



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Administration for Children & Families

Office of Child Care



The Office of Child Care (OCC) will launch a redesigned Child Care Technical Assistance Network (CCTAN) in 2011. Following OCC's *Pathways and Partnerships for Child Care Excellence* work plan, the CCTAN will focus on these priorities:

OCC National TA Centers will provide specialized technical assistance and expertise in three key areas:

- The **National Center on Child Care Quality Improvement** will support CCDF grantees as they build quality improvement systems that create pathways to excellence for child care providers.
- The **National Center on Child Care Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives** will build State capacity to produce qualified child care professionals. *(Jointly funded with Office of Head Start)*
- The **National Center on Child Care Subsidy Administration and Program Integrity** will support CCDF Administrators as they develop child care subsidy systems that are child-focused, family-friendly, fair to child care providers and operate with strong program integrity.

TA specialists will focus on meeting the individual TA needs of States, Territories and Tribes:

- A **Network of State Child Care Systems Specialists**, who will be Regionally-based, will work with each State, the OCC Regional staff, and designated staff at the Centers to customize TA and coordinate a team to help States reach the goals outlined in their CCDF Plans. The State System Specialists will ensure an integrated approach to system building and provide TA with a deep understanding of the policy context in each State.
- The **National Tribal Child Care and Home Visiting Technical Assistance Center** will focus on the unique needs of Tribes and work collaboratively to ensure that Tribal communities have access to the TA they need to provide high quality child care. The Tribal TA Center will also support Tribal Home Visiting grantees, in collaboration with DHHS' Maternal and Child Health Bureau

The CCTAN will integrate support for the unique needs of infants and toddlers and school age children:

- Three National Centers (Quality Improvement, Professional Development, and Tribal Child Care) will each employ an infant-toddler specialist and a school age specialist. Working through them, the OCC will convene communities of practice to focus attention on how infants, toddlers, and school age children's needs are being met in State, Territory, and Tribal child care programs.
- The National Center on Child Care Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives will work to build and enhance State infant-toddler specialist networks.
- Beginning in FY 2012, the OCC will sponsor an annual **School Age Child Care National Meeting** to highlight best practices and collaboration opportunities between government programs, local schools districts and national and state organizations.

The CCTAN will support continuing partnerships:

- The OCC and the Office of Head Start will create a National Early Childhood Center TA Workgroup, which will oversee the coordination and collaboration between CCTAN and the technical assistance systems of the Office of Head Start and our other early learning and development partners.
- The OCC will continue to build and strengthen relationships with health-focused agencies. Ongoing partnerships related to health and safety include collaboration with DHHS' Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Office of Head Start's training and technical assistance network.

CCTAN Questions? Contact Ginny Gipp, Director, Technical Assistance Division: [ginny.gipp@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:gabby.gipp@acf.hhs.gov)



The Office of Child Care will support the following contracts (with selected highlights of activities) in FY 2012:

National Center on Child Care Quality Improvement – Activities to include:

- Providing expert TA on strengthening child care licensing systems to create a strong foundation for quality;
- Helping States and Territories implement continuous quality improvement efforts as they set quality goals;
- Tracking State and Territory milestones linked to quality improvement systems;
- Collecting and using data on quality, including OCC's Quality Performance Report; and
- Participating in a Quality Improvement and Professional Development TA Workgroup.

National Center on Child Care Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives – Activities to include:

- Supporting development of core competencies linked to State early learning guidelines and academic expectations for school age children;
- Creating a framework for the portability of credentials between States;
- Supporting a system of infant-toddler specialists in States across the country;
- Helping States create intentional training that fits into the career pathways;
- Supporting fully-articulated systems of credentials and degrees;
- Helping States with scholarship and compensation initiatives, registries or other workforce data systems; and
- Participating in a Quality Improvement and Professional Development TA Workgroup

National Center on Child Care Subsidy Administration and Program Integrity – Activities to include:

- Helping States develop and implement child care subsidy policies and practices that are child-focused, family-friendly, and that work in partnership with child care providers;
- Identifying and promoting policy choices and programmatic design that increase the likelihood that children and families with subsidies access high-quality care and benefit from greater stability;
- Supporting States and Territories to build supply and quality in under-served populations and communities;
- Providing expertise and support on ways to prevent, detect, and eliminate fraud while preserving access; and
- Facilitating programmatic reviews for compliance with the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act (IPERA), the Improper Payments Information Act (IPIA) and fiscal audit requirements

Network of State Child Care Systems Specialists – Activities to include:

- Developing and coordinating State and Territory TA Plans based on approved CCDF Plan documents;
- Serving as a broker for States to utilize the expertise in the OCC TA Centers and other TA resources;
- Providing individualized support to States and Territories with a deep understanding of context; and
- Supporting OCC Regional Offices with TA events that are responsive to the needs of CCDF grantees.

National Center on Child Care Data and Technology – Technical assistance activities and features to include:

- Providing TA, including computer-based training and a toll-free hotline, to help CCDF grantees submit their CCDF plans online and to submit timely, accurate data;
- Analyzing CCDF data and making it available to the public;
- Providing technology tools to help coordinate the TA across Centers; and
- A new and improved one-stop website for all CCTAN-produced materials and resources.

National Tribal Child Care and Home Visiting TA Center – Activities to include:

- Supporting the work of Tribal grantees related to CCDF administration and program integrity;
- Helping Tribes create continuous quality improvement efforts as they set quality goals;
- Developing and coordinating peer-learning opportunities and leadership development;
- Supporting a biennial National Conference for Tribal grantees; and
- Support for Tribal Home Visiting grantees, including the development of early childhood systems.

National Child Care Communication Management Center – Activities to include:

- Logistical support for national OCC meetings and TA events, including the State and Territory Administrators Meeting, an annual School Age Child Care Meeting, and the Child Care Policy Research Consortium Meeting;
- Providing support for Regional TA events in each of the ten regions; and
- Supporting OCC TA through technology – webinars, videos, etc.