



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**



# Child Care for HPOG Families: Opportunities after Reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Fund

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The HPOG Annual Grantee Meeting  
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U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Administration for Children & Families

Office of Child Care



## Topics for Today

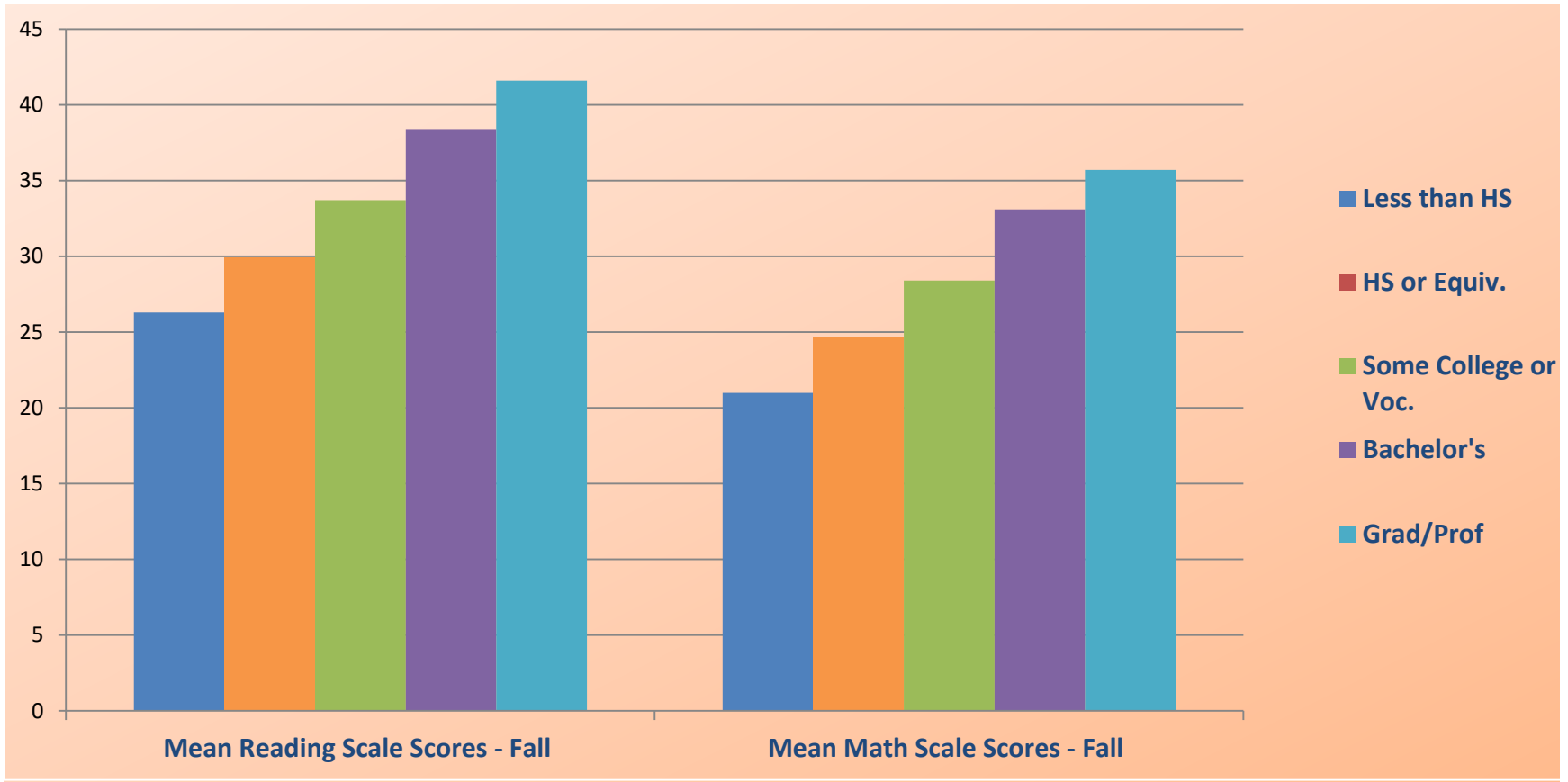
- **Child care importance to HPOG goals**
- **Overview of key changes in Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) reauthorization**
- **Opportunities**



## Child Care Supports Employment/Training Success

- **Parents receiving child care assistance are more likely to be employed, have more stable employment, and have higher earnings.**
- **Parents' ability to succeed in school and the workplace is affected by their children's well-being.**
- **Research has found the lack of stable child care arrangements impacts mothers' ability to remain employed.**

