



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

330 C Street, S.W., Washington DC 20201 | www.acf.hhs.gov

OCT 30 2018

Pankaj Bhanot, Director
Hawaii Department of Human Services
P.O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

Dear Director Bhanot:

I am pleased to inform you that the Hawaii Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for the period of October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2021, has been provisionally approved. This “provisionally approved” plan is approved for the criminal background check provisions in Section 5.4 of the Plan and related waiver requests in Appendix A. Once the Office of Child Care (OCC) completes its review of the remaining provisions of the Plan in November, we will send a separate letter addressing approval of the complete Plan along with any conditions for corrective action as applicable.

Regarding the background check provisions, Hawaii has met the required milestones and conditions for a time-limited waiver, and therefore is granted an extension through September 30, 2019 to implement the following:

- Conducting checks of the criminal registry or repository using fingerprints in the current State of residency on all current (existing) staff (5.4.1b)
- Conducting checks of the FBI fingerprint check on all current (existing) staff (5.4.4b)
- Checks of the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR)
 - Establishing requirements and procedures (5.4.5a)
 - Conducting checks on all new (prospective) staff (5.4.5a)
 - Conducting checks on all current (existing) staff (5.4.5b)
- Checks of the criminal registry or repository in any other state where the individual has resided in the past five years
 - Establishing requirements and procedures (5.4.6a)
 - Conducting checks on all new (prospective) staff (5.4.6a)
 - Conducting checks on all current (existing) staff (5.4.6b)

- Checks of the sex offender registry in any other state where the individual has resided within the past five years
 - Establishing requirements and procedures (5.4.7a)
 - Conducting checks on all new (prospective) staff (5.4.7a)
 - Conducting checks on all current (existing) staff (5.4.7b)
- Checks of the child abuse and neglect registry and database in any other state where the individual has resided within the past five years
 - Establishing requirements and procedures (5.4.8a)
 - Conducting checks on all new (prospective) staff (5.4.8a)
 - Conducting checks on all current (existing) staff (5.4.8b)
- Establishing requirements and procedures for staff members to begin work on a provisional basis (if supervised at all times) after completing and receiving satisfactory results on either the FBI fingerprint check or a fingerprint check of the state/territory criminal registry or repository in the current State of residency of staff (5.4.9)

The CCDF Plan includes questions that encompass all elements as required by regulations at 45 CFR 98.16. However, the Plan does not ask about all aspects of Federal requirements. For example, for the background check requirements, the Plan does not explicitly ask for the State's definition of "child care staff members" that are subject to the checks, or whether the State has adopted the federally-mandated list of disqualifying crimes. During our review of the CCDF Plans, for some States we noticed areas of possible non-compliance with CCDF requirements that are outside the scope of this review for Plan approval. You will still need to take action to come into compliance with these requirements, and your OCC Regional Office will follow-up with you on these areas. Recognizing the information in the Plans is not exhaustive, the OCC will monitor State compliance through multiple mechanisms. All requirements of the Act and the Rule are subject to the monitoring, compliance, and complaint actions as described in 45 CFR Subpart J, including 98.90, 98.91, and 98.92. Additionally, States and Territories are subject to audit requirements at 45 CFR 98.65 of CCDF regulations.

You will receive a Notice of Grant Award in October 2018 from the Office of Administration in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). The notice will include the amount of your award and any additional terms and conditions for the receipt of CCDF program funds. During the effective period of this plan, any substantial changes to your CCDF program must be submitted as a plan amendment to your Regional Office for approval in accordance with 45 CFR 98.18(b). If you have any questions, please contact Abby Cohen.

Please remember to expect a second letter regarding your Plan once ACF OCC has completed its review in November. This letter will detail any additional conditions or Corrective Action Plans as applicable to your state.

We look forward to working together toward full implementation of the CCDBG Act of 2014 and promoting the early learning and development of children along with family economic stability and success. If you have any questions, please contact Abby Cohen, Child Care Program Manager, Office of Child Care at (415) 437-8437 or abby.cohen@acf.hhs.gov. Thank you for all you do each day for children and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Christian", with a stylized, flowing script.

Shannon Christian
Director
Office of Child Care

cc: Scott Nakasone, CCDF Administrator
Dana Balansag, CCDF Co-Administrator
Abby Cohen, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care Region IX