



Division of Early Care & Education Newsletter



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UPCOMING CHANGES TO THE BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIREMENTS

The CCDBG Act mandates that states make regulatory changes to the way the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) is administered to accomplish the following goals:

- strengthen efforts to protect the health and safety of children in child care;
- help parents make informed consumer choices and access information to support child development;
- provide equal access to stable, high quality child care for low-income children; and
- enhance the quality of child care and the early childhood workforce.

The final rule issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in September 2016 provides details on the health and safety standards established by the [CCDBG Act 2014](#), which affect health and safety training, **comprehensive background checks (Fingerprints, SLED, FBI, State Abuse and Neglect checks, Out-of-State Abuse and Neglect checks if applicable, State and National Sex offender checks)** and monitoring.



The CCDBG Act's **comprehensive background check** requirements state that all child care staff members (including prospective staff members) of all licensed, regulated, or registered child care providers and all child care providers eligible to deliver CCDF services must have a comprehensive background check.

Subsequently, [Senate Bill 595](#) was signed by the Governor on May 16, 2019, authorizing the CCDBG Act's comprehensive background check requirements in South Carolina. This includes the following, and they must undergo a comprehensive background check and obtain a satisfactory determination:

- After August 5, 2019, all individuals (directors, teachers, substitutes, emergency persons, etc.) working in licensed, registered, approved child care programs, including those individuals in licensed-exempt programs who participate in ABC Quality or SC Voucher will be required to have comprehensive background checks every 5 years.
- Individuals working in licensed Group Child Care Homes or licensed/registered Family Child Care Homes including those individuals living there (aged 15 years or older). For **Group Child Care Homes this is a new process!**
- If you had a fingerprint check completed in 2019, you will not be required to get another; however, a questionnaire must be filled out by you to complete your check.
- Future comprehensive background checks must be run for anyone who has had a lapse of employment in the child care industry that lasts 6 months or longer.
- **Provisional Hires** must now include a name and date of birth check from SLED **AND** a SLED/FBI fingerprint background check. These checks are now required to be run on those individuals who are being hired provisionally until all of the other required checks are completed satisfactorily.

Additional Information will be mailed to all child care providers regarding instructions on how to begin this process.

Product Recalls

DSS Regulation 114-507C(2) states that furniture, toys, and recreational equipment shall meet the standards of the US Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), if applicable, and that recalled products shall not be accessible to children. For more information, call CPSC's hotline at **800-638-2772** or visit their website: www.cpsc.gov. To report a dangerous product or related injury, go to <http://saferproducts.gov>.

- ☛ **Crate and Barrel Push Walkers** due to choking and laceration hazards.
- ☛ **SAMpark Children's Pajamas** due to violation of federal flammability standard.
- ☛ **Pipping Rock Health Products Wintergreen Essential Oil** due to failure to meet child resistant closure requirements.

CCCCD Training Opportunity

The Children's Law Center will provide the Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect (Mandated Reporter) training free of charge at a location convenient for you. S.C. Code of Laws § 63-7-310 requires certain professionals to report suspected child abuse and neglect because of their unique opportunities to observe and interact with children. Childcare workers in childcare centers are mandated reporters. This training has been approved for CCCC credits.

To schedule a training, contact Chris Opie at 803-576-7228 or opie@mailbox.sc.edu.

For more information, [click here](#).



BACK TO SCHOOL: HAPPY, HEALTHY, AND SAFE

September is "National Childhood Obesity Month." Healthy habits, such as getting proper nutrition and physical activity, will help your child grow, learn, and build strong bones, muscles, and self-esteem as well as reduce their risk of developing diseases and becoming obese. Parents play a major role in forming their children's habits on eating and physical activity.

Healthy Eating Tips:

- ☞ Supply fruit for breakfast, snacks, and desserts
- ☞ Prepare foods with less salt and keep the salt shaker off the table
- ☞ Substitute salty snacks for fruits and vegetables
- ☞ Choose cereals with low sugar or with dried fruits
- ☞ Use olive or canola oil instead of butter or margarine
- ☞ Limit fast food

Physical Activity Tips:

- ☞ Join your child outside in the sunlight
- ☞ Take children for a walk or bike ride instead of watching TV
- ☞ Make physical activity fun with trips to the zoo or a park
- ☞ Include your child in family activities

For more tips on healthy eating and physical activity visit ABCQuality.org and [NIH Helping Your Child: Tips for Parents](#)