

# State Policy & Budget Priorities

## Illinois Action for Children

February 22, 2017

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developing and supporting strong families and  
Powerful communities where children matter most.*



# IAFC Policy Priorities & Budget Updates

- FY17 Budget
- FY18 Budget
- Restore Access to CCAP
- Prevent Expulsions in Early Childhood Settings
- Support Early Childhood and K-12 Partnerships
- Maintain Investments in School Readiness Initiatives

# FY2017 State Budget

- Illinois has been without a full state budget for 20 months
  - \$11.9 billion backlog of bills (Office of the Comptroller, 2/17/17)
- FY16-17 stopgap expired December 31
  - IDHS Home Visiting programs are among several vital services without funding
- Governor Rauner did not mention the FY17 budget in his budget address

# FY2018 State Budget

In Governor Rauner's budget address, he proposed a budget that prioritizes many services for children and families, while also eliminating other critical programs

- Increases in child care and other early childhood services
- Eliminates funding for Teen REACH, Autism Project, and more

## **Governor's budget is between \$4.6 - \$7.2 billion out of balance**

- Estimated revenue between \$32.4 and \$32.7 billion
- Governor's recommended budget spends \$37.3 billion
  - \$4.6 billion shortfall
  - Recommended budget is based on estimated savings that would have to be passed by General Assembly
- If GA does not enact those changes, FY18 spending would actually be \$39.7 billion
  - \$7.2 billion out of balance

# FY18 Proposed Budget

<b>Program</b>	<b>FY16 Actual (GRF)</b>	<b>FY17 Estimated (GRF)</b>	<b>FY18 Proposed (GRF)</b>
<b>Child Care</b>	\$328.1M	\$400.0M	<b>\$548.3M</b>
<b>Early Intervention</b>	\$87.0M	\$92.7M	<b>\$96.7M</b>
<b>Home Visiting</b>			<b>\$16.9M</b>
<b>Early Childhood Block Grant</b>	\$318.8M	\$393.7M	<b>\$443.7M</b>
<b>Bilingual Education</b>	\$63.7M	\$63.7M	<b>\$102.1M</b>

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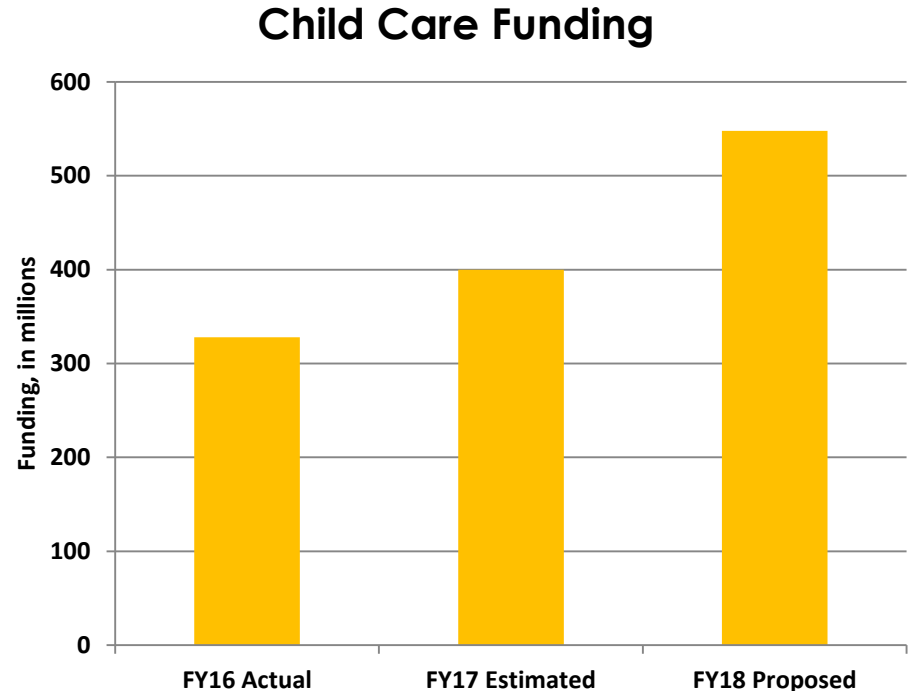
# Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System Child Care Assistance Program

