What is the Idaho Child Care Program?

The Idaho Child Care Program (ICCP) provides assistance to low income families to help pay child care costs. The purpose of the program is to support families working toward or maintaining employment.

Can I receive Child Care Assistance?

Eligibility is based on household income and family size.

If you need child care because you have a child under the age of thirteen, or age thirteen or older with special needs, AND you meet the following criteria:

- Work;
- Attend school;
- Support a foster child;
- Are in an approved job training program; or
- Receive Temporary Assistance for Families in Idaho (TAFI).

For more information, please visit our website at healthandwelfare.idaho.gov or dial 2-1-1.

How much does it pay?

The amount ICCP pays is based on:

- The number of hours the parents are working, going to school, or participating in approved activities;
- Household income; and
- An established state rate, which varies according to age of child, type of care, and location of provider.

Parents pay a portion of the cost of child care, called a "co-pay." The co-pay is paid by the parent to the provider monthly.

If a provider charges more than the state rate, parents must pay the difference, as well as their co-pay. You can learn more about the co-pay structure and income limits on the website.

How is the provider paid?

Once approved for child care assistance, and your family chooses an ICCP provider, the child care payment is paid directly from Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to the provider. If your provider charges over the state rate, you are responsible for those additional costs to the provider.

What are my rights and responsibilities?

As a parent, you have the right to:

- Select who will care for your children;
- Determine how many hours to have your children in child care;
- See your children at any time while they are in child care;
- Talk with the people taking care of your children during regular business hours; and
- Request a fair hearing if you disagree with any action taken on your child care case. You have thirty (30) days from the date of the Department's decision to request a hearing.

As a parent, you are responsible to provide accurate information about changes that would affect your eligibility for this program by reporting:

- When activity hours change to zero;
- Change in address;
- Change in who is in your household;
- Change in child care provider or stopping child care services; and
- When your income exceeds the income limit for your household size (visit benefitprograms.dhw.idaho.gov).

Failure to report these changes may result in an overpayment or fraud penalty.

How Do I Report?

Phone (toll free): 1-877-456-1233
Phone (local): (208) 334-6700
Email: ICCPUnit@dhw.idaho.gov
Fax: 1-866-434-8278

Overpayments

If more money is paid to a provider than a family is eligible to receive because the parents did not report a change, the parents must repay the Department of Health and Welfare. That is why it is so important to report changes as soon as you are aware of them. If providers receive more money than they are entitled to because they failed to report a change, they must return it to the Department of Health and Welfare. The following situations may cause the overpayment:

- Failing to report a change;
- Child no longer in care; or
- Misrepresenting of charges.

Penalties for misusing ICCP

Fraud occurs when a parent or a provider purposely misrepresents information in order to get payments they are not entitled to receive. When a parent or a provider commits fraud, they must pay back any payment they received. People who commit fraud will not be allowed to participate in ICCP for the following periods of time:

- 12 months the first time;
- 24 months the second time; and
- Permanently disqualified the third time.

In the case of fraud, the Department of Health and Welfare may also seek additional monetary civil penalties.

Your privacy

We are dedicated to protecting your confidential information. If you would like to learn more about how your privacy is protected, stop by your local DHW office, visit our website listed below, or call the Idaho CareLine.

Questions?
Contact the Idaho CareLine
or
Visit our website:
healthandwelfare.idaho.gov

Idaho CareLine • IDHW
2-1-1
Get Connected. Get Answers.
Dial 2-1-1 or 1-800-926-2588

In accordance with Federal law, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) policy, the Department of Health and Welfare is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, contact HHS:

HHS, Director
Office for Civil Rights, Room 506-F
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
(202) 619-0403 (voice) or (202) 619-3257 (TTY)

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HW0219
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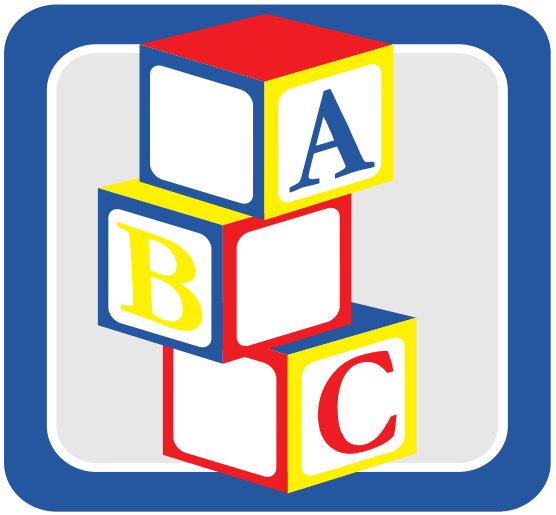

What you need to know about receiving Child Care Assistance

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE