce and professional development systems?

IdahoSTARS measures quality through quality assurance observations, surveys, and the numbers enrolled in the programs that improve quality.

d) **Evaluation.** What, if any, are the State/Territory's plans for evaluation related to its workforce and professional development systems? Evaluation can include efforts related

to monitoring implementation of an initiative, validation of standards or assessment tools, or looking at outcomes in programs or the system and may be ongoing or conducted periodically.

IdahoSTARS maintains assessment reliability standards, assessors/mentor coaches are trained and monitored for reliability and quality assurance in the use of the assessment tools and additional quality assurance reviews of assessments and data collected are conducted. The State of Idaho's contract performance standards related to assessment are monitored quarterly.

3.4.7 Goals for the next Biennium -

In this section, Lead Agencies are asked to identify at least one goal for the upcoming biennium. Lead Agencies are encouraged to include measurable and achievable goals. Lead Agencies may include existing goals (e.g., already identified in a State strategic plan or established by the Governor for a Lead Agency). ACF will target technical assistance efforts to help Lead Agencies achieve their goal(s). Lead Agencies are not required to establish a goal for each sub-section in 3.4. What are the State/Territory's goals for the building the professional development system and improving conditions for the workforce in the coming biennium? What progress does the State/Territory expect to make across the five key elements for the workforce and professional development system described above?

Idaho will have identified costs, program changes, and resources associated with providing tiered reimbursement for STAR rated providers by the end of FFY 2013.