

How do I know if I am eligible for Subsidized Childcare?

Families may demonstrate eligibility for subsidized child care services in the following ways:

- Through Child Protective Services Program (CPS) referral from a medical, legal, or social service agency.
- Through current [CalWORKs](#) participation (or participated less than 24 months ago)
- Short-term subsidies are also available through documentation of the risk of being homeless, abused, neglected or exploited.
- By establishing income eligibility. The gross family income must be within certain income limits set by the Federal and State Government. Here are the guidelines:

Number of Family Members	1 or 2	3	4	5	6	7	8
General Child Care and Development and Alternative Payment Programs	\$4,173	\$4,502	\$5,256	\$6,098	\$6,939	\$7,096	\$7,254
State Preschool	\$4,173	\$4,502	\$5,256	\$6,098	\$6,939	\$7,096	\$7,254
Head Start	\$1,012 \$1,3712	\$1,732	\$2092	\$2,452	\$2,812	\$3,172	\$3,532

The dollar amounts are current as July 2018.

For most programs, families must also demonstrate a child care need. Need is defined as child care services needed for the following reasons: (not all apply to every family).

- The parent or caretaker is employed
- The parent or caretaker is seeking employment
- The parent or caretaker is in vocational training leading directly to a trade, profession, or para-profession
- The parent or caretaker is homeless and seeking permanent housing
- The parent or caretaker is receiving public assistance
- The parent or caretaker is medically or psychiatrically incapacitated
- The child is abused or neglected or at risk of abuse or neglect (requires a referral)