

Frequently asked questions (FAQs) Children's Extraordinary Needs Program

1. Who is the Children's Extraordinary Needs (CEN) Program for?

The program is for children under 18 years old. They must have very high medical or behavioral support needs based on their Oregon Needs Assessment.

2. How many children can be signed up for the CEN Program?

No more than 155 children can be in the program at a time. When children leave the program, such as if they move out of state, others will be added to fill the open space.

3. What is the child's role in choosing to participate in the CEN Program?

A parent has the right to choose their child's paid providers. The child's service coordinator (SC) will explain options to the child. They will include what the child wants during service planning

4. What is the difference between a parent and a paid provider?

There are important differences between being a parent who is unpaid and being a paid Medicaid provider. One difference is paid providers are mandatory abuse reporters 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you are a [mandatory reporter](#), you must report all suspicions of abuse or neglect. **Call the abuse hotline at 855-503-SAFE (7233) to make a report. The hotline is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.**

5. What is a designated representative?

A designated representative helps with a child's service planning when there is not another, unpaid parent to take this role.

6. How many hours can a parent work in the CEN program?

A child can never have more than 20 hours per week of paid care by a parent provider. It's okay for more than one parent to be their child's provider, but no matter how many parents provide paid care, they cannot be paid more than 20 hours per week total.

7. How does a parent sign up to work for a provider agency?

Services coordinators will help parents find provider agencies — a place to work as a paid parent — who have already said that they are interested in hiring parents of children. Other provider agencies may be willing to hire parents of children. Parents are free to ask any agency they choose. Parents must meet all requirements of the provider agency to be hired. A list of interested provider agencies can be found [here](#).

8. What tasks can a parent provider do for their child while working as a provider agency employee?

Attendant care. This service helps people with activities of daily living (ADL), instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), and health-related care through hands-on assistance, supervision, or using words or hand gestures. ADLs include self-care such as eating, using the restroom, grooming, dressing, and bathing. IADLs are things like shopping and cooking.

Provider agencies cannot allow some tasks that may sound like ADLs and IADLs. Parent providers cannot be paid to do them. These include general parental responsibilities and services that are available in other places like school or the doctor's office. An example of a nonbillable task is driving to and from school or doctor appointments. Parents should follow the rules of the agency that pays them. Provider agencies must explain the rules to paid parents. Paid parents must be working toward goals in the child's Individual Support Plan (ISP). The parent should follow their employer's rules and ask their supervisor if they are not sure what to do.

9. What should a parent provider do if they make a timesheet mistake?

The parent provider should let their provider agency know as soon as possible to fix the mistake. This is important, because billing mistakes may be considered Medicaid fraud, even if they are an accident.

10. Can a parent be paid to provide transportation for their child if it is related to a positive behavior support plan?

No.