



California Child Care Coordinators Association

2016-17 Public Policy Platform
Approved by the Membership September 29, 2016

“The mission of the California Child Care Coordinators Association is to promote, support, and improve the coordination of local efforts to provide early care and education services for children in California.”

2016 – 2017
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The California Child Care Coordinators Association (CCCCA) is committed to the best outcomes for, and overall well-being of children from birth to 13 years old and their families by ensuring that all families have access to **high quality** early care and education programs that include:

- Developmentally appropriate curriculum
- Inclusive environments conducive to learning and development
- Family engagement and partnership
- Meaningful connections to comprehensive services
- Cultural and linguistic appropriateness and embrace of diversity
- Early identification and intervention processes
- Continuous quality improvement
- Access to a strong statewide infrastructure and local coordination of services

In order to create and support a quality early care and education system, CCCCCA advocates for the following issues:

A robust licensing system to ensure that children are cared for in **safe and healthy** environments. CCCCCA supports proposals that:

- Build a sufficiently funded, appropriately staffed, and supportive Community Care Licensing system that supports prospective and operating early care and education programs
- Make available technical assistance and resources to existing and potential licensed programs and providers that support quality
- Ensure annual inspections of licensed centers and family child care homes

A highly qualified **workforce** responsible for the care and education of our diverse populations of children that engages parents as partners in their children’s optimal growth and development. CCCCCA supports proposals that:

- Recruit, retain and support a diverse, well-trained, well-educated, well-compensated early care and education professional workforce
- Establish compensation levels correlated with high educational attainment and experience
- Create access to high quality, coordinated educational and professional development systems that address cultural, linguistic, and literacy needs on a continuum from entry-level through degree attainment
- Provide ongoing professional development opportunities, including coaching and mentoring

Investments and strategies that increase the **availability, accessibility and affordability** of high quality early care and education services for all children. CCCCCA supports proposals that:

- Ensure a diverse delivery system, inclusive of funding to all types of legal entities in both the public and private sectors

- Provide adequate funding to serve all eligible children from low-income families in need of child care subsidies
- Ensure family eligibility that promotes continuity of care and assistance for extended periods of time
- Update family entry and exit income eligibility levels for subsidized early care and education to the most current State Median Income
- Ensure that family fees are fair and reasonable
- Prioritize funds for infant and toddler care and other high need populations
- Assures access for unique populations of children and their families, including dual language learners, children at risk and/or with special developmental and health care needs, children experiencing homelessness, children under the supervision of the child welfare system, and children of teen parents
- Provide adequate reimbursement to providers

Development of **high quality learning environments and facilities** to meet the demand for early care and education services. CCCCA supports proposals that:

- Promote a broader representation of center and family child care participation in the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), increasing program quality through professional development and coaching
- Advocate for increased state and local funding to grow and sustain QRIS implementation
- Recommend inclusive environments for all children within a mixed delivery system (e.g. center-based, public/private, community based, school districts, family child care homes, etc.)
- Provide state and local resources to equitably improve and expand public and private capital resources and technical expertise to develop, finance, and maintain new and existing high quality facilities
- Award funding for construction or renovation of facilities in communities with unmet needs for early care and education services
- Promote new policies and policy amendments that support the development of early care and education facilities, including the integration of early care and education in land use, housing, transportation, and economic, workforce and community development

Streamlined and efficient administrative systems within the California Department of Education - Early Education and Support Division and California Department of Social Services. CCCCA supports proposals that:

- Provide adequate resources for local early care and education services and infrastructure, including additional funding for Local Planning Councils (LPCs) to meet the LPC legislative mandates as outlined in the Education Code and the increased need for the coordination of new strategies and funding streams at the local level
- Preserve local flexibility and decision-making within counties determining where LPC staffing and administration are located
- Create a well-financed and coordinated system of regulatory compliance and contracting processes, including the use of electronic signatures and data collection
- Build a streamlined subsidy reimbursement system reflecting the actual current cost of high quality care
- Advocate for state and federal budget and policy determinations that result in protected and sustained funding sources
- Restore funding for all early care and education programs as part of the educational continuum
- Coordinate across state and county agencies to support an array of comprehensive services comprised of physical and mental health, prevention and early intervention, K-12 and higher education, community and economic development, family support, food/nutrition, social services and recreation activities
- Ensure streamlined data collection systems that provide opportunities to understand the needs of children and their families, and the impact of the services they access