

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

The New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) hereby gives notice of hearing for the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan. This plan describes the CCDF program to be administered by the state or territory for the period from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024, as provided for in the applicable statutes and regulations.

Purpose of hearing: The CCDF is a federal and state partnership program authorized under the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG) of 2014. The CCDF helps fund New Mexico's child care assistance program. This program allows income eligible families to access child care that promotes the learning and development of their children while they work or pursue education or training. The CCDF program also provides funding to enhance the quality, health, and safety of child care for all children in New Mexico. The State Plan describes how the CCDF program will be administered by New Mexico for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024. Copies of the proposed plan may be found on ECECD's website at <https://www.nmeced.org/> and New Mexico Kids at <https://www.newmexicokids.org/> 20 days prior to the Public Hearing.

Notice of hearing: The hearing will be held on **June 4, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.** The hearing will be held via internet, email, and telephonic means due to the concerns surrounding COVID-19 and in accordance with Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's Executive Order 2020-004, Declaration of Public Health Emergency and the March 12, 2020 Public Health Emergency Order to Limit Mass Gatherings Due to COVID-19. The public hearing will be conducted in a fair and equitable manner by an ECECD agency representative or hearing officer and shall be recorded. Any interested member of the public may attend the hearing and will be provided a reasonable opportunity to offer public comment, either orally or in writing, including presentation of data, views, or arguments, on the proposed plan during the hearing. Individuals with disabilities who need any form of auxiliary aid to attend or participate in the public hearing are asked to contact ECECD at ECECD-ECS-PublicComment@state.nm.us or call (505) 231-5820. ECECD will make every effort to accommodate all reasonable requests but cannot guarantee accommodation of a request that is not received at least ten calendar days before the scheduled hearing.

Notice of acceptance of written public comment: Written public comment, including presentation of data, views, or arguments about the proposed plan, from any interested member of the public, may be submitted via email to ECECD-ECS-PublicComment@state.nm.us with the subject line "CCDF Plan Public Comment" or via first class mail to P.O. Drawer 5619, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502 – 5619. Written comments may be delivered to the Old PERA building at 1120 Paseo De Peralta on June 4, 2021 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The comment period ends at the conclusion of the public hearing on June 4, 2021. Any interested member of the public may attend the hearing via the internet or telephone and offer public comments on the proposed plan during the hearing. To access the hearing by telephone: please call 1-346-248-7799, access code 914 5427 8709. You will be able to hear the full hearing and your telephone comments will be recorded. To access the hearing via the internet: please go to <https://zoom.us/j/91454278709>, and follow the instructions indicated on the screen – Meeting ID (access code): 914 5427 8709#. This will be a live stream of the hearing. You may also provide comment via chat during the live streaming.