

and regulatory requirements and all applicable health and safety standards in effect in the State; and

“(2) who receives assistance from an Indian tribe or tribal organization shall comply with all applicable regulatory standards.

“(g) STATE-LEVEL ACTIVITIES.—A State may not retain more than 3 percent of the amount described in subsection (c) for State administration and other State-level activities.

“(h) ADMINISTRATION.—

“(1) STATE RESPONSIBILITY.—A State shall have responsibility for administering a grant awarded for the State under this section and for monitoring covered entities that receive assistance under such grant.

“(2) AUDITS.—A State shall require each covered entity receiving assistance under the grant awarded under this section to conduct an annual audit with respect to the activities of the covered entity. Such audits shall be submitted to the State.

“(3) MISUSE OF FUNDS.—

“(A) REPAYMENT.—If the State determines, through an audit or otherwise, that a covered entity receiving assistance under a grant awarded under this section has misused the assistance, the State shall notify the Secretary of the misuse. The Secretary, upon such a notification, may seek from such a covered entity the repayment of an amount equal to the amount of any such misused assistance plus interest.

“(B) APPEALS PROCESS.—The Secretary shall by regulation provide for an appeals process with respect to repayments under this paragraph.

“(i) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) 2-YEAR STUDY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Secretary first awards grants under this section, the Secretary shall conduct a study to determine—

“(i) the capacity of covered entities to meet the child care needs of communities within States;

“(ii) the kinds of consortia that are being formed with respect to child care at the local level to carry out programs funded under this section; and

“(iii) who is using the programs funded under this section and the income levels of such individuals.

“(B) REPORT.—Not later than 28 months after the date on which the Secretary first awards grants under this section, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the results of the study conducted in accordance with subparagraph (A).

“(2) FOUR-YEAR STUDY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years after the date on which the Secretary first awards grants under this section, the Secretary shall conduct a study to determine the number of child care facilities that are funded through covered entities that received assistance through a grant awarded under this section and that remain in operation, and the extent to which such facilities are meeting the child care needs of the individuals served by such facilities.

“(B) REPORT.—Not later than 52 months after the date on which the Secretary first awards grants under this section, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the results of the study conducted in accordance with subparagraph (A).

“(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ‘covered entity’ means a small business or a consortium formed in accordance with subsection (d)(3).

“(2) INDIAN COMMUNITY.—The term ‘Indian community’ means a community served by an Indian tribe or tribal organization.

“(3) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The terms ‘Indian tribe’ and ‘tribal organization’ have the

meanings given the terms in section 658P of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858n).

“(4) SMALL BUSINESS.—The term ‘small business’ means an employer who employed an average of at least 2 but not more than 50 employees on the business days during the preceding calendar year.

“(5) STATE.—The term ‘State’ has the meaning given the term in section 658P of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858n).

“(k) APPLICATION TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—In this section:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (f)(1), and in paragraphs (2) and (3), the term ‘State’ includes an Indian tribe or tribal organization.

“(2) GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCES.—The term ‘State’ includes an Indian community in subsections (c) (the second and third place the term appears), (d)(1) (the second place the term appears), (d)(3)(A) (the second place the term appears), and (i)(1)(A)(i).

“(3) STATE-LEVEL ACTIVITIES.—The term ‘State-level activities’ includes activities at the tribal level.

“(l) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, \$50,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

“(2) STUDIES AND ADMINISTRATION.—With respect to the total amount appropriated for such period in accordance with this subsection, not more than \$2,500,000 of that amount may be used for expenditures related to conducting studies required under, and the administration of, this section.

“(m) TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.—The program established under subsection (a) shall terminate on September 30, 2012.”

#### GOALS OF SUBCHAPTER

Pub. L. 97-35, title VI, §658A(b), as added by Pub. L. 104-193, title VI, §602(3), Aug. 22, 1996, 110 Stat. 2279, provided that: “The goals of this subchapter [subchapter C (§658A et seq.) of chapter 8 of subtitle A of title VI of Pub. L. 97-35, enacting this subchapter] are—

“(1) to allow each State maximum flexibility in developing child care programs and policies that best suit the needs of children and parents within such State;

“(2) to promote parental choice to empower working parents to make their own decisions on the child care that best suits their family’s needs;

“(3) to encourage States to provide consumer education information to help parents make informed choices about child care;

“(4) to assist States to provide child care to parents trying to achieve independence from public assistance; and

“(5) to assist States in implementing the health, safety, licensing, and registration standards established in State regulations.”

#### § 9858a. Establishment of block grant program

The Secretary is authorized to make grants to States in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 97-35, title VI, §658C, as added Pub. L. 101-508, title V, §5082(2), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-236; amended Pub. L. 102-401, §3(a), Oct. 7, 1992, 106 Stat. 1959; Pub. L. 102-586, §8(c)(1), Nov. 4, 1992, 106 Stat. 5036.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1992—Pub. L. 102-401 and Pub. L. 102-586 made identical technical corrections to directory language of Pub. L. 101-508, §5082(2), which added this section.

#### § 9858b. Lead agency

##### (a) Designation

The chief executive officer of a State desiring to receive a grant under this subchapter shall