

# Key Reauthorization Changes

## Eligibility Determination

- States must continue eligibility for 12 months regardless of changes in parents working or financial status  
Missouri currently authorizes assistance for 12 months
- At redetermination states must provide for the graduated phase out of assistance  
Missouri has three levels of transitional child care benefits
- States must make efforts to ensure that the redetermination process does not unduly disrupt parents' work, education or job training  
Parents do not need to come into the office they can mail or email application and beginning after the first of the year applicants will be able to apply online

# Key Reauthorization Changes , Cont'd.

## Eligibility Determinations, Cont.d

- States must increase the supply and improve the quality of care for children in underserved areas, infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, children receiving care during non-traditional hours, English language learners and the homeless
  - Missouri currently sets higher rates for infants and toddlers, special needs children and evening/weekend care.
- States must provide comprehensive consumer education to parents regarding their child care options, the quality and availability of child care, etc.
  - Missouri is in the process of updating its website to provide information for parents and providers and with links to educational materials offered on other websites.

# Key Reauthorization Changes , Cont'd.

## Background Check Requirements

- Providers must request comprehensive background checks prior to hiring staff and do them every 5 years
  - Missouri currently requests background checks and finger printing for providers serving Four or Less unrelated children.
  - Family Care Safety Registry is required for licensed and licensed exempt providers
  - Missouri currently does not require the following:
    - Criminal background check for Licensed or Licensed Exempt child care providers and staff
    - Criminal, Child Abuse and Neglect or Sex Offender Registry in each State where the staff member has resided over the past 5 years,
    - National Sex Offender Registry check
- What this means for Missouri
  - Changes in legislation regarding background checks
  - Updated Regulations, Policies and Procedures
- Compliance date -9/30/2017

# Key Reauthorization Changes , Cont'd.

## Health, Safety and Fire

- States must conduct one pre-licensure and one unannounced inspection for licensed providers and one annual inspection of license exempt providers
  - Missouri currently conducts pre-license and unannounced inspections for Licensed and Religious In Compliance Child Care providers.
  - Missouri will begin conducting on-site inspections for Licensed Exempt and Four or Less Providers prior to completion of registration and annually thereafter.
- Compliance date – 11/19/2016
  
- States must make full inspection reports available online
  - Missouri, Department of Health and Senior Services, Section for Child Care Regulation currently publishes results from inspections and complaints on their website.
  - Missouri, Children's Division will utilize DHSS/SCCR website to publish results of inspections for Licensed Exempt and Four or Less Providers
- Compliance date – 11/19/2017 or one year after monitoring is in place
  
- States must establish qualifications and training for licensing inspectors and maintain a sufficient number of inspectors to conduct timely inspections
  - Missouri is in compliance with this requirement.

# Key Reauthorization Changes , Cont'd.

## Health, Safety and Fire. Cont'd

States must establish health and safety standards in specific areas (i.e. safe sleep, disaster preparedness) and mandate pre-service and ongoing training

- Missouri Licensed Providers are required to complete 12 clock hours of training per calendar year, including training in emergency preparedness and safe sleep.
- Missouri will require all providers receiving CCDF child care subsidy to complete trainings in the following areas:

✓ CPR/FIRST AID	✓ Building and Physical Premises Safety
✓ Emergency Preparedness	✓ Handling, Storage and Disposal of Hazardous Materials
✓ Benefits of Physical Activity	✓ Infection Control and Immunizations
✓ Child Development	✓ Prevention of SIDS and Use of Safe Sleep Practices
✓ Administration of Medication	✓ Precautions in Safely Transporting Children

# Key Reauthorization Changes , Cont'd.

## Group Size

- States must set group size for all age populations
  - Missouri currently sets child ratios for Licensed Providers
  - Missouri limits the number of unrelated children to four unrelated children for providers who are not licensed
  - Missouri will be defining ratios for Licensed Exempt providers

## Other Key Quality Provisions

- Mandate to increase the amount of CCDF funds set aside for quality improvement activities
  - Missouri's CCDF set aside is greater than the current requirement
- Mandate to reserve 3% of CCDF funds for the improvement of quality and supply of care for infants and toddlers
  - Missouri is in compliance with this requirement