**IAFC Request: \$151.3 million  
increase in GRF**

**FY18 Budget Proposal:**

- **\$548.3 million GRF**
- Restores eligibility to June 2015 guidelines
- Implementation of CCDBG requirements, including 12-month eligibility
- IDHS anticipates average caseloads to be 140,000
- Aligns with IAFC request

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Data Source: Governor's Office of Management and Budget, Illinois State Budget Fiscal Year 2018

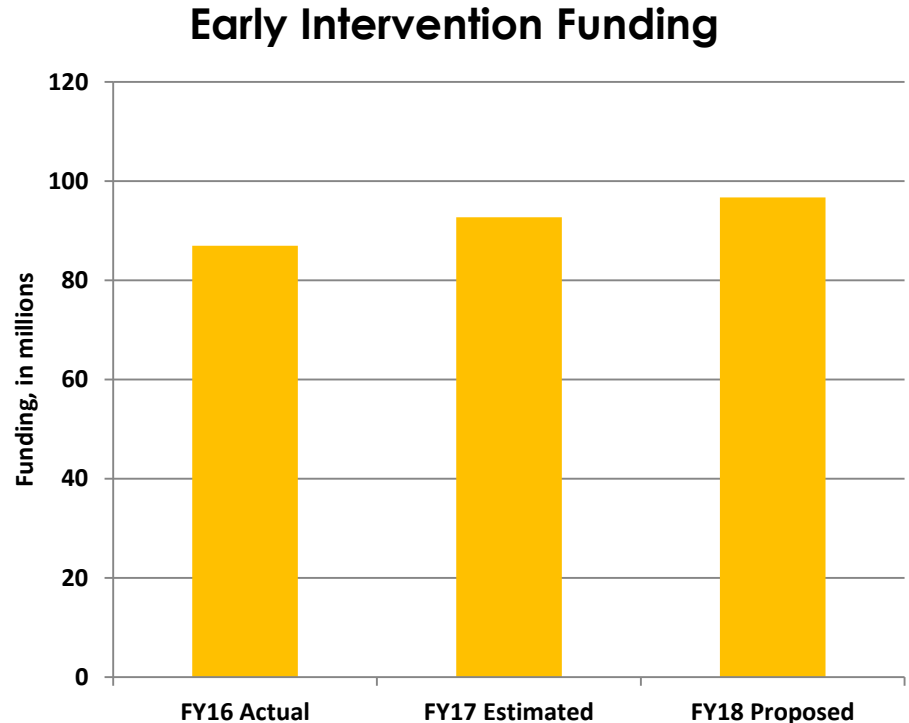


# Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System Early Intervention

IAFC Request: **\$96.7 million GRF**

**FY18 Budget Proposal:**

- **\$96.7 million GRF**
- \$4 million increase to meet growing needs of children
- Aligns with IAFC request



Data Source: Governor's Office of Management and Budget, Illinois State Budget Fiscal Year 2018

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# Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System

## Home Visiting

IDHS Home Visiting programs have been paid on and off over the past 2 years, despite having contracts and continuing to deliver services

- Not included in court order or consent decree
- Received payments through FY17 stopgap measure

**IAFC Request: \$16.9 million GRF**

**FY18 Budget Proposal:**

- **\$16.9 million GRF**
- Funding remains flat from last appropriation
- Aligns with IAFC request



# Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System

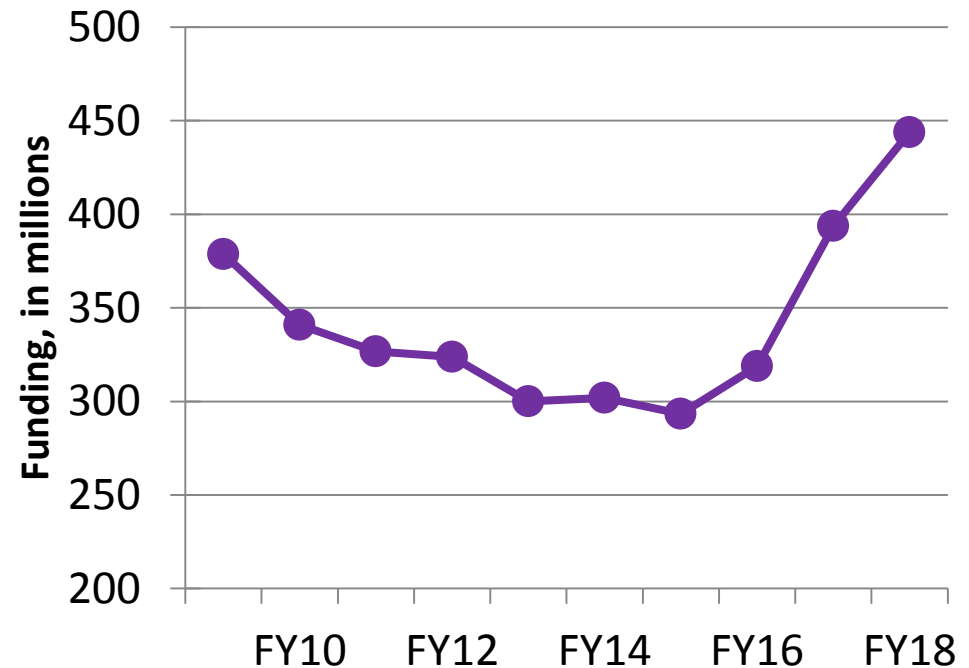
## Early Childhood Block Grant

**IAFC Request: \$50 million increase in GRF**

**FY18 Budget Proposal:**

- **\$443.7 million GRF**
- Meets our federal Preschool Development Grant obligations
- Governor reports anticipated additional 6,630 pre-k slots
- Aligns with IAFC request

### ECBG Funding



Data Source: Governor's Office of Management and Budget, Illinois State Budget Fiscal Year 2018

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# Adequate Funding for Comprehensive ECE System

