Using the CCDF Policies Database in Child Care Research

Annual Meeting of the Child Care Policy Research Consortium
October 25, 2012
Today’s Discussion

• What kinds of research projects might use information from the CCDF Policies Database?

• Overview of the CCDF Policies Database

• Two projects currently using the Database
  ▫ Microsimulation: Estimating CCDF eligibility
  ▫ Statistical analysis: CCDF and child welfare

• Using the CCDF Policies Database for your research
  ▫ Book of Tables
  ▫ Full Database detail
Kinds of Research that Might Use the CCDF Policies Database

Projects that need...

• Detailed information (beyond the information in the State Plans)

• Cross-time information

• Information across States and Territories
Examples

• Do differences in CCDF policies across States affect which families receive subsidies?
  ▫ Database data with 801 data

• What state policies affect labor force participation?
  ▫ Database data with CPS, ACS, or SIPP data and other state-level explanatory variables

• What are the CCDF policies for TANF families in State X (for example, prior to a site visit)?
  ▫ Database information alone
The CCDF Policies Database Project

• Detailed information on CCDF policies

• Information on all 50 states, D.C., territories and outlying areas

• Captures changes across time

• Data collected mainly from states’ policy manuals
CCDF Policies Database Process

Collect Materials
- State policy manuals
- Manual updates issued by states
- Biennial CCDF Plans and amendments to Plans

Code Materials
- Policy manuals
- Policy updates
- Select CCDF Plan information

Prepare Tables
- Selected policies from the database
- Policies in effect on October 1st of each year

Verify Data
- Provide draft tables to states
- Work with state staff to verify data

Release Data
- Yearly Book of Tables
- Data files
Information in the Database

• Eligibility requirements
• Application and reporting information
• Priority and waiting list policies
• Copayments
• Reimbursement rates and provider policies
Eligibility Policies

• Age limits for subsidized children

• Approved activities

• Defining the family unit
  ▫ Treatment of older siblings, teen parents, step-parents, other adults

• Income disregards and deductions

• Income eligibility thresholds
  ▫ By family size
  ▫ Initial and continuing

• Assets tests
Age Requirements for Most Children
October 1, 2011

Eligibility Threshold
- 11
- 12
- 12, unless the child turns 13 during school year
- 13

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Age Requirement for Children with Special Needs
October 1, 2011

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Eligible Activities: Job Search
October 1, 2011

If Job Search is an Eligible Activity

- **No**
- **Yes, only for continuing eligibility**
- **Yes, for initial and continuing eligibility**

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Eligible Activities: Education and Training
October 1, 2011

Eligible Education and Training Activities
None of the below
High School/GED only
High School/GED and Training
High School/GED, Training, and Post-Secondary Education
High School/GED, ESL, Training, and Post-Secondary Education

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Treatment of Family Members’ Earnings
October 1, 2011

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Treatment of Different Types of Income and Benefits
October 1, 2011

Number of States and Territories

- TANF: 7 (Fully Counted: 26, Varies/Partially Counted: 29)
- SSI: 6 (Fully Counted: 29, Varies/Partially Counted: 26)
- SSDI: 1 (Fully Counted: 45)
- Child Support: 1 (Fully Counted: 52)
- Foster Care Income: 2 (Fully Counted: 2, Varies/Partially Counted: 5)
- EITC Refunds: 1 (Fully Counted: 1)

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Deduction for Child Support Paid
October 1, 2011

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.

Amount of Child Support Paid Outside of Household that is Deducted

- None
- All
- Information not available

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Initial Eligibility Thresholds for a Three Person Family
October 1, 2011

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
*Policies coded for Denver, Colorado.
**Policies coded for the Gulf Coast Region.
***Policies coded for Group III areas.
Continuing Eligibility Thresholds
October 1, 2011

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.

