

Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE)

What is the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) grant?

Funded by the Department of Early Education and Care, the CFCE grant provides families across the Commonwealth with access to locally available comprehensive services and supports that strengthen families, promote optimal child development, and bolster school readiness.

Why is family and community engagement important?

Science tells us that children's early experiences literally shape how their brain is developed. A strong foundation in the early years increases the probability of positive outcomes for their futures.

When parents and families have supports and resources they need to facilitate children's healthy development, they are building a strong foundation for future growth.

Coordinated Family and Community Engagement

EEC's network of community-based grantees provides families with connections to locally based comprehensive services, evidence-based early literacy opportunities, educational experiences rooted in the science of child development, and supports to promote successful early childhood transitions. While CFCE grantees are available to support all families in their communities, identifying and serving high needs families that are not engaged in the formal early education and care system is a priority of the CFCE grant.

Through CFCE councils, community partners and parents work together to ensure local coordination of and maximum participation in early education and care services and programs.

CFCE grant activities promote the Strengthening Families Protective Factors, which are parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete support in times of need, and healthy social and emotional development in children. By building these protective factors in families, in accordance with CFCE objectives, grantees support family stabilization and optimal child development, which is linked to school readiness and school success.

Find a Coordinated Family and Community Engagement grant program near you:

<http://www.eec.state.ma.us/ChildCareSearch/CFCE.aspx>

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**Department of
Early Education and Care**

The Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care provides the foundation that supports all children in their development as lifelong learners and contributing members of the community, and supports families in their essential work as parents and caregivers.