

**State/Territory Plan
2022 - 2024**

3.3 Increasing Access for Vulnerable Children and Families

3.3.6 Lead Agencies must establish a grace period that allows homeless children and children in foster care to receive CCDF assistance while providing their families with a reasonable time to take any necessary actions to comply with immunization and other health and safety requirements (as described in section 5). The length of such a grace period shall be established in consultation with the state, territorial, or tribal health agency (658E(c)(2)(I)(i)(I); 98.41(a)(1)(i)(C)).

c) Does the Lead Agency establish grace periods for other children who are not experiencing homelessness or in foster care?

State/Territory	No	Yes	Yes, Describe:
Total	26	30	
Alabama	X		
Alaska	X		
American Samoa		X	<i>The Lead Agency may allow grace periods for eligible families who were directly impacted by disasters.</i>
Arizona		X	The 15-day grace period to collect required immunization records is extended to all children.
Arkansas		X	All children are allowed a grace period of 15 days to obtain up to date immunizations records on children. This regulation can be found in Section 1101 of the Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers located here: https://dhs.arkansas.gov/dccece/cclas/FacilitySearch.aspx and in Section 1102 of the Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Family Homes located here: https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020-Child-Care-Family_Home.pdf
California	X		
Colorado	X		

Connecticut		X	The Care 4 Kids regulation 17b-749-11 (f) provides a 60-day grace period to comply with immunization requirements related to children who receive the Care 4 Kids subsidy. If a child who receives care has not been immunized, the parent shall have sixty days from the date assistance is granted to verify that the child has begun the immunization process. The child's benefits shall be terminated if the parent does not provide the required verification within sixty days. The child shall remain ineligible until such time that the parent verifies that the child has been or is in the process of being immunized. If there are no other eligible children in the home, the family shall become ineligible.
Delaware	X		
District of Columbia	X		
Florida		X	Immunization records are not collected by the ELCs as a condition of initial eligibility for child care. Child care providers are responsible for obtaining and keeping on file a record of the child's immunizations, physical development and other health requirements. Parents have a 30-day grace period to submit immunization records to the child care provider. School-aged children attending public or non-public schools are not required to have student health examination and immunization records on file at the child care facility as such records are on file at the school where the child is enrolled.
Georgia		X	CAPS Policy Manual 6.6 allows all eligible families an additional 90 days, if needed, to verify immunization requirements.
Guam		X	The Lead Agency allows a 30-day grace period for all families to come to compliance with the immunization requirement.
Hawaii	X		
Idaho		X	Immunization policies allow all children to receive care for up to 14 days before completing immunization requirements. (IDAPA 16.06.12.105.01)
Illinois	X		
Indiana	X		
Iowa	X		

Kansas		X	KDHE's Emergency Disaster Guidelines for Early Care and Youth Programs is the policy that states that displaced children and youth entering regulated child care facilities for temporary emergency care are not required to provide documentation of current immunizations and health assessment for up to 60 days. This would apply to any displaced children and youth for temporary emergency care. KEESM 2145.1 is the Child Care Assistance related policy that delays the citizenship verification when needed. There is no immunization requirements related to the Kansas Child Care Assistance Program. Children for whom Child Care Assistance is being requested whose U.S. citizenship is not questionable may be allowed a reasonable opportunity to provide verification of that citizenship. If otherwise eligible, the application shall be processed and approved granting a reasonable opportunity period to the caretaker of the child to provide the verification for the child. The reasonable opportunity period shall be three calendar months commencing from the date the case is authorized. If the verification is not received by the end of the reasonable opportunity period, benefits shall end allowing for timely and adequate notice. If verification is provided within the month after the month of case closure, eligibility may be reinstated without a new application or request. If U.S. citizenship is questionable, the child for whom Child Care Assistance is being requested would be ineligible to receive assistance until proof of U.S. citizenship is provided. Note: The reasonable opportunity period may be extended in situations where the caretaker of the child is making a bona fide effort to obtain the verification, but circumstances outside his/her control are delaying the effort. A decision to extend the period must be thoroughly documented and supported in the case file.
Kentucky		X	Families engaged in a job search can qualify immediately for child care for a minimum three month period.
Louisiana		X	The Lead Agency may allow a 90 day grace period for immunizations and other health and safety requirements during a natural disaster or public health emergency for children that are affected or included in protective services.
Maine		X	<u>For License-Exempt CCSP Providers, CCSP Rule sec. 3(B)(1): "ninety-day (90) grace period shall be granted while Parents are taking the necessary actions to comply with the immunization requirement. Child Care Center Rules 17.1.1, and Family Child Care Rules Section 12: Health and Medical (A) allow for a 30-day grace period.</u>
Maryland		X	A 60 day grace period is given to: non-school age children using informal child care and who need to complete immunization requirements; children whose parents are choosing to pursue court-ordered complete child support; and pending TANF applicants.
Massachusetts		X	EEC allows children from a teen parent and children of families receiving protective services through the DCF up to six (6) months from the date of their child's admission into a child care program to obtain the child's medical records.

