

# BJTELA 2026-2028 CCDF Grant Plan

## Public Hearing Updates:

On 05/15/2025 we held our public hearing where we reviewed the CCDF Plan for the 2026-2028 grant cycle in its entirety. Following the public hearing we wanted to provide our clients with updates in writing regarding changes to our upcoming grant plan that will be put into effect on October 1, 2025. The updated plan will be available to review on the BJTELA website as well as the link to the public hearing.

Additionally, we have recorded the meeting, which can be found at: [Recap: CCDF Grant 2026-2028 Public Hearing Thursday, May 15.](#)

## **Section 1: CCDF Program Administration**

The definition of "Indian Child" utilized to determine eligibility has been modified to:

"Indian Child is defined as a child who is under the age of thirteen (13) years old, unless age eligible based on qualifying exemption, and who is an enrolled (or child of an enrolled) member of a federally recognized tribe. Any child who has a pending enrollment application on file as verified with documentation from an enrollment office qualifies as an Indian child."

## **Section 2: Health and Safety of Child Care Settings**

No changes to this section.

## **Section 3: Quality Improvement**

No changes to this section.

## **Section 4: Direct Services (not applicable for our program)**

## **Section 5: Child and Family Eligibility, Enrollment, and Continuity of Care**

Eligibility will be determined through Standard Eligibility.

*Standard Eligibility: Tribal Lead Agencies implementing standard eligibility must determine eligibility for services pursuant to the criteria found in §98.20(a) and §98.81(b)(1)(ii). When eligibility is determined, children must (1) meet the Tribal Lead Agency's definition of Indian child, (2) reside in the Tribal service area, (3) be under age 13, and (4) reside with a parent or caregiver who is working, attending a job training or an educational program, or receive or need to receive protective services.*

We no longer allow CCDF participation for a child age 13 and older but under 19 who is under court supervision.

## **Definitions Added:**

- "Working" is defined as paid employment of at least 24 hours per week which can be verified through documentation from employer (hiring letter, pay stubs, or W-2)
- "Job training" is defined as engaging in a program that teaches specific skills or knowledge to perform a job or role which can be verified through documentation.
- "Education" is determined as enrolled in an educational program at least part-time which can be verified through registration records and program plan.
- "Attending" means actively participating in asynchronous online or in-person job training or educational programs.



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### Section 6: Equal Access to Quality Child Care

The definition of "Special Needs" utilized to determine eligibility has been modified to: BJTELA defines "special needs" as identifiable family factors certified on the application to include but not limited to: Children of teen parents, exposure of drug and substance abuse, domestic violence, military background, single parents, grandparents raising grandchildren, supportive health or education documentation for children, etc.

**BJTELA has decided to exempt all families from co-payments.**

### Section 7: Family Outreach and Consumer Education

No changes to this section.

We will be working to improve our program information sharing through our BJTELA website and possibly utilizing the Remind communication tool with CCDF Clients for announcements and sharing information.

If you have any questions regarding the changes, please reach out to the CCDF Billing Coordinator, Jennifer Taylor-Forsberg.

*\*If you may be ineligible for CCDF services based on the changes made within the upcoming plan, Jennifer will be reaching out. We have screened application to identify families that may be impacted by the changes. Please note that you will be able to continue your 12-month eligibility period prior to having services terminated.*

Thank you,

**Mekyla Fryberg**  
Birth to Three Manager  
CCDF Administrator



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