

EARLY LEARNING FUNDING FOR KEY PROGRAMS – LABOR, HHS, & EDUCATION								
PROGRAM		Change in Funding		Budget Requests				
		FY21 FUNDING LEVELS	FY22 FUNDING LEVELS <sup>1</sup>	FY22 PRESIDENT'S BUDGET	FY22 ECE COMMUNITY ASK	FY22 HOUSE LABOR – HHS – EDUCATION BILL	FY22 SENATE LABOR – HHS – EDUCATION BILL	
CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CCDBG)	TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	\$5.91 BILLION	\$6.17 BILLION	\$7.38 BILLION	\$12 BILLION	\$7.38 BILLION	\$7.31 BILLION	
	Funding Increase	+\$85 million (over FY20)	+\$254 million (over FY 21)	+\$1.47 billion (over FY21)	+\$6.10 billion (over FY21)	+\$1.47 billion (over FY21)	+\$1.40 billion (over FY21)	
HEAD START (HS)/EARLY HEAD START (EHS)/EARLY HEAD START-CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIPS (EHS-CCP)	TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	\$10.75 BILLION	\$11.04 BILLION	\$11.93 BILLION	\$12.08 BILLION	\$12.18 BILLION	\$11.93 BILLION	
	Funding Increase	+\$135 million (over FY20)	+\$289 million (over FY21)	+\$1.18 billion (over FY21)	+\$1.34 billion (over FY21)	+\$1.43 billion (over FY21)	+\$1.18 billion (over FY21)	
	TOTAL EHS-CCP & EHS Expansion	Not specified <sup>2</sup>	Not specified	\$1.855 billion	Not specified	\$1.655 billion	\$1.405 billion	
	EHS-CCP & EHS Expansion Increase			+\$950 million (over FY20)		+\$750 million (over FY20)	+\$500 million (over FY20)	
PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT BIRTH THROUGH FIVE (PDG B-5)	TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	\$275 MILLION	\$290 MILLION	\$450 MILLION	\$500 MILLION	\$450 MILLION	\$450 MILLION	
	Funding Increase	Level Funding (with FY20)	+\$15 million (over FY21)	+\$175 million (over FY21)	+\$225 million (over FY21)	+\$175 million (over FY21)	+\$175 million (over FY21)	

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IDEA GRANTS TO STATES	TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	\$12.94 BILLION	\$13.34 BILLION	\$15.50 BILLION	Not specified	\$15.54 BILLION	\$15.54 BILLION	
	Funding Increase	+\$1.73 billion (over FY20)	+\$406.2 million (over FY21)	+\$2.56 billion (over FY21)		+\$2.60 billion (over FY21)	+\$2.60 billion (over FY21)	
IDEA PRESCHOOL GRANTS (PART B, 619)	TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	\$397.6 MILLION	\$409.5 MILLION	\$502.6 MILLION	\$537.3 MILLION	\$502.6 MILLION	\$502.6 MILLION	
	Funding Increase	+\$3.5 million (over FY20)	+\$11.9 million (over FY21)	+\$105 million (over FY21)	+\$139.7 million (over FY21)	+\$105 million (over FY21)	+\$105 million (over FY21)	
IDEA GRANTS FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS (PART C)	TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	\$481.9 MILLION	\$496.3 MILLION	\$731.9 MILLION	\$722.2 MILLION	\$731.9 MILLION	\$731.9 MILLION	
	Funding Increase	+\$4.85 million (over FY20)	+\$14.5 million (over FY21)	+\$250 million (over FY21)	+\$240.4 million (over FY21)	+\$250 million (over FY21)	+\$250 million (over FY21)	

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CHILD CARE ACCESS MEANS PARENTS IN SCHOOL (CCAMPIS)	TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	\$55 MILLION	\$65 MILLION	\$95 MILLION	Not specified	\$95 MILLION	\$110 MILLION	
	Funding Increase	+\$2 million (over FY20)	+\$10.0 million (over FY21)	+\$40 million (over FY21)		+\$40 million (over FY21)	+\$55 million (over FY21)	
NATIONAL CHILD TRAUMATIC STRESS INITIATIVE	TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	\$71.89 MILLION	\$81.89 MILLION	\$82 MILLION	Not specified	\$100 MILLION	\$81.89 MILLION	
	Funding Increase	+\$3 million (over FY20)	+\$10.0 million (over FY21)	+\$10 million (over FY21)		+\$28 million (over FY21)	+\$10 million (over FY21)	

<sup>1</sup> These funding levels do not include supplemental funds from Coronavirus Relief legislation.

