

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE

SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE

Program Description

Child care subsidies are administered by local Departments of Social Services to enable parents/ caretakers to work or engage in other work-related activities. The funds are also available to enable teen parents to attend high school or equivalent training, as well as to provide child care assistance to parents/caretakers who are physically or mentally disabled, have family duties away from home, or who are attending post-secondary school while working 17.5 hours per week. Parents/caretakers receiving a subsidy are permitted to choose their own child care provider. Child care subsidies pay for the actual cost of child care, up to a market rate set by the state. The payments to the child care providers are issued by Local Departments of Social Services through purchase of service contracts or through cash, vouchers or reimbursements.

Eligibility

Those that meet the following guidelines are *guaranteed* child care assistance:

- Eligible for cash public assistance (not necessarily receiving assistance, but eligible for it); and
- Have children under the age of 13; and
- Require child care so they are able to work or participate in required work activities; and
- Meet income eligibility guidelines

To be eligible for subsidized child care, a family must have income at or below the income eligibility ceilings listed below. Except for situations where child care is guaranteed, districts are permitted to serve lower income families before those with higher incomes. In the event that the Department of Social Services runs out of funding, families with higher incomes, who are not guaranteed a subsidy, may be denied assistance.

**Subsidized Child Care
Income Guidelines ***

Family Size	Maximum Income Ceiling (Annual)	Maximum Income Ceiling (Monthly)
2	\$ 27,380	\$ 2,282
3	\$ 34,340	\$ 2,862
4	\$ 41,300	\$ 3,442
5	\$ 48,260	\$ 4,022
6	\$ 55,220	\$ 4,602
each additional member	add \$ 6,960	add \$ 580

*These are 2007 figures. The 2008 figures are expected to be 1-3% higher and should be available by June 1st.

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Eligibility continued:

Depending on availability of funds, child care subsidies may be available to parents/caretakers that fall outside of the “guaranteed” category. This subsidy is referred to as *transitional* child care. Because funds are limited, counties have the right to set priorities about who they will serve and may even provide child care to families with incomes exceeding the eligibility guidelines. County eligibility standards are set forth in a county plan which you can obtain from this web site: <http://www.empirejustice.org/content.asp?contentid=2604>

Transitional child care is available for a 12-month period to those families who leave cash assistance because of increased earnings or child support that brings household income above 200% of poverty. To qualify for transitional child care, a family must have been on family assistance for at least 3 out of the previous 6 months.

Transitional child care is also available to those who had been receiving child care because they were eligible for cash assistance (but chose not to receive it), but who have become ineligible because of increased earnings or child support. Eligibility is set at 200% of poverty or below as outlined on the chart on the other side of this page.

Benefits

Parents choose their own child care provider and the child care subsidy operates on a sliding scale. This sliding scale is used to determine a family’s contribution/co-payment based on a formula chosen by the county Department of Social Services. If the child care provider has a contract with the county, parents are only required to make their family contribution/co-payment (even if non-subsidized families are charged at a higher rate). However, if parents/caretakers choose a provider that does not have a county contract, they must pay the difference between their subsidy and the rate charged by the provider.

How to Apply

To obtain information on eligibility and child care availability, contact your local Department of Social Services or your county Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency. You may also contact your CCR&R if you have any problems gaining access to subsidized child care.

For your LDSS contact information, go to: http://www.health.state.ny.us/health_care/medicaid/ldss.htm

To find the CCR&R agency in your county, go to: <http://www.nysccccc.org/Affiliate%20Directory.pdf> or see the directory provided in the *Resources* section of this Tool Kit.

Thanks to the New York State Child Care Coordinating Council for their help in developing this material.

