

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Application Process for Households

Rev. 2/2024

## 1. How do I apply for Child Care Assistance (CCAP)?

There are several ways you may obtain an application to apply for child care assistance. The fastest way to apply for child care assistance is online. You may visit our <u>website</u> to apply for CCAP.

If you do not have access to the internet, you can visit a local library for computer access or the Department can mail you an application.

You can fax the application to 225-376-6060 or mail the CCAP application to:

Department of Education CCAP Household Eligibility P. O. Box 260037 Baton Rouge, LA 70826

### 2. What are the eligibility requirements for the Child Care Assistance Program?

The household must need care for a child under age 13, or a child with disabilities under the age of 18.

The household must be working or attending school or training a minimum of 20 hours per week.

Households must be US citizens or eligible aliens, residing in the state of Louisiana, and must meet the gross income eligibility standards for their household size:

2 person -\$4187	4 persons-\$6158	6 persons-\$8128	8 persons-\$8498
3 persons-\$5173	5 persons-\$7143	7 persons-\$8313	9 persons-\$8683

### 3. What is the maximum income allowed for my household size?

The monthly gross income eligibility standards for households are identified below. View the <u>Sliding</u> <u>Fee Scale</u> for further copayment details.

2 person -\$4187	4 persons-\$6158	6 persons-\$8128	8 persons-\$8498
3 persons-\$5173	5 persons-\$7143	7 persons-\$8313	9 persons-\$8683

# 4. What are the types of childcare providers that are eligible for payment through the Child Care Assistance Program?

There are five types of childcare providers eligible to serve CCAP children.

- 1. **Early Learning Centers** (*Type III*): serves seven or more children unrelated to the owner and must be licensed by the department.
- 2. **Family Child Care Provider**: provides care in the provider's home. A Family Child Care provider must care for no more than six children, including the provider's own children, and any other children living at the residence who are under age 13, or age 13 through 17 with special needs.
- 3. **In-Home Provider**: only provides care for children who live at the residence.
- 4. **School Child Care Provider**: public and nonpublic schools that operate pre-kindergarten, before- and after-school programs, and summer programs.
- 5. Military Child Care Center: a center licensed by the Department of Defense.

### 5. What verification will be needed to process my application for Child Care Assistance?

You will need to provide:

- proof of age for each child under age 18,
- proof of immunization for each child needing care,
- verification of all income for the household, and
- verification of work, school, or job training hours for each adult household member.

Although social security numbers are not required by law to be eligible for CCAP, it will expedite the application process if they are provided.

The <u>Application How-To Guide</u> provides more information on how to apply and what verification is needed.

### 6. When can I bring my child to the childcare provider?

You and your selected provider will receive a letter from the department notifying you both of the maximum amounts that the department will pay and the effective date that payments will begin for each eligible child.

If you choose to bring your child to the provider prior to this date, you will be responsible for all charges and payments.

# 7. Does my child have to go to a childcare center for me to be eligible to apply for child care assistance?

You may apply for child care assistance at any time, but your case cannot be certified unless you have selected an eligible provider. See question 4 for eligible provider types.

#### 8. Who must be included on my application?

The following individuals who live together must be included in the Child Care Assistance household:

- a. the head of household
- b. the head of household's legal or non-legal spouse (including a disabled adult parent who is unable to care for him/herself and for their children who are in need of care as verified by a doctor's statement)
- c. all children under the age of 18 who are dependent on the head of household and their legal or non-legal spouse including foster children
- d. the minor unmarried parent who is not legally emancipated
- e. the minor unmarried parent's children

### 9. How long will it take to process my application?

Eligibility will be determined within 30 days of your application date. There are no emergency benefits available.

### 10. Can I get help with childcare while I look for work?

Yes, If an applicant indicates on their application that they are actively seeking employment or training, the employment and training requirement for household certification may be waived for 90 days. The household must meet all other certification requirements to be determined eligible. This exception is only allowed if there is not a statewide waitlist implemented by the Department.

## 11. Do I qualify if I attend school full-time?

Yes, being enrolled as a full-time student in an education or training program resulting in a degree or certificate designed to promote job skills and employability will qualify you for Child Care Assistance. Full-time status is determined by the institution, which must be accredited by the state of Louisiana or a national organization.

An official detailed class schedule must be provided from the job training or educational program on their official letterhead, verify the student's enrollment status, and must include the days and times the student attends class.

### 12. Do I qualify for CCAP if my family is currently homeless?

Yes, The applicant will have up to 90 days to complete and submit the required documentation and the CCAP staff has to validate the applicant's homeless status in order to certify the application.