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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Family Members</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 or 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Child Care and Development and Alternative Payment Programs</td>
<td>$5,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Preschool</td>
<td>$5,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start</td>
<td>$1,072</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The dollar amounts are current as July 2021.

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 of neglect (requires a referral)