

The Inclusive Child Care Program



The goals of the Inclusive Child Care Program are:

1) To help families of children with special needs find and keep appropriate child care while parents are employed or in post-secondary education programs;

and,

2) To help children be in inclusive child care settings with their peers.

The Program Provides a Supplemental Child Care Subsidy

- The subsidy helps meet child care costs that are higher because of a child's special needs.
- Parents pay the provider's customary fee, or a fee that is comparable to local child care rates. The subsidy is paid directly to the child care provider as a supplement to the parent payment.
- The subsidy pays for those things that are necessary to the child's placement and that cannot be covered within typical child care rates.
- The amount is different for each child. The subsidy is based on the individual needs and resources of the child, the family and the child care setting.

Examples:

- The subsidy offsets cost to the provider of caring for a smaller number of children.
- The subsidy pays for an extra person in the child care setting at certain high need times (such as meals or transitions).
- The subsidy helps pay for a ramp so that a family child care provider's setting is accessible to a child in a wheel chair.

An Individual Child Care Plan

An individual child care plan identifies additional supports to the child care placement (training or consultation for the provider, back up options, etc.)

Eligibility

Child:

- From birth through 17 years of age;
 - Has a physical, developmental, mental, emotional, behavioral, or medical disability;
- and*
- Requires extra supports or accommodations to be in child care. These are supports that cannot reasonably be paid for within typical child care rates.

Family:

- Has an income less than 85% of Oregon's median income. For a family of 4 this is \$4,361 per month or \$52,332 per year. The amount goes up or down depending on family size.
- Parents need child care to be employed or to attend post-secondary education programs.

Child Care Providers

The child care provider may be a child care center, a registered family child care provider, or an individual. Providers must comply with Child Care Division registration and certification rules. Providers who are exempt from those rules must agree to undergo a criminal records check and comply with health and safety requirements.

To make referral, or to obtain more information please contact:

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The Inclusive Child Care Program is a program of the Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities in partnership with the Oregon Employment Department Child Care Division. The Child Care Division provides supports for the program through the federal Child Care and Development Fund.

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