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Albany	Capital District Child Care Coordinating Council	(518) 426-7181 x327
Allegany	ACCORD Corporation	(800) 498-2277 or (585) 593-0792 x1231
Broome	Family Enrichment Network	(607) 723-8313 x872
Cattaraugus	ACCORD Corporation	(800) 648-4474
Cayuga	Child Care Council of the Finger Lakes	(315) 255-6994
Chautauqua	Chautauqua Child Care Council	(716) 664-4999 or (716) 366-8176
Chemung	Chemung County Child Care Council	(607) 734-3941
Chenango	Chenango County Child Care Council	(607) 336-2809
Clinton	Child Care Coordinating Council of the North Country	(518) 561-4999 or (800) 540-2273
	Joint Council for Economic Opportunity of Clinton and Franklin Counties	(518) 561-6310
Columbia	Family of Woodstock/Child Care Council of Columbia and Greene Counties	(518) 822-1944 or (800) 494-1944
Cortland	Cortland Area Child Care Council	(607) 753-0106
Delaware	Delaware Opportunities	(607) 746-1620
Dutchess	Child Care Council of Dutchess	(845) 473-4141 x213 or (888) 288-4148
Erie	Child Care Resource Network	(716) 877-6666 x3012 or x3024
Essex	Adirondack Community Action Programs	(518) 873-3207 or (877) 873-2979
Franklin	Child Care Coordinating Council of the North Country	(518) 561-4999 or (800) 540-2273
	Joint Council for Economic Opportunity of Clinton and Franklin Counties	(518) 561-6310
Fulton	Capital District Child Care Coordinating Council	(518) 426-7181 x327
Genesee	Community Action of Orleans and Genesee	(585) 343-7727
Greene	Family of Woodstock/Child Care Council of Columbia and Greene Counties	(518) 822-1944 or (800) 494-1944
Hamilton	Southern Adirondack Child Care Network	(518) 798-7972
Herkimer	Mid-York Child Care Coordinating Council	(315) 223-7850
Jefferson	Jefferson-Lewis Child Care Project	(315) 782-8475 or (315) 782-4900 x240
Lewis	Jefferson-Lewis Child Care Project	(315) 782-8475 or (315) 782-4900 x240
Livingston	Child Care Council	(585) 346-6050
Madison	Mid-York Child Care Coordinating Council	(315) 223-7850
Monroe	Child Care Council	(585) 346-6050
Montgomery	Capital District Child Care Coordinating Council	(518) 426-7181 x327
Nassau	Child Care Council of Nassau	(516) 358-9250 or (516) 358-9288

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
New York City	Child Care, Inc.	(212) 929-7604 x3010 or x3016
	Child Development Support Corporation	(718) 398-6738 x8058
	Chinese-American Planning Council	(212) 941-0030 x202
	The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families	(212) 206-1090
	Day Care Council of New York	(212) 206-7818 x114
Niagara	Community Child Care Clearinghouse of Niagara	(716) 285-8572
Oneida	Mid-York Child Care Coordinating Council	(315) 223-7850
Onondaga	Child Care Solutions	(315) 446-1220 x310
Ontario	Child and Family Resources	(315) 536-1134 or (315) 781-1491
Orange	Child Care Council of Orange County	(845) 294-4012 or (800) 827-1751
Orleans	Community Action of Orleans and Genesee	(585) 343-7727
Oswego	Oswego County Child Care Council	(315) 343-2344
Otsego	Catholic Charities of Delaware and Otsego Counties	(607) 432-0061 x104
Putnam	Child Care Council of Dutchess	(845) 473-4141 x13 or (888) 288-4148
Rensselaer	Capital District Child Care Coordinating Council	(518) 426-7181 x327
Rockland	Child Care Resources of Rockland	(845) 425-0009 x417 or x458 or (877) 425-0009
St. Lawrence	St. Lawrence Child Care Council	(315) 393-6474
Saratoga	Capital District Child Care Coordinating Council	(518) 426-7181 x327
Schenectady	Capital District Child Care Coordinating Council	(518) 426-7181 x327
Schoharie	Schoharie County Community Action Program	(518) 234-2568 or (518) 296-8523
Schuyler	Schuyler County Child Care Coordinating Council	(607) 535-7964 or (888) 535-7964
Seneca	Child Care Council of the Finger Lakes	(315) 255-6994
Steuben	Steuben Child Care Project	(607) 776-2126 x234 or (800) 553-2033
Suffolk	Day Care Council of Suffolk	(631) 462-0444 x105 or (631) 462-0303 x131
Sullivan	Sullivan County Child Care Council	(845) 292-7166
Tioga	Family Enrichment Network	(607) 723-8313 x872
Tompkins	Day Care and Child Development Council of Tompkins County	(607) 273-0259
Ulster	Family of Woodstock/Child Care Council of Ulster County	(845) 331-5197 or (845) 331-7080

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Warren	Southern Adirondack Child Care Network	(518) 746-2349 or (518) 798-7972
Washington	Southern Adirondack Child Care Network	(518) 746-2349 or (518) 798-7972
Wayne	Child Care Council	(585) 346-6050
Westchester	Child Care Council of Westchester	(914) 761-3456 x102 or x107
Wyoming	ACCORD Corporation	(800) 498-2277 or (585) 593-0792 x1231
Yates	Child and Family Resources	(315) 536-1134 or (315) 781-1491