



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

330 C Street, S.W., Washington DC 20201 | www.acf.hhs.gov

Dulce Quintero, Secretary Designate
Illinois Department of Human Services
100 South Grand Ave East
Springfield, Illinois 62762

Dear Secretary Designate Quintero:

This letter is a follow up to the letter from the Office of Child Care (OCC) your agency received on November 8, 2024, that informed you the Illinois CCDF Plan for the period of October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2027, was approved with conditions but noted OCC compliance decisions were still pending on certain grants/contract polices. As a reminder, a plan “approved with conditions” is a fully approved Plan with conditions related to requirements that are non-compliant. The conditions will be deemed fully compliant once all provisions in the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act and the CCDF regulations at 45 CFR 98 are fully implemented and demonstrated via a Plan amendment. At that time the Illinois CCDF Plan will be approved without conditions.

In the November 8, 2024 letter, OCC previously communicated the need for additional information about Illinois’ grants/contracts program before making a final compliance decision about the use of grants or contracts for direct services for children in underserved geographic areas, infants/toddlers, and children with disabilities, as required by 98.30(b)(1). After receiving additional information, OCC has determined that Illinois is compliant with the requirement at 98.30(b)(1) to use some grants or contracts to serve children in underserved geographic areas, infants/toddlers, and children with disabilities, and this letter serves as an official notice of compliance. An updated FFY 2025-2027 Plan approval letter will be sent via CARS soon for your records.

OCC looks forward to working together with you to promote the early learning and development of children and the economic stability and well-being of their families. As in prior years, OCC and its technical assistance network will offer a variety of technical assistance options and opportunities aimed at supporting the implementation of CCDF and full compliance with CCDF policies. Your Regional Office and State Systems Specialist will be reaching out to you to discuss your specific technical assistance needs.

If you have any questions, please contact Kurt Gee, Regional Program Manager in our Region V Regional Office, at (301) 532-2236 or Kurt.Gee@acf.hhs.gov. Thank you for all you do each day for children and families.

Sincerely,

/s/

Ruth Friedman, Ph.D.
Director
Office of Child Care

cc: Trish Rooney, Associate Director of Child Care.
Michael Garner-Jones, Bureau Chief, Subsidy Management
Kurt Gee, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care, Region V
Tatiana Tucker, Program Operations Liaison, Office of Child Care