

Updates for Community Network Lead Agencies *March 2018*



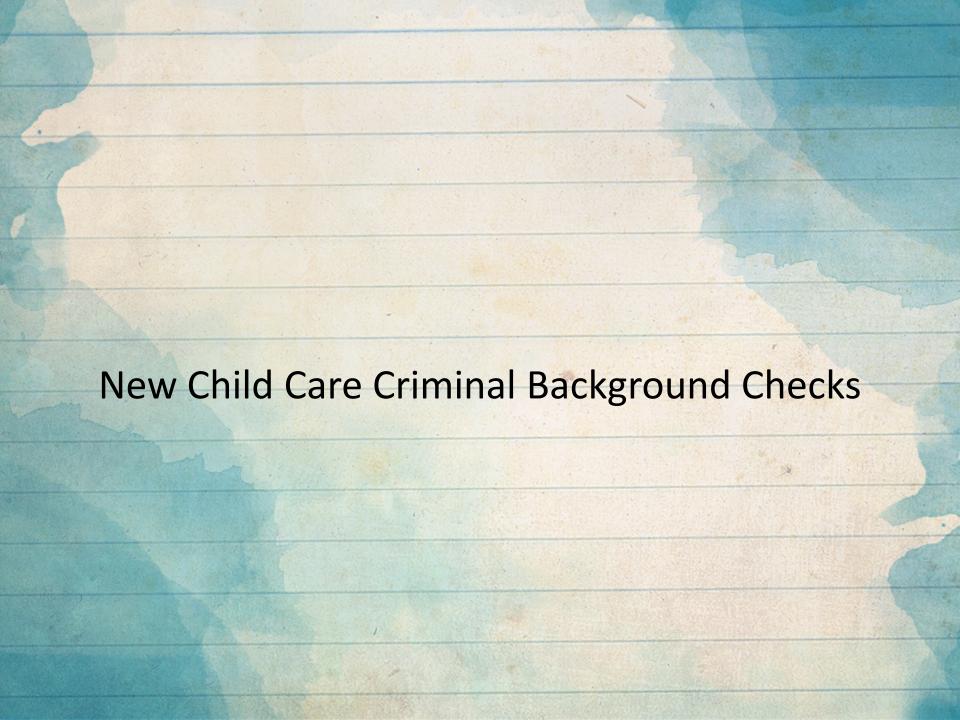
Proposed Policy Changes

Request for Applications for Community Network Lead Agencies

Early Childhood Community Network Lead Agency RFA

- Designations for current Early Childhood Community Network lead agencies expire June 30, 2018
- The Department will post a Request for Applications for Early Childhood Community Network lead agencies at the beginning of April
- Applications will be due at the end of April
- The application process will be very similar to what was used previously
- Applications will be evaluated in early May and recommendations will be referred to the State Board for Approval in June
- New lead agency designations will be for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020

Legislation has been proposed to support a pilot of a "super" community networks that would be funded to address classroom quality across all programs. If passed, this pilot process will be initiated with a separate RFA.



New Child Care Criminal Background Checks

Louisiana must implement a comprehensive criminal background check system to comply with new requirements in the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014.

Components of a Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC):

- 1. Fingerprint-based search of the Louisiana Bureau's criminal history record information (CHRI);
- 2. Fingerprint-based search of the FBI CHRI;
- 3. Search of the National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR);
- 4. Search of the Louisiana Sex Offender Registry;
- 5. A request for a search of the Louisiana Child Abuse and Neglect Registry; and
- 6. A name-based search of the following in each state in which the individual has resided in the past five years: state criminal repository, state sex offender registry, and state child abuse and neglect registry.

Bulletin 137 and 139 contain the CCCBC-related regulations that become effective March 1, 2018.

New CCCBCs will impact all licensed programs (not only publicly-funded programs), all registered in-home providers, school staff that visit centers, and contractors who provide services in centers when children are present.

Changes from the Previous Background Checks

The new CCCBC differs from the previously required background check in both substance and in process.

- Providers/entities will now initiate the CCCBC application process using the Department's new online system.
- The fees increase from approximately \$36 to \$88 per CCCBC.
- The CCCBC-based eligibility determination is valid for 5 years and is portable.
- Providers/entities will no longer receive a rap sheet, only notice that the person is "eligible" or "ineligible".
- The State Child Abuse & Neglect (SCR-1) self-disclosure requirement will be repealed as of March 1, 2018.
- The Right to Review (RTR), annual letter, and affidavit will not be accepted after September 30, 2018.

Starting March 1, 2018, the new CCCBC will be required for new hires. There will be a transition period for existing staff between March 1st and September 30, 2018.

Questions and Support

The Department will continue to engage with the public through webinars and other resources to prepare providers/entities for the background check changes.

Several recorded webinars, resources, and FAQs can be found at the CCCBC Website.

Questions?

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