<sup>2</sup> FY20 was the last time a specific funding level (\$905 million) was noted for EHS-CCP.

#### JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2022

Note: Unless otherwise noted, the language set forth in <u>House Report 117-96</u> carries the same weight as language included in this explanatory statement and should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in this explanatory statement.

#### **Administration for Children and Families**

*Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS) Eligibility Requirements.*—The agreement reiterates the need for the report on the Impact of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, as requested in House Report 116-450, including the section examining how such requirements may be affecting MSHS, and requests a briefing on the findings and recommendations of that report as soon as practicable.

In addition, the agreement directs the Office of Head Start to issue, and post online within 30 days of enactment of this Act, guidance on the flexibilities MSHS programs can offer farmworker families concerned with demonstrating income eligibility or residency as referenced in House Report 117-96.

Quality Improvement Funding for Staff Recruitment and Retention and Trauma-Informed Care. —The agreement provides \$52,000,000 in quality improvement funding, including a prioritization on activities to improve staff compensation in order to recruit and retain qualified staff and support the provision of high-quality program services. Funds may also be used to address the rise of adverse childhood experiences attributable to the pandemic and the increased prevalence of substance use, economic hardship, home and community violence, and other traumatic experiences that can negatively impact child development and lead to disruptions in classroom environments. The agreement directs the Administration to allow flexibility to meet local needs while focusing these funds on improving the compensation of staff with an emphasis on positions with high rates of turnover.

Social Services Research and Demonstration.—The agreement includes \$10,000,000 for carrying out a diaper distribution pilot program to provide grants to social service agencies or other non-profit organizations specifically for diaper and diapering supply needs.

# HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS REPORT, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2022 (House Report 117-96)

## Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)

Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation/CCDBG Eligibility and Receipt.—The Committee expects HHS ASPE to provide and make publicly accessible updated annual estimates and factsheets of Child Care Eligibility and Receipt under Federal and State rules as promptly as practicable. Within six months of enactment of this Act, the Committee directs ASPE to post on its website estimates and factsheets for fiscal year 2018, along with a timeline for when the agency intends to provide updates for 2019 and subsequent years.

*Child Care Facilities Needs Assessment.*—The Committee appreciates that ACF is in the process of conducting a feasibility study to determine how States could conduct needs assessments of their child care and early education facilities. The Committee directs ACF to continue to dedicate a portion of Federal CCDBG research funding (42 U.S.C. 9858m) as it evaluates possible methodologies for conducting facilities needs assessments and prepares cost estimates for the funding that would be necessary for experts to conduct

Statewide needs assessments. As part of that evaluation, the Committee expects the Office of Child Care (OCC) to engage with key experts and stakeholders who have worked on recent facilities standards reports, conducted Statewide facilities needs assessments, and who have experience in conducting Statewide needs assessments or working on child care and early childhood education facilities issues. OCC shall brief the Committee on its findings as soon as practicable, and include the recommended methodology, along with the resources that would be necessary to fund such Statewide needs assessments in the fiscal year 2023 Congressional Budget Justification.

The Committee encourages HHS to coordinate with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Bureau of Indian Affairs as it assesses the child care infrastructure and early learning needs in underserved rural and tribal communities, including for Head Start and early Head Start facilities. Further, the Committee encourages HHS to consult with the Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Small Business Administration, and the Department of Treasury Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, on potential opportunities to leverage resources available to bolster early childhood learning and development in rural America.

*Child Care Relief and Recovery GAO Study.*—The Committee directs GAO to study the State implementation of the various coronavirus relief and recovery packages to identify long-term strategies for improving the child care industry and supporting child care businesses including the use of grants and/or contracts, improving payment practices, and strategies to recruit and retain the workforce.