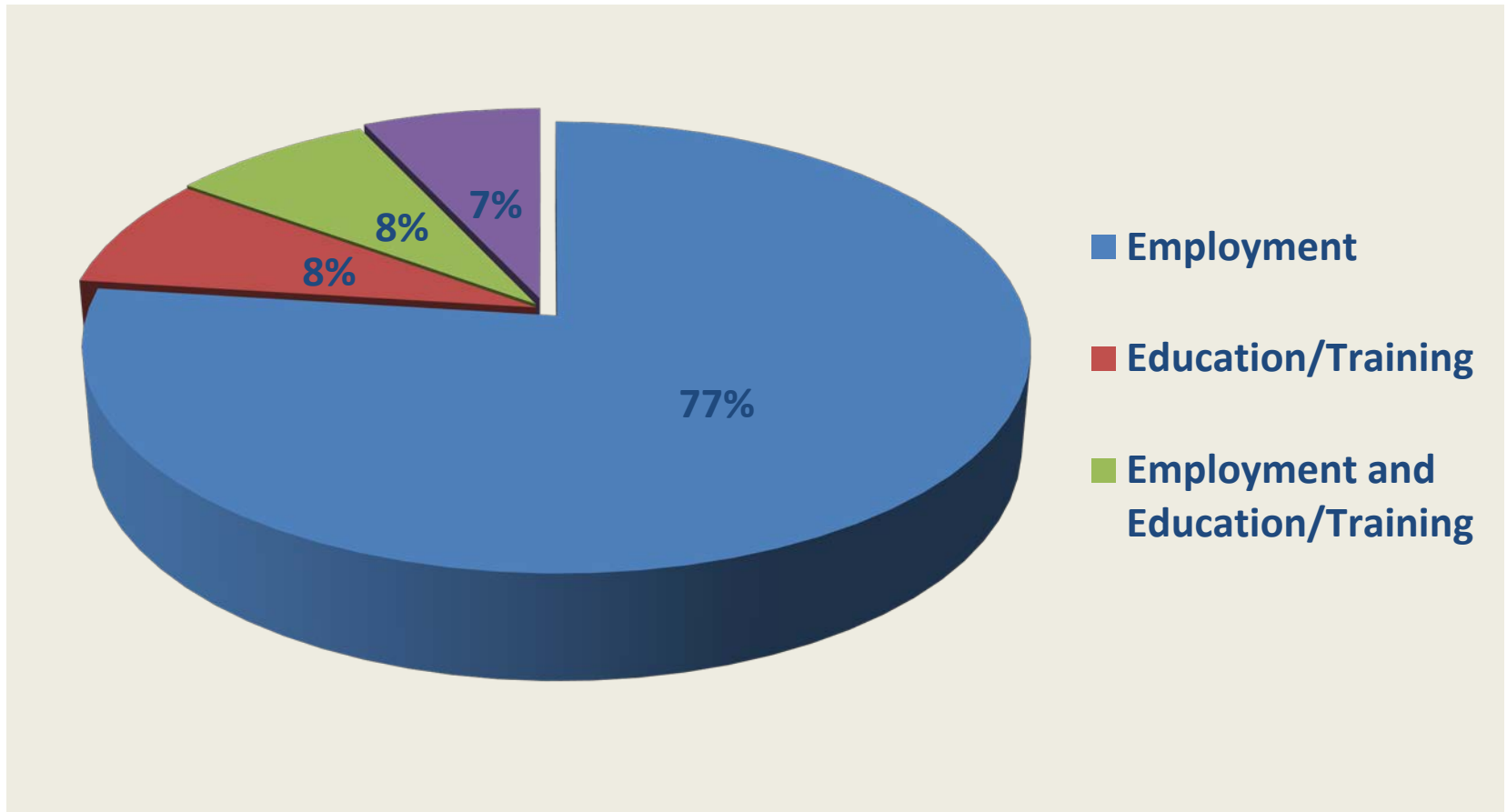
# Parent Education & Child Readiness are Linked



**Mean Reading & Math Scores for Children in Kindergarten for the First Time in the 2010-2011 School Year, by Parents' Highest Level of Education**



# 16% of CCDF Families Participate in Ed/Training







# CCDF Reauthorization

- In 2014, on a bipartisan basis, Congress reauthorized the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act and made sweeping changes.
- HHS published a final rule on September 30, 2016 to update Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) regulations to follow the Act.

