



Board of Early Education and Care Motion 2021-06

Approval of the Child Care and Development Fund State Plan for Federal Fiscal Years 2022-2024 and Authorization to Submit the Plan to the Administration for Children and Families

Pursuant to its enabling legislation, the Department of Early Education and Care ("Department") shall serve as the Lead Agency for the administration of the Child Care and Development Fund ("CCDF"). *See* G.L. c. 15D, § 2. The Board of Early Education and Care ("Board") is responsible for reviewing and approving all applications for federal funds related to early education and care programs, including the CCDF State Plan. *See* G.L. c. 15D, § 3(d).

Federal law mandates that the Department completes a CCDF State Plan and determines what must be contained within the plan. *See* 45 CFR § 98.16. As the Lead Agency for the CCDF program, federal law requires that the Department submit a new CCDF State Plan to the Administration for Children and Families ("ACF") prior to the expiration date of the current CCDF Plan, which will expire on September 30, 2021. *See* 45 CFR § 98.17. The 2022-2024 CCDF State plan is due to ACF on June 30, 2021.

In developing the CCDF State Plan, Lead Agencies must hold at least one public hearing before the CCDF State Plan is submitted to ACF for approval. *See* 45 CFR § 98.14(c)(2). The Department held a virtual public hearing on June 2, 2021 via Zoom. The Department also accepted written comments on the proposed CCDF State Plan through June 4, 2021.

The Department recommends that the Board, subject to revision by the Commissioner based on additional feedback, approves the Department's process to finalize the Commonwealth's CCDF State Plan for federal fiscal years 2022-2024 and authorizes the Department to submit the finalized CCDF State Plan to the Administration for Children and Families on or before June 30, 2021 on its behalf.

MOVED: **that the Department recommends that the Board, subject to revision by the Commissioner based on additional feedback, approves the Department's process to finalize the Commonwealth's CCDF State Plan for federal fiscal years 2022-2024 and authorizes the Department to submit the finalized CCDF State Plan to the Administration for Children and Families on or before June 30, 2021 on its behalf.**