

# Abbreviations and Glossary for the Early Childhood Field



<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Full Name</b>
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<b>CCDBG</b>	<b>Child Care and Development Block Grant</b>  Federal law that authorizes the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF). The purpose of the law is to better promote the health and safety of children in early education and childcare
<b>CCR&amp;R</b>	<b>Child Care Resource and Referral</b>  Network that supports local communities by assisting families in finding childcare that meets their needs, and helping eligible families obtain childcare financial assistance
<b>CDA</b>	<b>Child Development Associate Certificate</b>  Credential for early childhood educators such as home visiting and early learning
<b>CFCE</b>	<b>Coordinated Family and Community Engagement</b>  Locally based programs that provide child development services and resources to families with young children
<b>DCTC</b>	<b>Dependent Care Tax Credit</b>  Available deductions on Massachusetts personal income tax return relating to children
<b>ECCS</b>	<b>Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems</b>  Collaborative approach to align systems across early childhood education; physical, mental, and public health; social services; local government; and families and other caregivers

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<b>EEC</b>
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<b>Early Education and Care</b>
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Department of Education division that provides high quality learning programs and resources for families and communities

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<b>EHS/HS</b>
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<b>Early Head Start and Head Start</b>
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Federal program that provides funding for children 0-5 from low-income families to receive quality early education services including home visiting (EHS) and learning centers (EHS and HS)

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<b>EIS</b>
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<b>Early Intervention Services</b>
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Services for infants and toddlers (0-3) who have developmental delays or are at risk of a developmental delay

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<b>EPDS</b>
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<b>Edinburgh Postpartum Depression Screen</b>
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Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) is a way of identifying patients at risk for “perinatal” depression. The EPDS is a screening tool used by home visitors and healthcare providers.

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<b>EPSDT</b>
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<b>Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment</b>
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EPSDT tool provides screening for comprehensive and preventive health care services to those who are enrolled in Medicaid under the age of 21.

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<b>FFN</b>
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<b>Family, Friend and Neighbor Care</b>
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Informal and unregulated care provided by individuals with a personal relationship to the family and/or child(ren) for whom they are caring

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<b>FAPE</b>
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<b>Free Appropriate Public Education</b>
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Massachusetts Public Education Law guarantees FAPE to all children aged 3-21 regardless of disability

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<b>GLR</b>
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<b>Grade-Level Reading</b>
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Ability to read at the age-appropriate grade level. Often focuses on 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading accomplishment as it is an important predictor of future school success and high school graduation

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<b>HFA</b>
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<b>Healthy Families America</b>
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Evidence-based program model under Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) serving first-time parents aged 23 and under

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<b>HS</b>
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<b>Healthy Start</b>
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Federal or state funded home visiting program designed to lower the infant mortality rate by enrolling eligible low income, uninsured pregnant women in early, continuous, comprehensive maternity care

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<b>HV</b>
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<b>Home Visiting</b>
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Preventative services provided in the home by nurses, social workers, paraprofessionals, or CDA-credentialed staff from local programs

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<b>IMH</b>
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<b>Infant Mental Health</b>
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Refers to optimal social, emotional, and cognitive development for children from 0-3

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<b>IDEA</b>
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<b>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act</b>
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Federal law that ensures equity, accountability, and excellence in education for children with disabilities

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<b>IEP</b>
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<b>Individualized Education Program</b>
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Tailored education plan provided to students identified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

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<b>IFSP</b>
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<b>Individualized Family Service Plan</b>
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Document that outlines the Early Intervention (EI) services to be provided to the family/child within 45 days of a referral

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<b>IEU</b>
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<b>Intermediate Educational Unit</b>
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Locally based educational service agencies that typically reflect a collaboration of student programs and services

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<b>KEA</b>
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<b>Kindergarten Entry Assessment (also KRA: Kindergarten Readiness Assessment)</b>
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Observational data across all developmental domains provided by kindergarten teachers

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<b>MIECHV</b>
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<b>Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting</b>
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Federally funded home visiting framework providing evidence-based programs

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<b>OCA</b>
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<b>Office of the Child Advocate</b>
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State office that works to ensure that state agencies provide children with quality services and that children receiving services are protected from harm

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<b>OSEP</b>
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<b>Office of Special Education Programs</b>
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Provides access to programs for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities

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<b>PAT</b>
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<b>Parents as Teachers</b>
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Evidence-based home visiting program under MIECHV for pregnant women and children up to age 5

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<b>PDG B-5</b>	<b>Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five</b> Mixed delivery system for children 0-5 comprising a wide array of programs and services funded and administered by federal, state, local and community-based organizations
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<b>SEL</b>	<b>Social and Emotional Learning</b> Development in young children that is the foundation for learning how to manage their emotions and get along with others
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<b>SSBG</b>	<b>Social Services Block Grant</b> Federal funds sent down to the state level for social services programs for children and adults
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<b>SNAP</b>	<b>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program</b> Program for low-income families to assist with increasing their food budget for healthy foods
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<b>WIC</b>	<b>Women Infant Children's Program</b> Federal program under the US Department of Agriculture to provide nutrition services and breastfeeding assistance to low-income pregnant women and children 0-5
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