Michigan		X	12-month grace period, as described above, applies to all CCDF applicants.
Minnesota		X	Legal non-licensed home providers have a 30-day grace period to collect immunization records.
Mississippi	X		
Missouri	X		
Montana		X	Immunizations are a requirement for all children attending child care facilities monitored by the Child Care Licensing Program. The conditional enrollment period outlined by an individual child's conditional enrollment form is allowed for any children attending a child care facility.
Nebraska		X	The 30 day grace period applies to all children in child care.
Nevada		X	CPS/Foster (including Voluntary and Reunification Plan participants)
New Hampshire	X		
New Jersey		X	For each child not enrolled in a public or private school, upon admission, the child care center shall maintain on file at the center a Universal Child Health Record (Department of Health Form CH-14) or its equivalent, updated annually, along with an immunization record, and a special care plan, if applicable. State licensing law grants a 30-day grace period to comply with immunization. The length of the grace period was established through DCF regulations, in alignment with DOH immunization regulations N.J.A.C. 3A:52-7.3; N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.5(e).
New Mexico	X		The At-Risk child care program is supported by state general funds. Grace periods are also established for these families.
New York		X	In light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, OCFS created an OCFS-6050 - Emergency Reservation Form to address possible inability to secure medical statements or documentation. https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/#covid-guidance . The Emergency Reservation Form was created for parents who became abruptly in need of child care services during the COVID-19 outbreak, either in response to schools closing, or their current child care program closing. This form allowed the parent to enroll their child in a new program without the paperwork that is currently required by regulation. The parent was able to attest to their child's health as physician's offices were also unavailable.
North Carolina		X	All families have 30 days to submit immunization records and a medical report.

North Dakota		X	Every child regardless of family situation is provided 30 days.
Northern Mariana Islands	X		
Ohio		X	Licensing regulations allow all families to enroll in a child care program and then provide a medical statement/immunizations within 30 days of the first day of care.
Oklahoma		X	Oklahoma waives immunization and health and safety requirements for all children for at least 30 days to allow for expedited enrollment in child care.
Oregon	X		N/A
Pennsylvania		X	OCDEL allows all families, if needed, a 90-day period from the date the family is determined eligible to receive subsidy, to get immunizations if the child does not have them. Immunizations are not required if the child has a medical reason or the parent has religious reasons for not obtaining immunizations. Immunizations are self-certified, meaning the parent self-attests the child is properly immunized; this is accepted as sufficient proof of the child's immunization status.
Puerto Rico		X	Only in the event of a disaster or emergency declaration as deemed necessary and established by the ACUDEN Administrator. These children have a 30 day grace period to comply with immunization documents required.
Rhode Island	X		
South Carolina	X		
South Dakota	X		NA
Tennessee	X		
Texas	X		
Utah	X		

Vermont		X	All children are subject to Center Based Child Care Rule 3.4.4.2 and Registered/Licensed Family Child Care Rule 3.3.4.2 which states that a child's file shall be complete within the first week that the child begins to attend care and the required annual physical shall be obtained within 45 days of enrollment. Once the immunization records are reviewed, if a child is not current then enrollment may occur on a provisional basis. Provisional admittance must be for a reasonable length of time that is consistent with the immunization schedule and is not to exceed 6 months after the child is admitted. In addition, if a parent needs additional time to come into compliance with a health and safety requirement, the child care provider may request a variance, per the rules in CBCCPP Section 2.7.
Virgin Islands		X	A grace period of three months is also given to TANF children
Virginia	X		
Washington	X		
West Virginia	X		
Wisconsin		X	All families are allowed a 30-school day grace period after the child's first day of attendance to provide immunization records.
Wyoming	X		