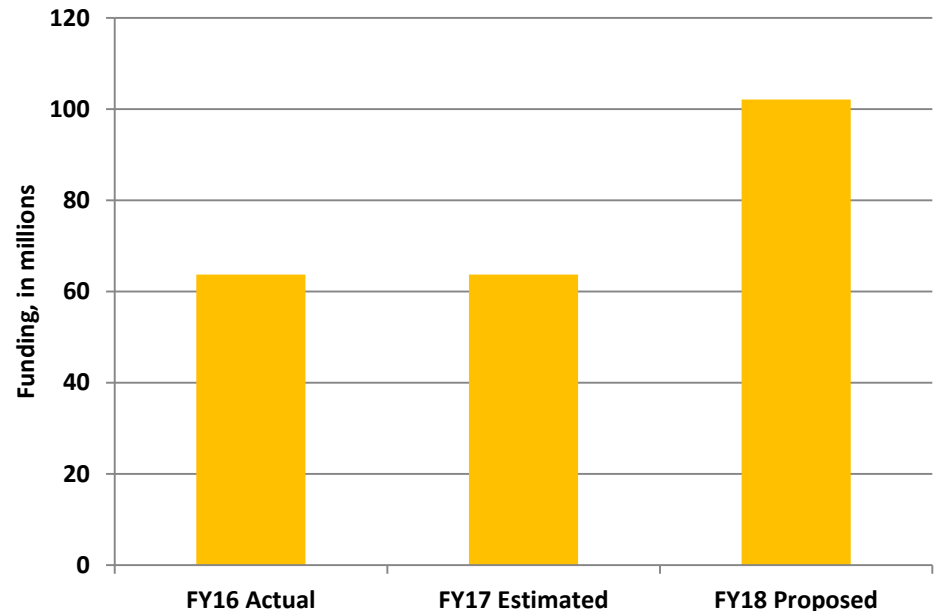
## Bilingual Education

**IAFC Request: \$102.1 million GRF**

**FY18 Budget Proposal:**

- **\$102.1 million GRF**
- \$38 million increase after years of decreased and flat funding
- Aligns with IAFC request

**Bilingual Education Funding**



Data Source: Governor's Office of Management and Budget, Illinois State Budget Fiscal Year 2018

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# Revenue

- Governor's proposed budget will not be possible without additional revenue
  - \$4-7 billion shortfall
- We must continue to advocate for revenue
- State has many revenue options to explore

# Policy Priorities

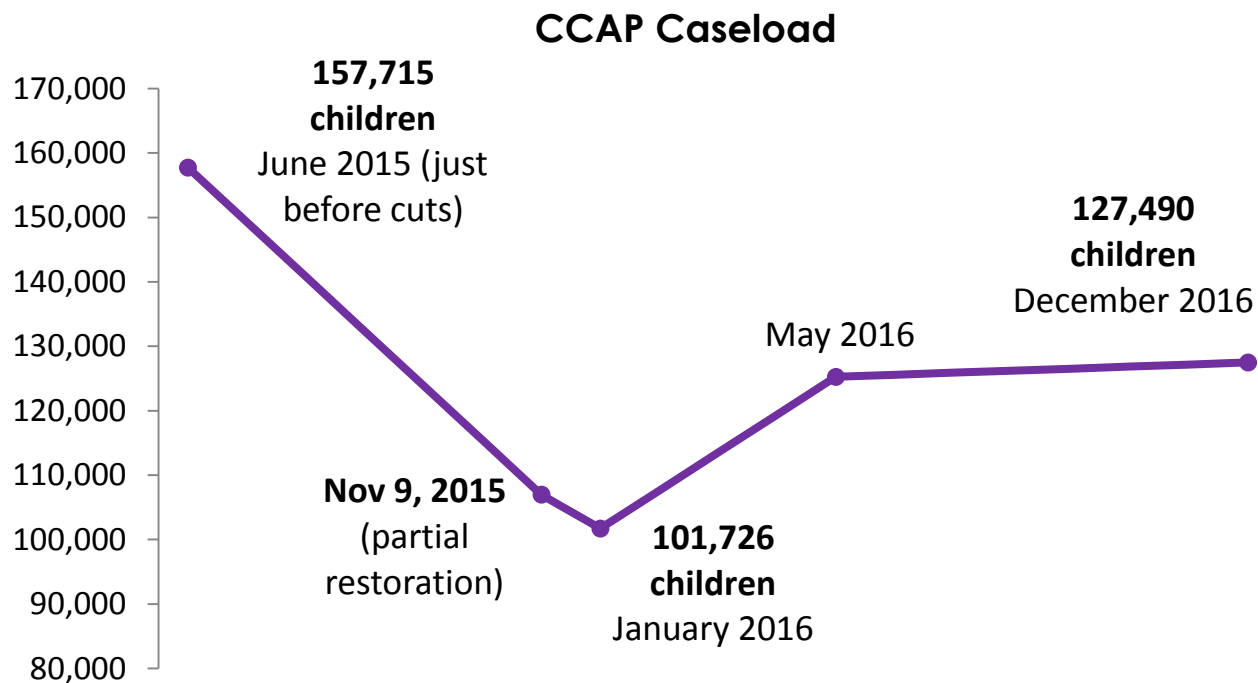


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# Restore Access to CCAP

## July 2015 restrictions to CCAP created lasting effects

Serving 30,000 fewer children almost 2 years later



Source: IL Department of Human Services

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# Restore Access to CCAP

- Two populations remain ineligible for CCAP
  - Families earning between 162-185% FPL
  - Parents enrolled full-time in non-TANF education or training program
- Governor Rauner has previously committed to restoring income eligibility back to 185% FPL when the state has a budget
  - IAFC advocacy for this piece of restoration will continue to take shape in our persistent advocacy for a responsible budget

