

Sneak Preview: ED, HHS To Tout Parent Training and Info Centers

(The following is excerpted from a recent [Thompson Grants Compliance Expert](#) article.) The departments of Education (ED) and Health and Human Services (HHS) plan to conduct more outreach to promote ED's Parent Training and Information Centers, among other resources, to help children and parents with disabilities obtain services from state and local child care providers, according to a recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report recommendation.

Federal early education program surveys show that about 2.2 million children aged 5 and under, and 3 million parents of children in this age group, have a reported disability. Congress asked GAO to review barriers children and parents with disabilities face in accessing child care services. It reviewed federal child care data; assessed federal laws, regulations and HHS and ED documents; conducted site visits at 12 federally funded child care providers in four states; and conducted numerous other interviews with parents and other stakeholders.

GAO found that many factors limit child care options for parents of children with disabilities, including a limited supply of child care programs; few programs within the proximity to the family or where transportation is available; programs that are not affordable, including those that accept child care subsidies; and few programs that are equipped to serve families with disabilities.

"In some cases, even if there were available child care programs, parents said programs expressed reluctance to admit their children with disabilities once the program learned about the severity of their child's disability or their needed accommodations," GAO explained. "Other programs told parents they were unable to care for their children. In some instances, child care programs were reluctant to retain children already attending once they had been diagnosed with a disability, according to parents."

Even once enrolled, children with disabilities, or even the parents themselves, faced barriers participating in child care programs. These included physically inaccessible

facilities, disabled children's exclusion from activities for disabled children, inappropriate suspension and expulsion from programs for disabled children, early intervention and special education services that were provided off-site, delays experienced by disabled children in receiving early intervention and special education services, and safety concerns.

The federally funded child care providers GAO interviewed noted that they have taken steps to better support children and parents with disabilities, including modifying facilities such as hallways and parking; implementing universal developmental screening; implementing and training staff on strategies to support children with disabilities (e.g., working with occupational therapists to help children develop fine motor skills); and offering language services to bilingual and immigrant families. However, these providers also faced their own challenges such as resource constraints (e.g., shortage of child care staff and specialists, space and funding), as well as difficulties communicating with families, particularly when attempting to have sensitive conversations about disabilities.

(The full version of this story has now been made available to all for a limited time [here.](#))

Join us for our following Thompson Grants event:

[Nonprofit Legal, Finance, & Grants Conference | Oct. 1-2, 2024 | Arlington, Va.](#)

[Federal Grants Forum: Navigating the 2024 Uniform Guidance Changes | Oct. 29-30, 2024 | Virtual Event](#)

Author

[Jerry Ashworth](#)

1

Image



[Editorial Commentary](#)

[View PDF](#)

[View Word Document](#)

Exclusive Offer for Fall Forum Attendees - Free Access to the Grants Compliance Expert for One Month

Are you ready to tackle the evolving landscape of compliance? The Bruman Law Group's Fall Forum highlighted a significant shift from traditional audits to more detailed monitoring by federal and state agencies. With proposed EDGAR changes and revisions to the Uniform Grant Guidance, staying ahead of compliance requirements is more crucial than ever.

Why Thompson Grants Compliance Expert Is Your Best Ally

Gain one-month free access to Thompson Grants' Compliance Expert—a tool designed to help you:

- **Stay Updated:** Navigate the latest regulations and changes in monitoring

practices with ease.

- **Enhance Strategies:** Equip yourself with expert insights to refine your compliance strategies.
- **Prepare for Uncertainty:** In light of a new administration, be ready for potential shifts in federal funding and policy.

The Compliance Challenge

With the U.S. Education Department's proposed changes, subgrantees may face increased responsibilities, including monitoring tasks traditionally handled by state agencies. Additionally, the upcoming elections could reshape federal roles in education and workforce funding. These uncertainties require proactive measures.

Why You Need the Grants Compliance Expert

- **Expert Guidance:** Get access to trusted advice and resources that cater to both fiscal and programmatic grant management.
- **Comprehensive Insights:** Understand the implications of new policies and how they affect your operations.
- **Real-Time Updates:** Stay informed about federal and state monitoring practices and regulations.

This exclusive, limited-time offer ends on December 31. Sign up now to ensure you're equipped to handle the shifts in compliance and funding landscapes effectively.

Unlock your free month today and turn uncertainty into opportunity with the Grants Compliance Expert!

Start Your Free Trial

<div class="antibot-no-js antibot-message antibot-message-warning">You must

have JavaScript enabled to use this form.</div>

State/Province

Organization Type

Activate Trial

By signing up for a tour of the Grants Compliance Expert, you are also registering to receive email offers and product updates from us. Simply click **unsubscribe** at the bottom of any email if you would like to discontinue delivery.

This article appeared on **Thompson Grants Compliance Expert**

©2026 [Thompson Grants](#), a division of [CBIS](#), Arlington, VA

Visit <https://www.thompsongrants.com> for more information.

