

## **Texas Workforce Commission Expulsion Reduction and Prevention Policy Statement**

On November 19, 2014, the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014 (CCDBG Act) was signed into law. The CCDBG Act reauthorized the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) and requires states providing CCDF child care services to provide information to parents, the general public, and child care providers regarding the state policies on the expulsion of preschool-aged children in early childhood programs caring for CCDF children.

Recent data from the U.S. Department of Education<sup>1</sup>, indicates that expulsions and suspensions occur at high rates in preschool settings. Further research indicates that high rates of expulsions and suspensions are associated with negative educational and life outcomes.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, consistent, stable, and reliable child care is a vital component to working parents and employers in Texas. Expulsion or suspension from child care and early education settings is disruptive to the child's development and the parent's workforce participation.

### **Policy Statement**

TWC is committed to providing support and resources to child care and early education providers, caregivers and parents to assist in creating positive classroom climates, and in developing strategies to appropriately address challenging behaviors in order to reduce suspensions or expulsions from the child care setting.

### **Professional Development Resources Available to Child Care Programs Regarding Guidance, Discipline, and Challenging Behavior**

TWC, in partnership with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, will provide free or low-cost online professional development courses designed to assist caregivers who work with children with challenging behavior and special needs.

TWC highly encourages child care providers serving TWC-funded children to make the courses part of staff development and ongoing staff training.

### **Guidance and Discipline Courses**

(<http://extensiononline.tamu.edu/courses/courseListByCatID.php?category=28&pCatTitle=Child%20Care&subtitle=Guidance+and+Discipline>)

- Positive Guidance and Discipline
- Positive Guidance and Discipline: Why, What, and How?
- Responding to Challenging Infant Toddler Behavior
- Trouble in the Classroom: Overcoming Challenging Behaviors in the Early Childhood Classroom

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, [Data Snapshot: Early Childhood Education](#).

<sup>2</sup> [The Council of State Governments, Breaking Schools' Rules: A Statewide Study of How School Discipline Relates to Students' Success and Juvenile Justice Involvement.](#)

### **Free Infant and Toddler Courses**

(<http://infanttoddler.tamu.edu/courses/courseListByCatID.php?cattitle=Best%20Practice&catid=49>)

- Responding to Challenging Infant Toddler Behavior
- Introduction to Infant and Toddler Social Emotional Development

### **Free Preschool and School-age Courses**

(<http://infanttoddler.tamu.edu/courses/courseListByCatID.php?cattitle=Inclusion&catid=96>)

- Strategies for Caring for Preschool and School-age Children with Challenging Behaviors

### **Free Training Resources for Parents**

(<http://infanttoddler.tamu.edu/index.php>)

Infant and Toddler Training

- Handling Infants' and Toddlers' Challenging Behavior
- What Parents Need to Know about Infant and Toddler Development
- Infant and Toddler Social Emotional Development

### **Suggested Guiding Principles for Reducing and Eliminating Suspensions and Expulsions**

TWC also encourages child care providers to review and consider adopting the principles in the U.S. Department of Education's *Guiding Principles: A Resource Guide for Improving School Climate and Discipline* (<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/school-discipline/guiding-principles.pdf>).