

# Child Care Assistance Infographic

## Talking Points Companion

Following provides additional information that you can share when speaking with a legislator, board member or community member about the information/data provided in the infographic.

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**Purpose:** The Child Care Assistance (CCA) Program supports low-income families by providing financial assistance for child care for parents who are:

- Working
- Gaining work skills
- Going to school

**Eligibility:** Child Care Assistance provides financial assistance for children under the age of 13, or under the age of 19 if the child has a special need, in:

- Families whose parents are:
  1. Working at least 28 hours per week; or
  2. In school full time; or
  3. Are working and in school for a combined minimum of 28 hours per week; and
  4. Have income below 145% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) or below 200% of the FPL for families with a special needs child
- Families receiving Family Investment Program benefits and are participating in PROMISE JOBS
- Families with protective needs

The 2015 Federal Poverty Level (100% of FPL) for a family of three is \$20,090. A family of three can earn up to \$29,136 annual gross wages and remain eligible for CCA.

**Child Care Provider Eligibility:** Both regulated (Child Care Centers and Child Development Homes) and non-regulated child care providers (Child Care Homes) are eligible to provide child care services for this program.

### CCA Payment Rates:

- For Child Care Centers and Child Development Homes, the current rates paid for Child Care Assistance is based on the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile (not percentage) of the 2004 Market Rate Survey (MRS) plus 2%, plus 2%, plus 4%. For Non-Registered Child Care Homes, the rates paid have remained unchanged for many years.

For each individual child care provider, DHS compares the provider's 'private pay rates' against the 'maximum reimbursement rates' and pays the lesser of the two rates to the provider.

Following are the current maximum reimbursement rates per unit. (A unit is up to 5 hours, so a full day of child care would be two units.)

Current Payment Rate <b>per Unit</b> for Basic Care (see above for year & increases)				
Age Group	Child Care Center	Child Development Home A or B	Child Development Home C	Non-Registered Child Care Home
Infant and Toddler	\$16.78	\$12.98	\$12.44	\$8.19
Preschool	\$13.53	\$12.18	\$12.18	\$7.19
School Aged	\$12.18	\$10.82	\$10.82	\$7.36

- In response to the new federal requirements for a tiered reimbursement option, DHS is changing administrative rules to pay child care providers that are a QRS Level 5 (Quality Rating System) at the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile (not percentage) of the 2014 Market Rate Survey (MRS). (Again, it is at the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile and DHS compares the provider's 'private pay rates' against the 'maximum reimbursement rates' and pays the lesser of the two rates to the provider.)

Following are the maximum reimbursement rates per unit. (A unit is up to 5 hours, so a full day of child care would be two units.)

2014 MRS Payment Rate <b>per Unit</b> for Basic Care				
Age Group	Child Care Center	Child Development Home A or B	Child Development Home C	Non-Registered Child Care Home
Infant and Toddler	\$20.50	\$13.75	\$15.00	\$8.19
Preschool	\$17.50	\$13.50	\$13.75	\$7.19
School Aged	\$14.75	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$7.36

**SFY'15 Data:**

- 94.7% of families paid under CCA received assistance due to employment
- 91% of children were cared for in regulated child care settings
- 92% of all CCA expenditures were made to regulated child care providers

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The CCA program has a sliding scale co-pay for families with incomes over 100% of the FPL.

**Ages of the Children Served by the CCA Program in SFY'15:**

- Infant and Toddlers – 16%
- Preschool Aged – 40%
- School Aged – 44%

**Local Data**

\_\_\_\_\_ Unemployment rate in your county(ies) [State Unemployment Rate for the same period of time was 5.4%]

\_\_\_\_\_ % of households in your county(ies) with all parents in the household in the labor force

\_\_\_\_\_ # of children in your county(ies) below the poverty level

\_\_\_\_\_ # of children in your county(ies) on the CCA Program

\_\_\_\_\_ # of families in your county(ies) that receive assistance from the CCA Program

\_\_\_\_\_ Child care providers at a QRS Level 5      \_\_\_\_\_ Child Care Centers      \_\_\_\_\_ Child Development Homes

\_\_\_\_\_ Federal and state funding expended in your county(ies) in SFY'15 for children in the CCA Program

- What quality improvement supports are being provided to child care providers in your county(ies)?
- What strategies are being used in your county(ies) to encourage child care providers to participate in QRS/increase in quality?
- What are some gaps in services & supports to child care providers in your county(ies)?

Refer to the Cliff Effect and CCDF Reauthorization infographics for information you can share on the benefits of 12 month eligibility and exit eligibility for children, parents and child care providers.