

Child Care Subsidies for Children with Special Needs

Integrated Child Care Program Oregon Department of Human Services

The Department of Human Services Integrated Child Care Program provides child care subsidies for parents involved in self-sufficiency programs (TANF, JOBS), and for low income working families through the Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) Program.

The DHS programs can pay a higher rate for children with disabilities. Children and youth requiring a higher level of care than other children the same age may be eligible for the special needs rate. This is the same as the rate for infants. However, a small number of children cannot be appropriately cared for at the special needs rate. Therefore, DHS has instituted a “High Needs” rate for children with exceptionally high needs. Each High Need rate is based on an individual assessment of the child’s specific needs in the child care setting.

Child care subsidies through the ERDC program must be used for child care while parents are employed. DHS clients in TANF and JOBS programs may use child care for activities approved through those programs (for example, job training or on-site work experience).

The Inclusive Child Care Program Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities

The Inclusive Child Care Program serves families of children who require extra accommodations or supports to be in child care. The program offers a “supplemental” child care subsidy to help cover higher costs of care. These must be costs related to the child’s disabilities or special needs. The subsidy is added to the parent’s payment to the child care provider.

The Inclusive Child Care Program supplemental subsidy must be used while parents are employed or participating in education or training programs.

See other side for a comparison of the two programs.

Here are the key differences between the two programs:

<u>DHS ERDC/TANF</u>	<u>Inclusive Child Care Program</u>
<p data-bbox="414 415 544 451" style="text-align: center;">Income</p> <ul data-bbox="211 462 803 672" style="list-style-type: none">• Families may be eligible if their gross income is at or below 150% of Federal Poverty Level. This is approximately \$2,419 per month for a family of four. <p data-bbox="332 756 625 791" style="text-align: center;">Children in care</p> <ul data-bbox="194 802 803 1012" style="list-style-type: none">• Child care subsidies are provided for all children in a family who are under age 12, and for children over 12 who require care and supervision. <p data-bbox="332 1096 625 1131" style="text-align: center;">Parent payment</p> <ul data-bbox="194 1142 803 1602" style="list-style-type: none">• The DHS subsidy pays part of the regular child care fee, based on established rates. Families have a copayment. If the copayment amount exceeds the amount DHS will pay the family is no longer eligible. In addition, some providers may charge more than DHS will pay. In that case, the parent is responsible for the difference.	<p data-bbox="1079 415 1209 451" style="text-align: center;">Income</p> <ul data-bbox="876 462 1453 672" style="list-style-type: none">• Families may be eligible if their income is at or below 85% of the state median income. This is \$4,361 per month for a family of four. <p data-bbox="1023 756 1307 791" style="text-align: center;">Children in care</p> <ul data-bbox="876 802 1453 970" style="list-style-type: none">• The subsidy is provided only for children with special needs. Children may be up to 18 years of age. <p data-bbox="1023 1096 1307 1131" style="text-align: center;">Parent payment</p> <ul data-bbox="876 1142 1453 1520" style="list-style-type: none">• Parents pay the provider's customary fees (the same amount charged for other children of the same age). The supplemental subsidy pays an additional amount for accommodations or supports the child needs for appropriate care.

Information on the ERDC and other DHS programs is available through local DHS (formerly Adult and Family Services) offices. For information on the Inclusive Child Care Program or on the special needs rate or “High Needs” rate through DHS call (503) 375-2644 in the Salem area, (971) 673-2977 in the Portland metro area, or toll free (800) 342-6712.