

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications can be obtained at the state Department of Human Services (DHS) office, local DHS offices, or on the Internet at:

<http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare>.

Completed applications can be dropped off at the applicant's local DHS office or mailed to:

**AR Dept. of Human Services
DCCECE/Family Support Unit
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-145
Little Rock, AR 72203**

Please allow 45 days from the date the application is received at DHS for processing. Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant for completion.

Applicants will receive a Notice of Action by mail within 45 days informing them if their application was approved, denied, or placed on the waitlist.

If an application is placed on the waitlist, a second Notice of Action will be mailed to the applicant when funding becomes available. Any requested information must be returned by the deadline stated in the Notice of Action or the application may be denied.

MISSION STATEMENT

To assist families striving toward self-sufficiency with their childcare needs by providing resources, information and referrals. In carrying out this mission, it is our goal to provide quality childcare assistance in a timely and courteous manner, focus on the individual's dignity and self-respect, maintain parental choice, guard the integrity of the program and recognize employees' achievement.

Department of Human Services
Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
P.O. Box 1437/Slot S-145
Little Rock, AR 72203
Phone: 501-682-8947/1-800-322-8176
<http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare>



*Department of Human Services
Division of Child Care and
Early Childhood Education*



FAMILY SUPPORT UNIT



CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Child Care Assistance Program provides assistance to low income families who are working and/or attending school.

CHILDCARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

AVAILABLE PROGRAMS

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE?

WHO WE ARE

The Childcare Assistance Program is administered by the Family Support Unit of the Division of Childcare and Early Childhood Education. The purpose of the program is to increase the availability, affordability, and quality of childcare services for families in the state of Arkansas. Families who are eligible for state vouchers receive free or reduced childcare at state registered or licensed providers.



WHO WE SERVE

CHILDREN from birth through age 12.

PARENTS who qualify for low-income, TEA, or ESS services may be eligible to receive help paying for childcare. Parents are given the freedom to choose from a wide range of state registered or licensed providers who are contracted to accept vouchers. Parents may also choose to place their children at quality approved sites, increasing the value and level of care they receive.

CHILDCARE PROVIDERS receive reimbursement directly from the Division that enables them to serve eligible families. Providers receive support from the Division in training, technical assistance, and providing quality childcare.

LOW-INCOME

The Low Income program serves families who are working or going to school full-time. Families receive an authorization for care, which entitles them to free or reduced fee childcare services at a state registered or licensed provider of their choice, who are able to accept vouchers. The Low Income program is only available through the Family Support Unit.

More information is available at:

1-800-322-8176

<http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare>

TEA/ESS

Childcare assistance may also be available to families through the Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) program or Extended Support Services (ESS). TEA and ESS services are provided by the Division of Workforce Services. To see if you qualify for TEA/ESS assistance, please call Workforce Services at:

1-800-482-8988

TDD 1-501-682-8820

Note: *All caseheads have a combined lifetime maximum of 60 months (5 years) of service per household.*

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE, EACH ADULT IN THE HOUSEHOLD MUST BE:

Working a minimum of 30 hours per week

OR

Attending school full-time

OR

Working and attending school a combined total of 30 hours per week*



Household income must be at or below 60% of the State Median Income, based on family size, to qualify for the program. Currently for a family of four, total household income must be at or below \$2,695.20 per month.

APPLICANTS MUST ALSO:

Be an Arkansas resident

&

Pursue or receive child support from each absent parent

*To determine how many hours per week a part-time student must work, multiply the number of semester hours by two (2) and subtract from 30.

Example: 6 semester hours x 2 = 12

30-12 = 18 work hours required