

B Early Childhood Acronyms

- AOK** All Our Kids: Early Childhood Networks
- CAEYC** Chicago Metro Association for the Education of Young Children (also CMAEYC)
- CCDBG** Child Care Development Block Grant
- CCR&R** Child Care Resource and Referral — Agencies in each state that provide parents with information about early childhood services that are available in their communities. They may provide training for early childhood professionals, recruit providers, and advocate for early childhood services.
- CDA** Child Development Associate — A credential earned by an individual who has demonstrated his or her skills in working with young children by completing the credentialing process. It is administered by the Council for Professional Recognition.
- CPS** Chicago Public Schools
- DCFS** Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
- DHHS** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- ECBG** Early Childhood Block Grant
- EHS** Early Head Start
- EI** Early Intervention — Refers to a general type of intervention, or to the state program, EI, that delivers services to children ranging from developmental screening to intervention.
- EPSDT** Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment services for children under age 21 enrolled in Medicaid
- Great START** Program that seeks to improve early childhood services by encouraging professionals to further their education in the field. It supplements income based on the education level achieved and staying in an early childhood job. (START = Strategy to Attract and Retain Teachers)
- HFI** Healthy Families Illinois — Network of home-visiting programs in Illinois, including Healthy Families and Parents Too Soon programs.
- IAEYC** Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children
- IDEA** Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act
- IDHS** Illinois Department of Human Services
- IEP** Individualized Education Plan — Refers to the process that schools, teachers, and parents create for a child who has been found eligible for special education, part of Part B of IDEA.
- IFSP** Individual Family Service Plan — Refers to the service plan that the providers and parents create for a child who has been found eligible for early intervention services in Part C of IDEA
- IHSA** Illinois Head Start Association
- INCCRRA** Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies
- ISBE** Illinois State Board of Education
- PFA** Preschool for All
- TANF** Temporary Assistance to Needy Families