# Restore Access to CCAP

## **HB3213 (Wallace) – SB1705 (Hutchinson)**

- Adds parents enrolled in non-TANF education and training programs to priority populations
- Restores access to CCAP for around 4,000 children (2,700 families)
- Protects these families against similar restrictions in the future

# Support Early Childhood & K-12 Alignment and Partnerships

## HJR24 (Willis)

- Creates Kindergarten Transition Advisory Committee
- Committee will develop legislative framework to encourage alignment between early childhood and K-12
- Encourage best practices for supporting transitions, such as:
  - Shared professional development opportunities
  - Data collection and data sharing
  - Family engagement



# Prevent Expulsions in Early Childhood Settings

- National research shows preschool children are expelled at more than 3 times the rate of K-12 students (Department of Education, 2014)
  - Children expelled during preschool years are more likely to be expelled in later grades
- Boys 3.5 times more likely to be expelled than girls (Gilliam, 2005)
- African American children 2 times more likely to be expelled than white and Latino peers (Gilliam, 2005)
- 2002 Unmet Needs study in Chicago found high rate of expulsion in infant toddler programs, with 40% of child care providers asking children to leave for social-emotional and behavioral issues

# Prevent Expulsions in Early Childhood Settings

## **HB2663 (Stratton) – SB1557 (Lightford)**

- Amended 2016 language based on provider feedback
- The goal of HB2663/SB1557 is to ensure early childhood programs engage in best practices in their disciplinary actions by prohibiting the use of expulsions
  - Planned transitions after documenting attempts at intervention are not considered expulsions
- The bill also puts in place a system to track transitions due to child behavior, providing data to better understand the issue and identify the need for additional resources

# Prevent Expulsions in Early Childhood Settings

HB2663/SB1557 would apply to:

- School- and community-based early childhood programs receiving Early Childhood Block Grant funds from ISBE
- Licensed child care centers and homes serving children birth to five
  - DCFS would adopt rules aligned with requirements outlined in bill

When a child exhibits consistently challenging behaviors, the bill asks ECE providers to make (and document) adequate attempts to address child's needs

- Communication with and participation of family
- Intervention plan and strategies, including the use of or attempts to access available external resources
- Instances where child is ultimately transitioned out of program

# Maintain Investments in School Readiness Initiatives

- Illinois has invested in several systems aimed at improving school readiness
  - Many were enhanced by federal Race to the Top grant
- State should maintain investments in quality supports
  - ExceleRate Illinois
  - Gateways to Opportunity
  - Community systems development initiatives

# Advocacy & Action Steps

- Call your legislators and Governor Rauner
  - We need a solution for FY17 budget
  - We need a responsible FY18 budget
  - We need revenue
- IAFC Upcoming Events
  - Spring into Action (March 28-29)
  - Early Childhood Advocacy Day (May 9)
  - Statewide Policy Caucus (June 22)

# Advocacy & Action Steps

- Illinois Action for Children
  - Twitter: [https://twitter.com/iafc\\_cares](https://twitter.com/iafc_cares)
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ILaction4children>
- Ounce of Prevention Fund
  - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/theOunce>
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ounceofpreventionfund>
- Voices for Illinois Children
  - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Voices4ILKids>
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/voices4kids>
- Responsible Budget Coalition (RBC)
  - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RespBudgetIL>
  - Facebook: <https://t.co/irdHN3UVsD>

# Questions?

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