

Changes to the Subsidized Child Care Program as required by the General Assembly in the Session Law 2014-100 for State Fiscal Year 2014-2015

CHANGES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014:

Parental Fees:

Changes were made to set parental fees at 10% of gross monthly income for all families who are required to pay a fee.

Prorated Parental Fees:

The proration of parental fees for part-time care is eliminated. Families who need part-time care will be assessed a fee based on 10% of their gross monthly income, regardless of the number of hours child care is needed.

Maximum Income Eligibility Limits:

The income eligibility requirements for children served in the subsidized child care program have changed. For children ages 0-5 and for children with special needs, the maximum income limit for families will change from 75% of State Median Income to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. In addition, the maximum income limits for families who need assistance for children ages 6-12 have changed from 75% of State Median Income to 133% of Federal Poverty Level. The new income guidelines must be used to determine eligibility for families who apply for child care assistance on or after October 1, 2014. **Families currently receiving assistance will have their income eligibility determined according to these new income guidelines at their next annual redetermination.** The new Maximum Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Limits for Subsidized Child Care Services is included below for your reference.

200% Federal Poverty Level

(All children ages 0-5, and All special needs children)

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5
Maximum Gross Monthly Income	\$1,945	\$2,622	\$3,298	\$3,975	\$4,652

Family Size	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Maximum Gross Monthly Income	\$5,328	\$6,005	\$6,682	\$7,358	\$8,035	\$8,712	\$9,388

133% Federal Poverty Level

(All children ages 6-12, no special needs)

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5
Maximum Gross Monthly Income	\$1,293	\$1,743	\$2,193	\$2,643	\$3,093

Family Size	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Maximum Gross Monthly Income	\$3,543	\$3,993	\$4,443	\$4,893	\$5,343	\$6,243	\$6,693

Families receiving assistance under Foster Care, Child Protective Services and Child Welfare Services remain unaffected by the above changes.

CHANGES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2015:

Income Unit Definition:

The definition of income unit has been changed to include the following:

- A stepparent and stepparent's child, if applicable; and
- A nonparent relative caretaker, and the caretaker's spouse and child, if applicable, when the parent of the child receiving subsidized child care does not live in the home with the child.

Income earned by these family members must now be included in the calculation for determining the income eligibility of the child as well as the calculation of the parental fee.