
Care 4 Kids Program



Program Operations TRANSMITTAL

Transmittal Number: C4K-POL-18-4

Date: November 20, 2018

To: Sherri Sutera, Program Director
Care 4 Kids Program

From: Harriet Feldlaufer, Director of Early Care and Education
Office of Early Childhood 

CC: Distribution List

Subject: **90-day Grace Period for Immunization for Homeless Families**

Program Issue: Currently, eligible families have a 60-day grace period from the date assistance is granted to verify that their child(ren) ha(s/ve) begun the immunization process.

Background: The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 Pub. L. 113-186 and 45 CFR § 98.41 (a) (1) (i) (C) require lead agencies to establish a grace period that allows children experiencing homelessness a reasonable time to take necessary action to comply with immunization requirements.

To comply with the CCDBG law, the state of Connecticut, amended section 19a-79 (a) of the general statutes to extend the grace period to 90 days for homeless families. The Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies § 17b-749-11 (f) states, "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."

Directive: Effective July 1, 2018, this change will apply to all children and youths experiencing homelessness as defined in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001, 42 U.S.C. 11434a. The definition states:

"...The term 'homeless children and youths'

(A) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 11302 (a) (1)); and

(B) includes--

(i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;

(ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 11302 (a) (2) (C));

(iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

(iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 6399 of title 20) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).”

All eligible families with children and/or youths experiencing homelessness as defined above will be granted a 90-day grace period to take necessary action to comply with immunization requirements.

Questions concerning this transmittal can be referred to Office of Early Childhood at 860-500-4421.

HF:ct