*Policies coded for Denver, Colorado.
**Policies coded for the Gulf Coast Region.
***Policies coded for Group III areas.
Application and Reporting Policies

- Application procedures
- Information that must be verified with documentation
- Requirements for reporting changes
- If families receiving different types of benefits/services are exempt from redetermination
- Terms of authorization
Verification Requirements
October 1, 2011

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Redetermination Period
October 1, 2011

Redetermination Period
- 6 months
- 8 months
- 12 months
- Varies by local area

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Priority and Waiting List Policies

• Priority policies for different groups

• Waiting list policies
Priority Policies
October 1, 2011

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
If a Waiting List is Used When Funds are Not Available to Serve All Families

October 1, 2011

If the State Uses a Waiting List when Funds are Not Available to Serve All Families

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database. A state may appear on this list as having waiting list policies, even if no family is currently on the waiting list.

*Policies coded for New York City.
Copayment Policies

• Copayment exemptions

• Copayment administration

• Basic calculation method

• Detailed “table” of income ranges and copayment amounts or percents, by family size

• Adjustments for multiple children

• Other adjustments
If Families Are Exempt from Copayments
October 1, 2011

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Copayments for a Three Person Family with $15,000 in Annual Earnings
October 1, 2011

Monthly Copayment for a Three Person Family

No Copayment
$1 < $50
$50 < $100
$100 < $200
$200 - $414
Information not available

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
*Copayments coded at the local level.
**Copayments based on local level reimbursement rates.
Reimbursement Rate and Other Provider Policies

- Reimbursements rates by provider type
- Higher rates in tiered systems
- Information for legally unregulated providers
  - Background checks
  - Training requirements
  - Age requirements
Center Maximum Reimbursement Rates for Toddlers
October 1, 2011

Monthly Center Reimbursement Rates for Toddlers

- $200 < $400
- $400 < $550
- $550 < $700
- $700 < $1105
- Information not available

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
*Rates coded at the local level.
States with Tiered Reimbursement

October 1, 2011

If the State Has Tiered Rates for Center Care

- No
- Yes
- Information not available

*Policy based on local level reimbursement rates.

For full details, see the CCDF Policies Database.
Two Examples of Uses of the Database

• Microsimulation Analysis
  ▫ How many children are eligible for CCDF?
  ▫ An HHS/ASPE project, conducted at U.I. with the TRIM3 model

• Statistical Analysis
  ▫ What are the ways in which CCDF policies treat children/families involved in child welfare?
  ▫ A project conducted by researchers at Oregon State University, the Society for Research in Child Development, and Georgetown University
Two Ways for YOU to Access the Database Information

1. Book of Tables

2. Detailed Data Files
Book of Tables

• Selected policies from the CCDF Policies Database

• Policies in effect on October 1 of each year

• Second Book of Tables shows policies in effect on October 1, 2011
  ▫ Includes complete set of October 1, 2010 tables
Examples from the 2011 Book of Tables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Job Search</th>
<th>Job Search Time Limit</th>
<th>High School/GED ²</th>
<th>ESL ²</th>
<th>Training ²</th>
<th>Post-Secondary Education ²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes ³</td>
<td>Yes ³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, for initial and continuing eligibility</td>
<td>80 hours in a year ⁴</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, only for continuing eligibility</td>
<td>60 days in a year ⁵</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes ⁶</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, for initial and continuing eligibility</td>
<td>60 days in a year ⁷</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, for initial and continuing eligibility</td>
<td>30 days in a year ⁸</td>
<td>Yes ⁹</td>
<td>Yes ⁹</td>
<td>Yes ⁹</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, only for continuing eligibility</td>
<td>Other ¹⁰</td>
<td>Yes ¹¹</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, for initial and continuing eligibility</td>
<td>3 months per job loss occurrence</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No ¹²</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, for initial and continuing eligibility</td>
<td>NA ¹³</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, only for continuing eligibility ¹⁴</td>
<td>30 days per job loss occurrence</td>
<td>Yes ¹⁵</td>
<td>Yes ¹⁵</td>
<td>Yes ¹⁵</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, only for continuing eligibility ¹⁶</td>
<td>8 weeks per job loss occurrence</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No ¹⁷</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, for initial and continuing eligibility</td>
<td>30 days in a year ¹⁸</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No ¹⁹</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Table 31. Copayment Amounts for a Single Parent with a Two-Year-Old Child in Full-Time Care
(Monthly Dollar Amounts), 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Annual Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>_1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 34. Maximum Reimbursement Rates for Licensed Child Care Centers (Monthly Dollar Amounts), 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Infant (11 months)</th>
<th>Toddler (35 months)</th>
<th>Preschool (59 months)</th>
<th>Before-and-After Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Base Rate</td>
<td>Highest Rate</td>
<td>Base Rate</td>
<td>Highest Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>576</td>
<td>634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>___1</td>
<td>___1</td>
<td>___1</td>
<td>___1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>1029</td>
<td>1029</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>902</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>976</td>
<td>1025</td>
<td>976</td>
<td>1025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC</td>
<td>882</td>
<td>1179</td>
<td>863</td>
<td>1102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>608</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>1395</td>
<td>1395</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>826</td>
<td>826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>945</td>
<td>1040</td>
<td>815</td>
<td>897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>1018</td>
<td>1018</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Book of Tables Available from OPRE

