The Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) grant helps states build early childhood service systems that better meet the needs of children and families. The 2013 grant provides states with an opportunity to make improvements that will specifically benefit infants and toddlers through the implementation of one of three strategies:

- Mitigation of toxic stress and trauma in infancy and early childhood across multiple systems; or
- Coordination of the expansion of developmental screening activities in early care and education settings statewide; or
- Improvement of state infant-toddler child care quality initiatives by incorporating *Caring for Our Children, 3rd ed.* standards into state licensing standards, QRIS, and/or professional development.

This list of resources developed by ZERO TO THREE has been compiled to help states think through some of the strategies they could pursue through the 2013 ECCS grant opportunity. Resources are grouped by the three strategies outlined in the grant application. A few that are relevant to all of the strategies are included under the Overarching heading.

**OVERARCHING**

*The School-Ready Child* – This new infographic shows how young children, beginning at birth, acquire the social and emotional skills for success in school and life.

*Putting the Pieces Together for Infants and Toddlers: Comprehensive, Coordinated Systems* – This policy brief outlines the need for a comprehensive birth-to-five system made up of high-quality, affordable health; early learning and development; and family leadership and support services for young children and their families. It describes the core functions of an effective early childhood system and offers policy recommendations for system-building.

*State Baby Facts* – This series of factsheets for each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia provide information for early childhood professionals and policymakers about the status of infants, toddlers, and families in their state. They present infant and toddler data in the framework of good health, strong families, and positive early learning experiences.

*Baby Matters: A Gateway to State Policies and Initiatives* – This database of state policies and initiatives that impact infants, toddlers, and their families is searchable by state, category, and keyword. It contains information on topics such as quality improvement, child care, developmental screening, and professional development.

*Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program website* – The MIECHV program facilitates collaboration and partnership within states and communities to improve health and development outcomes for at-risk children through evidence-based home visiting programs that are implemented within a comprehensive early childhood system. MIECHV and ECCS are closely linked in intent, with strong benefits resulting from collaboration between these projects. The MIECHV Technical Assistance Coordinating Center at ZERO TO THREE provides technical assistance to MIECHV state grantees.
MITIGATION OF TOXIC STRESS AND TRAUMA

Supporting Infants, Toddlers, and Families Impacted by Caregiver Mental Health Problems, Substance Abuse, and Trauma: A Community Action Guide – This publication prepared for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) presents resources that service providers, advocates, and practitioners can use to better understand and engage their communities in responding to children whose caregivers are negatively impacted by mental illness, substance abuse, or trauma.

Laying the Foundation for Early Development: Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health – This policy brief explains why healthy social and emotional development is critical for all children. It outlines research linking infant-early childhood mental health with success in school and adulthood and offers policy recommendations for promoting infants’ and toddlers’ healthy social and emotional development.

Making It Happen: Overcoming Barriers to Providing Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health – This paper illuminates the scientific evidence for Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health (I-ECMH) policies; examines issues faced by national, state, and local program directors and mental health practitioners in providing I-ECMH services; and proposes a set of recommendations for policy improvements at the federal level.

A Call to Action on Behalf of Maltreated Infants and Toddlers – This report presents the compelling evidence for addressing the needs of infants and toddlers in the child welfare system and outlines the important steps that can be taken in policies, programs, and practices to address the needs of this vulnerable population.

A Developmental Approach to Child Welfare Services for Infants, Toddlers, and Their Families: A Self-Assessment Tool for States and Counties Administering Child Welfare Services – This self-assessment tool helps states and counties assess how well their child welfare practices and policies address the developmental needs of infants and toddlers; identify where and how policies and practices can be improved; and engage partners in taking constructive action.

Safe Babies Court Teams – The Safe Babies Court Team project has two primary goals: a) to increase awareness among those who work with maltreated infants and toddlers about the negative impact of abuse and neglect on very young children, and b) to change local systems to improve outcomes and prevent future court involvement in the lives of very young children. The Safe Babies Court Teams work toward these goals by training professionals; providing resources encouraging collaboration between existing community service providers; and increasing parent-child contact, mental health capacity, and placement stability in the Court Team sites.

DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

Achieving the Promise of a Bright Future: Developmental Screening of Infants and Toddlers – This policy brief discusses the need for comprehensive and coordinated developmental screening programs that are connected to follow-up services providing more detailed evaluation and treatment. It outlines relevant research and offers policy recommendations for building an effective screening system.
Improving Access to Early Identification and Intervention: 211 LA County Developmental Screening and Care Coordination – This policy brief by the ZERO TO THREE Western Office describes the 211 LA County telephone-based developmental screening and care coordination program. It offers policy recommendations for expanding and replicating the model and discusses research supporting universal developmental screening.

Infant/Toddler Development, Screening, and Assessment – This training module developed by the former National Infant & Toddler Child Care Initiative @ ZERO TO THREE is one of three infant/toddler modules created to support consultants working in child care settings. It provides information on how child care providers can: nurture infant/toddler development; involve families in recognizing and promoting their child’s development; and use observation, screening, and assessment to determine how infants and toddlers are developing.

INFANT-TODDLER CHILD CARE HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS

 Leading the Way to a Strong Beginning: Ensuring Good Physical Health of Our Infants and Toddlers – This policy brief discusses the need for all infants, toddlers, and their families to have access to quality, comprehensive, consistent, and culturally appropriate health services; adequate insurance coverage and prenatal care; periodic health screening and referrals through early childhood programs; and sufficient quantities of nutritious foods. It also offers policy recommendations for ensuring all young children have good health.

 Seizing the Potential: Quality Infant-Toddler Child Care – This policy brief discusses the need for high-quality child care for infants and toddlers. It outlines research showing the benefits of high-quality care and the effectiveness of various quality improvement strategies. It also offers policy recommendations for ensuring all young children have access to child care that meets their needs.

 State Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS): Inclusion of Infant/Toddler Quality Indicators – This document developed by the former National Infant & Toddler Child Care Initiative @ ZERO TO THREE summarizes state Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) with infant/toddler quality indicators. It highlights each state QRIS’ requirements for professional development, learning environment and curriculum, ratios and group sizes, family involvement, administrative policies, and program evaluation. It also provides examples of specific wording for infant/toddler criteria.