



Select Federal Legislation Impacting Early Childhood Education

The table that follows outlines early childhood programs that have expired or will expire during the 117th Congress (2021-2022), and that fall within the jurisdiction of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee and the House Committee on Education and Labor. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), within the jurisdiction of the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee, is also included given its connection to child care. This is not an exhaustive list and only includes existing laws that have expired or will expire in this Congress. This document does not include any new or stand-alone efforts to improve early learning and care, nor does it factor in the efforts of other Committees.

Legislation	Enacted	Expired	Relevant Notes
<p style="text-align: center;">Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Jan. 31, 1974 Most recent reauthorization: Dec. 20, 2010</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2015</p>	<p>While CAPTA has not been reauthorized, certain provisions of the act were amended by the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (focused on efforts to identify and provide comprehensive services for children who are sex trafficking victims); the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (required states to address the health of infants born affected by substance abuse or withdrawal and to develop plans of safe care for infants affected by all substances, not just illegal substances); the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (authorized grants to facilitate collaboration in developing, updating, implementing, and monitoring plans of safe care for infants); and the Victims of Child Abuse Act Reauthorization Act of 2018 (added protections from civil liability for good-faith participation in an investigation of abuse or neglect). Reauthorizing legislation was introduced in the Senate in 2019 and passed out of Senate HELP early in 2020. There has not been much discussion about this bill in the House.</p>

Legislation	Enacted	Expired	Relevant Notes
Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014 (CCDBG)	Nov. 5, 1990 Most recent reauthorization: Nov. 19, 2014	Sep. 30, 2020	During the 2014 reauthorization of CCDBG the program was modernized and included a host of new health, safety, and quality standards for states and providers. Initially, states struggled to implement the new standards given inadequate funding of the program. In FY2018, CCDBG’s discretionary funding was effectively doubled during the appropriations process to aide in implementation efforts and has received additional increases in FY2019 and 2020. Given that states are still implementing quality improvements, as well as the new health and safety standards, it seems unlikely that a reauthorization will take place this Congress.
Education Sciences Reform Act (ESRA)	Nov. 5, 2002	2008	ESRA has been extended since 2008 through appropriations legislation. In the 113 th Congress (2014), the House passed a bill that would have reauthorized ESRA and amended various aspects of the bill including privacy protections. In the 114 th Congress (2015) the Senate passed a largely-similar bill, however, the legislation never moved forward. Seeing bipartisan potential, Chairman Scott had shown interest in moving this bill forward in the 116 th Congress.
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)	Apr. 11, 1965 Most recent reauthorization: Dec. 10, 2015	Sep. 30, 2020	The 2015 reauthorization of ESSA shifted significant policy decisions to states and incorporated early learning across the law, including the first-ever funding stream for early childhood education, the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) program. States are in the early phases of implementing their plans, and given these on-going implementation efforts, there does not seem to be an active appetite for reauthorization at this time.
Head Start Act	Dec. 12, 2007	2012	Head Start has seen continued, and even increased, funding through appropriation bills since it expired in 2012. Head Start advocacy groups are not meaningfully pursuing reauthorization at this time.
Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010	Dec. 13, 2010	2015	Since expiring, Congress has extended child nutrition programs without substantive changes. In September 2019, the Access to Healthy Food for Young Children Act of 2019 was introduced with the aim of strengthening and expanding the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), while reducing administrative burdens to child care providers.



Legislation	Enacted	Expired	Relevant Notes
Higher Education Act (HEA)	Nov. 8, 1965 Most recent reauthorization: Aug. 14, 2008	2013	HEA has been extended by Congress since expiring in 2013. In December 2017, House Republicans announced the Promoting Real Opportunity, Success and Prosperity Through Education Reform (PROSPER) Act as the reauthorization while Democrats have previously introduced the Aim Higher Act. Over the past several months, House and Senate Committee Leadership have shown consistent interest in higher education reauthorization. The House held a series of bipartisan hearings on reauthorization in 2019 and subsequently considered H.R. 4674, the College Affordability Act, which was passed by the Committee in October 2019. Early in the 116 th Congress, Senator Alexander and Senator Murray outlined their priorities and their commitment to bipartisanship during public statements. H.R. 5363, the FUTURE Act, was enacted in December 2019 following adoption of a bipartisan Senate amendment that, among other changes, simplified the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and streamlined income-driven repayment.
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)	Oct. 30, 1990 Most recent reauthorization: Dec. 3, 2004	2009	During the 2004 reauthorization the most significant changes to IDEA were to align it with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. In 2009, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, IDEA received an additional \$12.2 billion to close funding gaps.
Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV)	Mar. 23, 2010 Most recent reauthorization: Feb. 9, 2018	September 30, 2022	In 2018, Congress reauthorized MIECHV for five years (through FY 2022) at a funding level of \$400 million a year. The program had expired in September of 2017.
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Jul. 1, 1997 Most recent reauthorization: 2005	2010; Extended to September 30, 2021	TANF's 2005 reauthorization was part of the Deficit Reduction Act and included some modest changes to the program. Since then, the program has been extended rather than reauthorized meaning there have been no major reforms to the program. In the 116 th Congress, various proposals for reauthorization were introduced. Most of the proposed changes focus on TANF work requirements. TANF was set to expire in December 2020 but was extended through September 30, 2021, as part of recent COVID relief legislation that also included annual government appropriations.