Detailed Data Files

• Full Database detail (beyond detail provided in Book of Tables)

• Files capture policy changes over time

• Available as Excel, SAS, Stata, SPSS, ASCII, and delimited files
Detailed Data Files Available from Research Connections

http://www.researchconnections.org
Using the Book of Tables

• Is the information in the Book of Tables sufficient?
  ▫ Point-in-time
  ▫ No sub-state detail
  ▫ Does not include all details

• You can obtain the Book of Tables columns in electronic format from Research Connections
Using the Detailed Database

• When the Book of Tables isn’t sufficient

• Things you need to do:
  ▫ Decide what variables you need to look at
  ▫ Understand how the variables are coded
  ▫ Understand when the Database has more than one “record” of information for the same state
  ▫ Download the data
Identifying Variables

## 20. Priority Policies

**General Notes/Concepts:**
If there are more children eligible for subsidies (meeting all eligibility requirements) than can be served, some children or families may be given priority over others.

**Subgroup Issues:**
None

**Additional Coding Notes:**
None

**Variables and Notes:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Variable Options and Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Priority Policies</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| If any groups are given priority for the subsidy. (PriorGroups) | **Variable Options**  
0 - NA  
1 - Yes  
2 - No  
91 - ?  
92 - Not in manual  
**Coding Notes**  
1. If this variable is coded No, all other priority variables are coded NA, with the exception of definition variables. |
# How Variables are Coded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Variable Options and Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Families Whose Copayments are Waived</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| If families below 100 percent of the federal poverty level are categorically exempt from copayment requirements. (CopayPovertyExempt) | Variable Options  
0 - NA  
1 - Yes  
2 - No  
92 - Not in manual  
Coding Notes  
1. This policy must be explicitly stated.  
2. This variable is only coded Yes if the state exempts all families below 100 percent of the federal poverty level. If the state exempts some other subset of families in poverty, this policy is described in the notes field. |
Understanding Multiple “Records”

- Example:
  Copayment Adjustments for Texas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Family Group</th>
<th>Provider Type</th>
<th>Provider Subtype</th>
<th>Begin Dat</th>
<th>End Dat</th>
<th>Begin Majority</th>
<th>End Majority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>99</td>
<td></td>
<td>2007/05/16</td>
<td>2008/08/03</td>
<td>8888/88/88</td>
<td>8888/88/88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>99</td>
<td></td>
<td>2008/09/08</td>
<td>9999/12/31</td>
<td>2008/09/08</td>
<td>9999/12/31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When there are Multiple “Records”

• Something changed in that area of policy, or

• Different policies in different sub-state area

• Different policies for different types of providers or different groups of families

• Different policies for different CCDF-funded programs
Downloading the Data

- Available formats:
  - Excel
  - SPSS
  - SAS
  - Stata
  - ASCII
  - delimited

- Same general procedures as downloading any other Research Connections data
Contact Us

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