



## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Board of Early Education and Care (EEC) is proposing amendments to its regulations found at 606 CMR 10.00, pursuant to its authority under M.G.L. c. 15D, § 3. The proposed amendments are to the Child Care Financial Assistance (CCFA) regulations.

The primary goals of these revised regulations are to: (1) expand initial eligibility to families with incomes at and up to 85% of State Median Income (SMI); (2) codify priority access for staff working in early education and care programs; and (3) ensure CCFA does not count as income for purposes of disqualifying families for other state governmental assistance.

EEC is proposing these regulatory amendments as mandated by the Legislature in accordance with the adoption of M.G.L. c. 15D, § 13A.

At its February 12, 2025, EEC Board meeting, Board Members voted to adopt these regulations in draft form and to provide for an extended public comment period.

Accordingly, EEC will accept comments on the proposed regulations via e-mail to [robert.p.orthman@mass.gov](mailto:robert.p.orthman@mass.gov), or in writing to Department of Early Education and Care, 50 Milk Street, 14th Floor, Boston, MA 02109 ATTN: CHILD CARE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REGULATIONS: LEGAL until 5:00 p.m. on April 15, 2025. To obtain a copy of the proposed regulations, please visit EEC's website at [www.mass.gov/eec](http://www.mass.gov/eec).

## Amended Small Business Impact Statement

*(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)*

**CMR No.: 606 CMR 10.00**

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: N/A

### Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? No, no small businesses will need to create, file, or issue any reports.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? No, there are no additional recordkeeping procedures required.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? No, small business will not have to implement any additional administrative oversight.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? No, small businesses will not need to hire any additional staff.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)? No, small businesses will not need to hire any additional professionals to maintain compliance.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? No, small businesses are not required to make any purchases or other capital investments.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.) No, there are no performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? No other regulations duplicate or conflict with these regulations.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities? No, the regulation does not require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections, or other regulatory enforcement activities
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? No, the regulation does not require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>No</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? These regulations will not deter the formation of small businesses and will likely help increase their formation by increasing accessibility to stable child care for workers.
<u>Yes</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? Yes, the regulations create greater flexibilities and a more user-friendly child care financial system that could encourage potential formation of more child care providers.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>No</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No, regulation has no impact on compliance and reporting requirements for small businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>No</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No, the regulation has no impact on schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>No</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>No</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?  No.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>No</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses?  There are no alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses – though there are no known adverse impacts on small businesses.