

# EXPULSION AND SUSPENSION

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Is there a policy directive or requirement that limits suspension and expulsion of children served by child care providers receiving Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funds, commonly known in our state as child care vouchers?**

*Yes. On November 19, 2014, the President signed the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 into law. This law requires all states funded by this Act to take action to eliminate suspension and expulsion of children from early learning environments.*

***What prompted this new requirement for states and programs receiving these funds?***

*This new requirement was driven by overwhelming data that shows children who are expelled or suspended from early child care settings are more likely to have negative educational and life outcomes. The early years are the best time to promote learning, safety and wellbeing so they can become productive and successful through their lifetime.*

**What are the consequences if I expel or suspend a child from my facility?**

*The law requires the state to take action to eliminate suspension and expulsion of children from early child care settings that receive CCDF funds; therefore, the state has the authority to withdraw funds and end Participant Agreements with any child care facility that expels or suspends children. Before funds are withdrawn, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE) will work with providers to educate them about this requirement to avoid disruption of child care services. Corrective action plans will be developed for the facility to address this issue, which will include staff development, education, and training on how to deal with children with behavioral challenges. The Division will determine on a case-by-case basis if funding should be suspended if requirements are not met.*

***If I am having trouble dealing with a child with behavioral challenges, what do I do?***

*Child care providers and staff are encouraged to contact DCCECE using our triage or BehaviorHelp response system. Links to the online BehaviorHelp response system will be placed on various websites so that initial information can be received about the problem experienced. Key DCCECE staff will contact the individual, obtain more detailed information about the problem, and will provide technical assistance or referral to additional resources to help you.*

**What resources or assistance is available now to help me?**

*A variety of trainings are currently available and additional online trainings have been developed that focus on social-emotional development. You can access handout materials such as one-pagers, fact sheets, and policy templates online at the Better Beginnings website or information can be emailed or mailed to you. Additionally, DCCECE's professional development contractors will provide on-site technical assistance to help you, your staff, and the family support the child.*