# Overview

## Four Key Areas of Reform in Law and Rule:

Protect the **health and safety** of children in child care

Help parents make informed **consumer choices and access information** to support child development

Provide **equal access** to stable, high quality child care for low-income children

**Enhance the quality** of child care and the early childhood workforce

# Lengthened Eligibility in CCDBG Act

The law and rule establish minimum 12 month eligibility periods, regardless of a temporary change in parents' status as working or attending job training or education, if family income does not exceed 85% of SMI.





# Lengthened Eligibility in Final Rule

- Clarifies that minimum 12 mo. eligibility applies to initial and subsequent eligibility periods;
- Defines “temporary” to include at a minimum:
  - Specific time-limited absences from work or school;
  - Any reduction in work, training or education hours; and
  - Other changes to work, education, job training status that do not exceed 3 months.
- Prohibits shorter authorization periods within the minimum 12 mo eligibility period.



# Continued Assistance before *Optional Termination*

The law and rule give a State the *option* to end assistance prior to the end of the eligibility period due to loss of work or cessation of attendance at a job training or educational program.

However, it must provide **at least 3 months of continued assistance** after such loss or cessation.





# Flexibility for Working Parents

The law requires Lead Agencies to:

- Take into account **irregular fluctuations in earnings;** and
- Ensure that parents (esp. those receiving TANF) are not required to **unduly disrupt** employment, education or training to meet requirements.



# Flexibility for Working Parents in Final Rule

- **Not required to limit care to parent schedule;**
- **May expand Protective Services Category; and**
- **Must take Child Development into account.**



# Graduated Phase-out

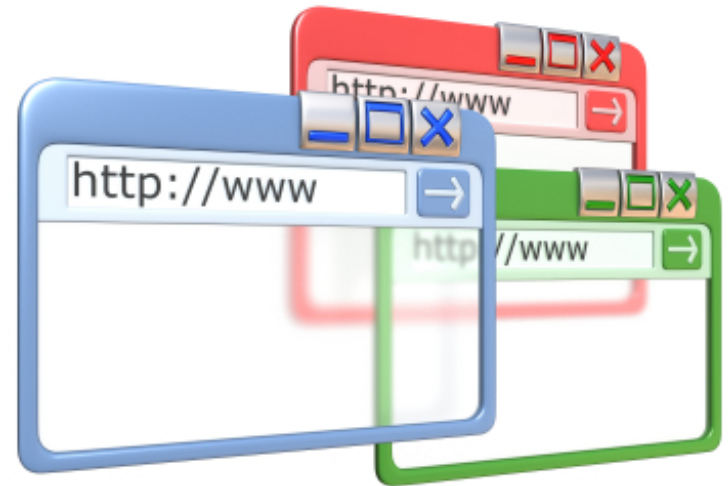


- **The law requires Lead Agencies to have Graduated Phase-out policies and procedures for families who, at redetermination, exceed the initial CCDF Lead Agency income threshold if income is still below 85% of SMI.**
- **The Final Rule requires an exit level higher than the entrance eligibility level, at**
  - 85% of SMI, or
  - A lower level chosen and justified by the state.

# States Must Have a Child Care Consumer Education Website

The law requires States to make information available electronically, including:

- State processes for licensing, monitoring and inspections, and background checks;
- Quality of providers (if available);
- Monitoring and inspection results; and
- # of deaths, serious injuries, and instances of substantiated child abuse that occurred in child care settings each year.





# Consumer Statement

The Final Rule requires a consumer statement for CCDF parents, which must include:

