

Child Care Subsidy Overview

Basic requirements for Subsidy:

- ✓ Child must be a U.S. Citizen or child and/or applicant must be non-citizens who are legal residents unless care is needed through Child Protective Services, Foster Care or for Developmental Needs.
- ✓ Must meet income guidelines.
- ✓ Family must have a need as established in Chapter 5 of the Child Care Manual:
 - a. To maintain or seek employment
 - b. To support child protective services (CPS) in order to remain in their own homes;
 - c. To attend school or job training activities that lead to employment;
 - d. To meet the developmental needs of children whose emotional, cognitive, social or physical development is delayed or at risk of delay; or
 - e. To support child welfare services (CWS) (to prevent or remedy problems that may result in the neglect or abuse of children, to prevent foster care placement, to support family reunification, and to provide support in times of crisis).
- ✓ Required to help pay a portion of the cost of care known as a parent fee with the exception of CWS and CPS cases. Parent fees are assessed at 10% of the family's gross countable income and paid directly to the Child Care Provider.
- ✓ Must meet residency requirements and receive services in the county they live in.
- ✓ Child must be birth through age 12; or if 13-17 must need care based on special needs, court order supervision and/or not having care would place the child in an unsafe environment. All cases for children age 13-17 need to be approved by the Child Care Supervisor.

Each LPA (Local Purchasing Agent) makes monthly payments to licensed child care providers according to state set market rates. Payment is dependent on the age of the child, market rates, the facilities star rating, parent fees and the facilities private paying rates (what they charge non-subsidy children). The caseworkers determine eligibility for assistance and issue a child care voucher to a licensed contracting facility of the parents choosing.