

Support FY21 CCDBG Funding

Sign Letter to LHHS Subcommittee requesting Robust Funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Program

Dear Colleague,

Please join us in supporting robust funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program (CCDBG) for Fiscal Year 2021.

Since 1990, the CCDBG has helped our nation through support of quality childcare that supports the development, learning, and school readiness of children and allows parents to work, train, or pursue education while not negatively effecting the future of their children.

As of today, only a fraction of eligible children receive CCDBG, and access to affordable high-quality childcare remains a barrier for many parents who wish to enter and remain in the workforce. Given the importance of this program to working families across the country, there is a critical need for robust funding.

We hope that you will join us in requesting that robust funding be provided for Child Care and Development Block Grant in the FY21 Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill. For more information, please contact David Ross (Davis, IL-13) at david.ross@mail.house.gov. The deadline to sign-on is **COB March 9, 2020**.

Sincerely,

Rodney Davis

Member of Congress

Pete Stauber

Member of Congress

Steve Stivers

Member of Congress

March xx, 2020

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

As you develop the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we are writing to respectfully request that you provide robust funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG).

Recognizing the need to direct taxpayer resources to programs that can demonstrate a return on federal investments, support of quality child care - which has a strong evidence base - enables parents to work, train, or pursue an education, while also playing a crucial role in supporting children's healthy development, learning, and school readiness. While improving future opportunities for children, CCDBG also invests in parents by supporting their ability to work and be successful. As of today, only a fraction of eligible children receive CCDBG, and access to affordable high-quality child care still remains a barrier for many parents who wish to enter and remain in the workforce. Given the importance of this program to working families across the country, there is a critical need for robust funding.

CCDBG is a crucial component of the long standing federal-state early childhood education partnership. Through CCDBG the federal government works with states to support local providers to address the individual needs of children and families, while also prioritizing parental choice. Additionally, CCDBG creates a solid foundation upon which states are building their own child care systems, by leveraging federal funding to create and expand high-quality early learning and care opportunities beyond what is possible with state funding alone.

Finally, the CCDBG Act was reauthorized in 2014 with bipartisan support making important changes to improve the overall quality of care available and to make it easier for parents to find and maintain high-quality care. To meet these new quality and safety standards, Congress has made bipartisan investments in CCDBG in recent years, taking a critical step toward decreasing costs to parents, reducing waitlists, and supporting local providers, however much work remains. As states continue to implement the 2014 quality improvements, additional funding is essential to ensuring increased access to quality child care.

As quality child care can make a powerful difference in a child's development and a family's well-being, we urge you to include robust funding for CCDBG in the FY2021 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. We appreciate the bipartisan support you have shown CCDBG in the past and we hope to continue to work with you to support increased investments in quality child care as the appropriations process moves forward this year.

Sincerely,

Rodney Davis

Member of Congress

Pete Stauber

Member of Congress

Steve Stivers

Member of Congress