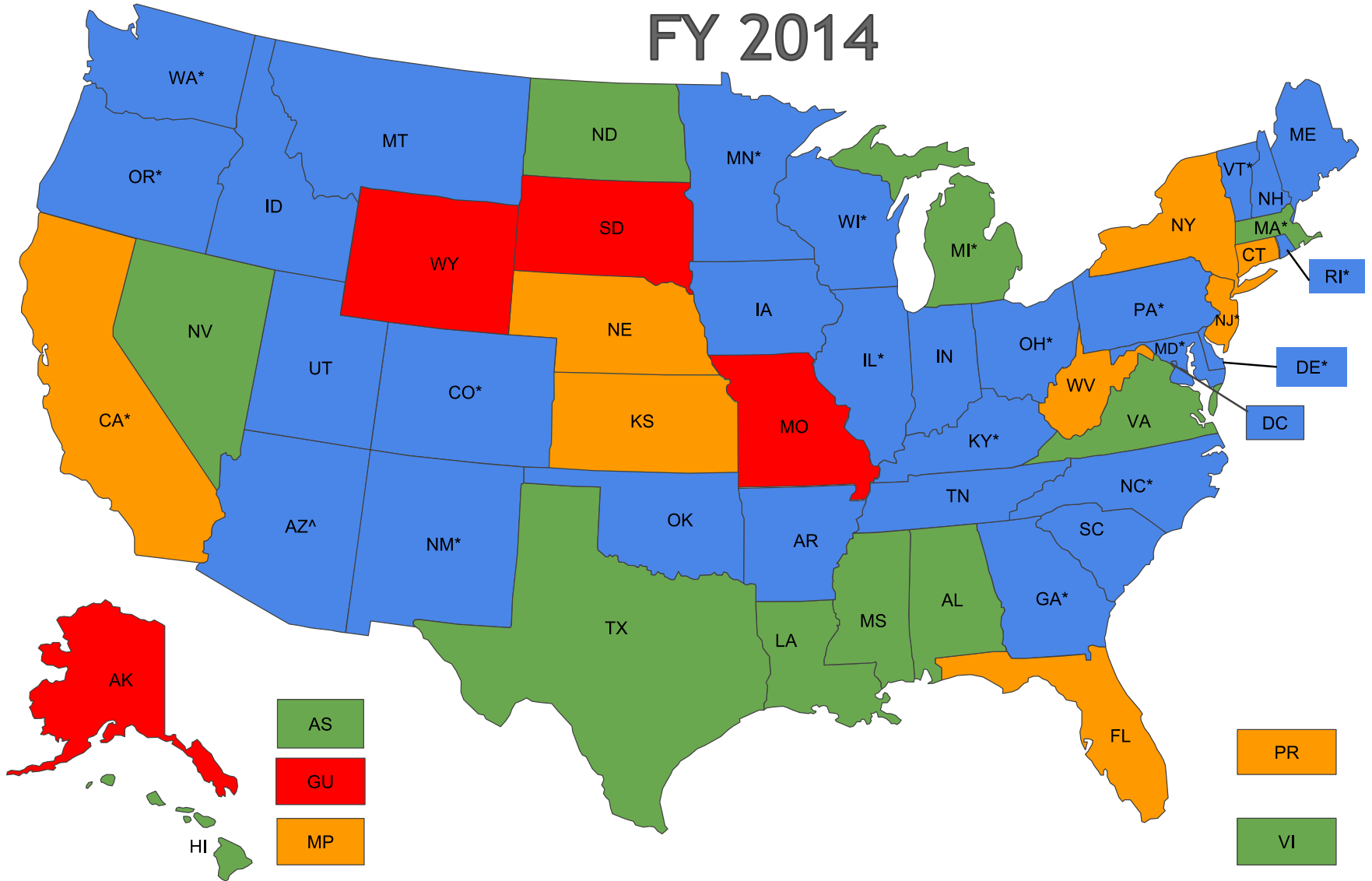
## General Information

- How subsidies are designed to promote equal access
- How to submit a complaint through hotline
- How to contact local R&R or other community-based supports

## Provider-specific information

- H&S and licensing or regulatory requirements met by provider
- Date of last inspection
- Voluntary quality standards met by the provider

# CCDF QRIS Measure FY 2014





Number of Components



^ indicates State met all requirements for first time in FY 2014  
\* indicates a Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grantee



# National Child Care Resources Online

- *Now:*   [www.childcareaware.org](http://www.childcareaware.org) has resources on choosing child care and links to state-based child care resource and referral systems.
- *Coming Soon:* CCDBG reauthorization requires the federal government to develop **childcare.gov** to provide child care information to help parents locate and choose child care, directly or through linkages to state data sources.

# Building Supply of High-Quality Care

The law require States to:

- Describe strategies (e.g. payment rates, grants or contracts) to increase supply and improve quality of child care services for:
  - Children in underserved areas;
  - Infants and toddlers;
  - Children with disabilities; and
  - Children who receive care during non-traditional hours.
- Prioritize populations with high-concentrations of poverty & unemployment
- Use public-private partnerships to increase supply and quality of care





