

**Part II. Child Care Research Collaboration and Archive (Priority Area 1)**

- A. Purpose
- B. Eligible Applicants
- C. Type and Number of Awards
- D. Project Duration and Budget Period
- E. Funding Levels and Maximum Federal Share
- F. Matching Requirements
- G. Federal Role
- H. Project Description
- I. Evaluation Criteria

**Part III. Evaluation of Promising Models and Delivery Approaches to Child Care Provider Training (Priority Area 3)**

- A. Purpose
- B. Eligible Applicants
- C. Type and Number of Awards
- D. Project Duration and Budget Periods
- E. Funding Levels and Maximum Federal Share
- F. Matching Requirements
- G. Federal Role
- H. Project Description
- I. Narrative Statement Requirements
- J. Evaluation Criteria

**Part IV. Child Care Research Scholars (Priority 3)**

- A. Purpose
- B. Eligible Applicants
- C. Type and Number of Awards
- D. Project Duration and Budget Periods
- E. Funding Levels and Maximum Federal Share
- F. Matching Requirements
- G. Transferability
- H. Additional Requirements
- I. Evaluation Criteria

**Part V. Appendices**

- Appendix 1. Contents and Format of the Application
- Appendix 2. Uniform Project Description

**Part I. General Information****A. Purpose**

The purpose of this program announcement is to fund cooperative agreements and grants that will increase the capacity for child care research at national, State, and local levels while simultaneously answering critical questions with implications for children and families, particularly low-income working families and families transitioning off welfare.

**B. Child Care Bureau**

The Child Care Bureau (CCB) was established in 1995 to provide leadership in efforts to enhance the quality, affordability, and supply of child care available for all families. The Child Care Bureau administers the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), a \$4.8 billion child care program that includes funding for child care subsidies and activities to improve the quality and availability of child care.

The Bureau works closely with ACF Regions, States, Territories and Tribes to

assist with, oversee, and document implementation of new policies and programs in support of State, local, and private sector administration of child care services and systems. In addition, the Bureau collaborates extensively with other offices throughout the Federal government to promote integrated approaches, family-focused services, and coordinated child care delivery systems. In all of these activities, the Bureau seeks to enhance the quality, availability, and affordability of child care services, support children's healthy growth and development in safe child care environments, enhance parental choice and involvement in their children's care, and facilitate the linkage of child care with other community services.

Since 2000, Congress has appropriated approximately \$10 million per year for child care research and evaluation through CCDF. The Bureau's FY 2003 child care research agenda will continue ongoing projects and launch new evaluation and research capacity-building initiatives. The activities supported through this announcement will provide information and data to guide child care services, inform policy discussions, and assist in developing solutions to complex child care issues. We intend to improve our capacity to respond to questions of immediate concern to policy makers, strengthen the child care research infrastructure, and increase knowledge about the efficacy of child care policies and programs in providing positive outcomes for children and families.

**C. Statutory Authority and Other Citations**

**Statutory authority:** The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 as amended (CCDBG Act), 45 CFR part 74; section 418 of the Social Security Act; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2003 (Pub. L. 108-7).

**Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13):** Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 hours for the Child Care Research Collaboration and Archive, 30 hours for the Evaluation of Promising Models and Delivery Approaches to Child Care Provider Training, and 15 hours for the Child Care Research Scholars, including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data needed, and reviewing the collection of information.

The project description is approved under OMB control Number 0970-0139 which expires 12/31/03. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection

of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

*Code of Federal Domestic Assistance:* The Code of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for all priority areas is 93.647.

**D. Priority Areas, Number of Awards, Project Duration, and Funding Levels**

In Fiscal Year 2003, the Child Care Bureau anticipates funding approximately six new projects in three priority areas, pending availability of funds and receipt of satisfactory applications. Funding beyond the first one-year budget period, but within the project period, will be entertained in subsequent years on a noncompetitive basis, subject to the availability of funds, satisfactory progress of the grantee, and a determination that continued funding would be in the best interest of the Government.

**Priority Area 1.** Child Care Research Collaboration and Archive: One cooperative agreement for five years at up to \$1,500,000 per year.

**Priority Area 2.** Evaluation of Promising Models and Delivery Approaches to Child Care Provider Training: One cooperative agreement for four years at up to \$1,900,000 per year.

**Priority Area 3.** Child Care Research Scholars: Approximately four grants of up to \$30,000 each (for a total investment of up to \$120,000 in fiscal year 2003). Scholarship grants may receive continuation funding of up to \$20,000 each for a second year.

**E. Eligible Applicants for All Priority Areas**

Eligible applicants for Priority Areas 1 and 2 include non-profit agencies and organizations, public and private institutions such as colleges and universities, and agencies of State and local government. Faith- and community-based organizations are encouraged to apply as are profit-making organizations that agree to forego their profits.

Eligible applicants for Priority Area 3 include universities or colleges (including faith-based institutions) acting on behalf of graduate students who are pursuing a doctorate and who anticipate completing a child care-related dissertation. The institution must be fully accredited by one of the regional accrediting commissions recognized by the Department of Education and the Council of Post-Secondary Accreditation.

**F. Proof of Non-Profit Status**

Any non-profit organization submitting an application must submit proof of its non-profit status at the time of submission. The non-profit