



CHILD CARE HEALTH CONSULTANT COMPETENCIES

At-A-Glance

This At-A-Glance document is a summary of the Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC) Competencies, available at [<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/health-services-management/article/child-care-health-consultants>]. Explore the full Competencies document to learn more about the competencies and activities that a CCHC may perform to demonstrate each competency.

These competencies are for CCHCs working with early care and education (ECE) programs serving infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-aged children and their families. The goal of the competencies is to contribute to the development of a well-prepared CCHC workforce by articulating the key areas of CCHC expertise. The competencies reflect best practices. They demonstrate how CCHCs working in any ECE setting can apply their specialized knowledge and skills to improve health, safety, and wellness outcomes.

General Areas of Expertise

1. CONSULTATION SKILLS

- 1A. Understands the role of the CCHC
- 1B. Develops and executes a collaborative process for effective consultation
- 1C. Uses communication approaches that strengthen relationships
- 1D. Applies principles of health equity and cultural and linguistic competence to work with ECE programs, including staff, children, and families

2. QUALITY HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELLNESS PRACTICES

- 2A. Uses evidence-based instruments to assess the quality of health, safety, and wellness practices in ECE programs
- 2B. Collaborates with ECE programs to improve the quality of their health, safety, and wellness practices

3. POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

- 3A. Works with ECE programs to develop and review child care health policies
- 3B. Works with ECE programs to develop procedures that outline the specific steps required to implement child care health policies

4. HEALTH EDUCATION

- 4A. Identifies, designs, and implements health education
- 4B. Works with ECE programs to build staff and family health literacy

5. RESOURCE AND REFERRAL

- 5A. Helps ECE programs make linkages to community resources that address the physical health, mental health, and social services needs of the program staff, children, and families
- 5B. Collaborates with ECE programs to ensure families are able to access services

Subject Matter Areas of Expertise

6. ILLNESS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- 6A. Works with ECE programs to reduce the spread of illness
- 6B. Helps programs use current, evidence-based criteria for identifying, caring for, and excluding children who are ill and for identifying staff who are ill and should not be working

7. CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

- 7A. Collaborates with programs and families to support the care and inclusion of children with special health care needs and/or chronic physical health or mental health conditions

8. MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

- 8A. Helps ECE programs safely manage medication administration and medical procedures

9. SAFETY AND INJURY PREVENTION

- 9A. Collaborates with ECE programs to promote safety and reduce injuries
- 9B. Promotes active supervision practices
- 9C. Helps programs with planning and response to injuries

10. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

- 10A. Helps programs prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters

11. INFANT AND CHILD SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

- 11A. Collaborates with ECE programs to create an environment for children that promotes positive social and emotional wellbeing
- 11B. Helps ECE staff respond to social and emotional and behavioral concerns

12. CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- 12A. Collaborates with programs to prevent child abuse and neglect
- 12B. Supports programs in identifying and reporting suspected child abuse and neglect

13. NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

- 13A. Provides guidance to programs on best practices in nutrition and feeding for infants and children
- 13B. Works with ECE programs to ensure all children have daily opportunities for physical activity

14. ORAL HEALTH

- 14A. Collaborates with ECE programs to promote oral health

15. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- 15A. Collaborates with ECE programs to reduce exposure to environmental health hazards

16. STAFF HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- 16A. Helps ECE programs implement measures to prevent and manage occupational hazards for staff
- 16B. Helps ECE programs identify opportunities to promote staff wellness

Learn more about CCHCs here:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/health-services-management/article/child-care-health-consultants>