Homelessness Data.—The Committee encourages OCC to provide technical assistance to States to improve the quality and completeness of the data States are required to collect on the homelessness status of children receiving childcare subsidies. The Committee expects OCC to annually publish on its website data gathered regarding homelessness status and related demographic data.

### **Head Start**

*Cost of Living Adjustment.*—The Committee recommends \$234,000,000 for a cost-of-living adjustment.

*Early Head Start (EHS) Expansion and Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnerships.*—The Committee provides \$750,000,000 to expand Head Start and Early Head Start programs for eligible children and families. The Committee understands that the EHS-CC Partnership grant program was designed to enhance the quality of child care to better meet the needs of working families, and supports the program's appreciation for how Head Start can be critically helpful to meeting those needs. However, the Committee is aware of certain communities for which there are significant barriers to establishing the EHS-CCP model and expects grants for EHS expansion or EHS-CC partnerships to be awarded based on the unique needs of each community with due consideration of local feasibility. The Committee requests a briefing within 45 days of enactment of this Act on how the Office of Head Start intends to award EHS expansion funding, including EHS-CCP funds, without making awards based on a predetermined spending level, and in a way that does not disadvantage communities where EHS-CCP is infeasible. The Committee urges OHS to ensure that the program is not expanded in a way that excludes children and babies whose parents do not qualify for child care, or pregnant women.

The Committee continues to direct ACF to include in the fiscal year 2023 Congressional Budget Justification and each Congressional Budget Justification thereafter, the actual and estimated number of funded slots for each of the following: Head Start, EHS, and EHS-CC Partnerships.

*Extended Duration.*—The Committee understands the need for Head Start programs to offer longer hours of service to better align with K–12 schedules and support working parents, and includes \$200,000,000 for programs to expand program hours of service consistent with the 2016 Head Start Program Performance Standards.

*Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS) Eligibility Requirements.*—The Committee remains concerned about how enrollment and eligibility requirements for the MSHS program may act as barriers for low-income farmworker families seeking MSHS services. The Committee reiterates the need for the report on the Impact of the Federal Poverty Guideline, as requested in House Report 116–450, including the section examining how such requirements may be affecting MSHS. The Committee expects the OHS to brief the Committees on the findings and recommendations of that report as soon as practicable, but not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, so that it can continue to discuss possible solutions to expand access to such families.

In addition, the Committee is concerned that families applying for MSHS services may be deemed ineligible based on the disruption to the lives of agricultural workers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Committee understands that several flexibilities exist with regard to how a farmworker can demonstrate eligibility for MSHS programs, and directs OHS to issue guidance within 30 days of enactment of this Act on the flexibilities MSHS programs can offer farmworker families with regard to demonstrating income eligibility, or residency, if they were unable to migrate as a result of the pandemic.

*Most Vulnerable Communities GAO Study.*—The Committee directs GAO to conduct a study identifying whether Head Start meets the needs of the most vulnerable children and communities around the country, or whether flexibility could be given in order to allocate funds to communities, age groups, or families that are in greatest need around the country.

*Quality Improvement Funding for Trauma-Informed Care.*—The Committee continues to recognize that children affected by trauma face significant challenges that require specialized care. The Committee provides \$250,000,000 in quality improvement funding for programs to increase services for mental health professionals to provide expert care and counseling to families and the Head Start workforce; provide staff training on trauma-informed approaches to service delivery; and add staff to Head Start classrooms.

Supporting Families.—The Committee strongly supports Head Start's efforts to support families' well-being and economic security by partnering with parents on employment, education, and career goals. The Committee encourages programs to invest in parents through parent-to-teacher training programs, partnerships with local community colleges, apprenticeship programs, and local employers committed to helping Head Start and Early Head Start families find meaningful employment and career tracks.

*Tribal Colleges and Universities–Head Start Partnership Program.*—The Committee recommends \$8,000,000 for the Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU)-Head Start Partnership Program.

## **Preschool Development Grants**

The Committee recommends \$450,000,000 for Preschool Development Grants, which is \$175,000,000 above the fiscal year 2021 enacted level and equal to the fiscal year 2022 budget request. This program provides grants to States to build State and local capacity to provide preschool for 4-year-olds from low- and moderate-income families.