# Effective/Compliance Dates

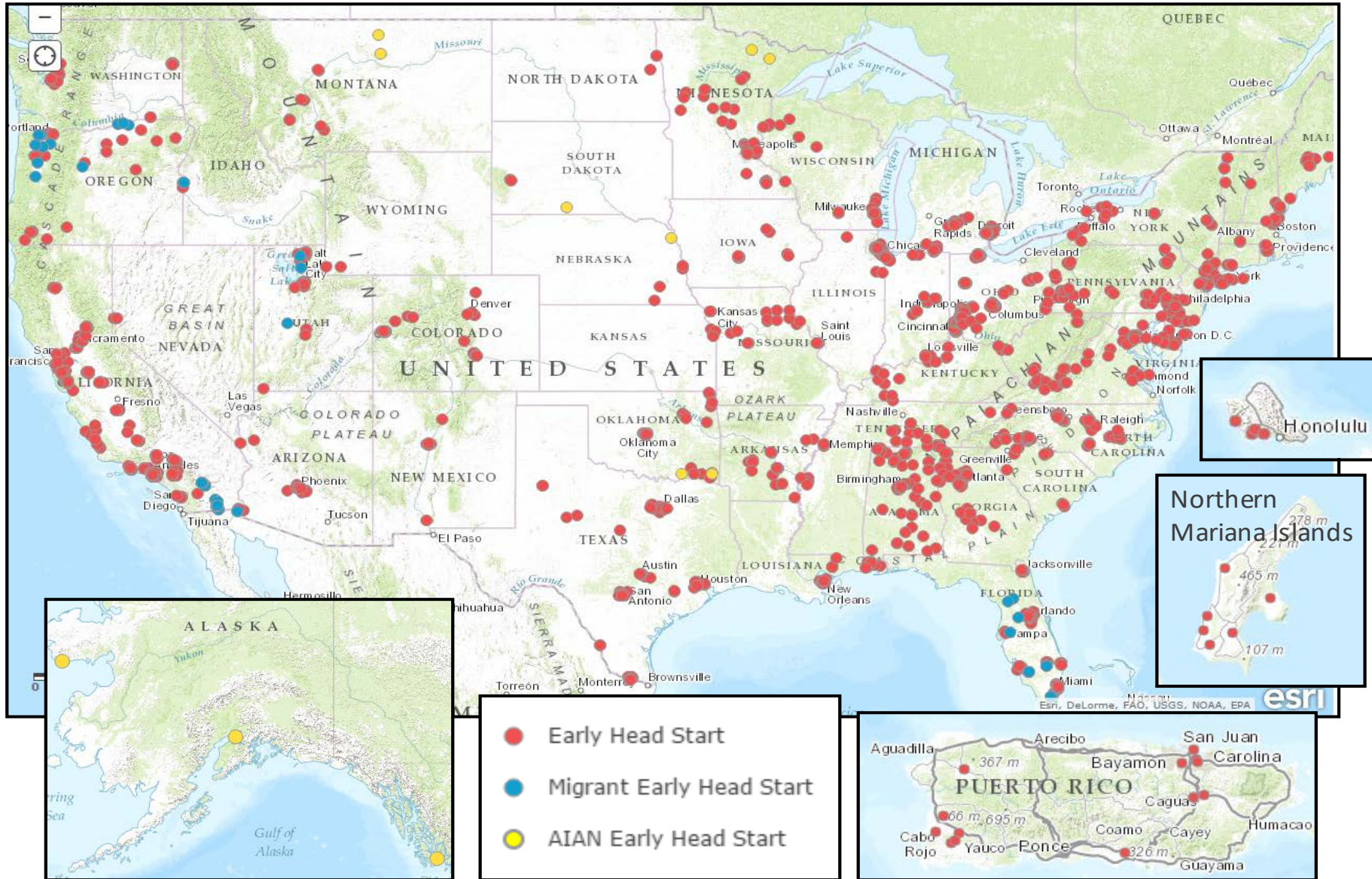
**Effective Date:** 60 days after publication.

**Compliance Date:** Full compliance by September 30, 2018. Compliance determined through CCDF Plans and federal monitoring.

**Compliance Date (Tribes):** Compliance through review and approval of the FY 2020 - 2022 Tribal CCDF Plans that become effective October 1, 2019.



# EHS-CCP Sites are Nationwide







## Strategies for Supporting Student-Parents

- Define “education” broadly to qualify for subsidy.
- Collaborate across child care and workforce systems.
- Connect consumer education resources to HPOG sites and parents.
- Build supply of child care for student parents.



## CCDBG Resources

**CCDF Reauthorization Resource Page:**

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ccdf-reauthorization>

**CCDF State Plans:**

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/state-plans>

**New Information Memoranda:**

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/information-memoranda>

**Supply Building**

**Opportunities for Partnership between TANF and CCDF**

**Supporting Parents in Job Training and Education Programs with Child Care Assistance**

**Early Childhood Development newsletter (free) at**

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ecd>



**Thank you for all you do for  
children and families!**

