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## Regulated Subsidy Brief

Title: New Requirements for CCDF License Exempt Child Care Providers

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### ISSUE:

Authorization from the legislature through HB 2015 and changes in federal law requires the Early Learning Division to begin annual health and safety inspections of license exempt child care providers who receive CCDF subsidy in home and center environments (Regulated Subsidy providers). The requirement becomes operative on November 19, 2016. Due to these new requirements, the Early Learning Division must adopt administrative rules for health and safety standards and processes for inspections.

### BACKGROUND:

The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014 requires states and territories to conduct health and safety monitoring inspections for all child care providers who accept federal funding from the Child Care and Development Fund. Currently, Oregon only inspects licensed facilities. The new law will require inspection of license exempt homes and centers. States have flexibility, to a degree, about how the new standards are implemented.

### FINDINGS:

The Early Learning Division and the Department of Human Services conducted a series of engagement activities throughout the state on implementation of the new federal law. The primary goals of the engagement activities were to receive feedback on areas in which the state has interpretation flexibility. Input was gathered from diverse groups of stakeholders through open ended questions on inspection approach and health and safety requirements; resources and supports for effective technical assistance; how standards might differ from licensed standards; concerns of providers and parents; training requirements; methods of communication for parents and providers; and for centers, adult/child ratio.

Staff members from the Early Learning Division and the Department of Human Services child care team attended numerous webinars, meetings and technical assistance sessions with partners from the federal Office of Child Care on strategies for exploring approaches to meet new federal monitoring regulations.

The federal Office of Child Care offers numerous resources on its website for monitoring early care and education settings and refers states to *Caring for our Children Basics* as representation

of minimum health and safety standards experts believe should be in place where children are cared for outside of their homes.

[http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ece/caring\\_for\\_our\\_children\\_basics.pdf](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ece/caring_for_our_children_basics.pdf)

Additional research information: Innovation in monitoring in early care and education – Options for states, An ASPE White Paper in partnership with ACF.

[https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/139266/rpt\\_ece\\_monitoring.pdf](https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/139266/rpt_ece_monitoring.pdf)