

Appendix

ACCESS TO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE A SURVEY OF SIXTEEN SOUTHERN STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**Prepared for
The Southern Institute on Children and Families**

**By
Louise Stoney
Jane Daugherty
Stoney Associates
308 Thais Road
Aberill Park, NY 12018**

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**Table 1
Child Care Assistance for Employed TANF Recipients**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, number of months child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	yes	no, but all currently served	no		
Arkansas	yes					no		
Delaware	yes					no		must meet income guidelines
District of Columbia	no		yes	yes		no		all eligible are served
Florida	no		yes	no, priority 2	yes	no		
Georgia	no ¹		yes	yes		no		
Kentucky	yes					no		
Louisiana	yes				no	no		
Maryland	no		yes	yes	yes	no		
Mississippi	yes	5 years				no		
Missouri	no		yes	yes	yes, all served	no		
North Carolina	no		yes	locally established priorities	yes	yes		
Oklahoma	no ¹		yes	yes	no, but all served	no		
South Carolina	yes	24 months				no		

¹ GA and OK do not have a law or regulation that specifies that child care is guaranteed, but as a matter of state policy child care is “guaranteed” in these states for children whose parents are applicants or recipients of TANF and who need child care to participate in state-approved activities.

**Table 1
Child Care Assistance for Employed TANF Recipients**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, number of months child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Tennessee	yes					no		
Texas	yes					no		guaranteed only if parent(s) enrolled in CHOICES (TANF employment program)
West Virginia	no		yes	yes	no	no		

**Table 2
Child Care Assistance for TANF Recipients Who are Looking for Work**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, number of months child care assistance is available	Child care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	yes	no, but all served	no		
Arkansas	yes					no		
Delaware	yes					no		
District of Columbia	no	limited to 3 months	yes	yes	no	no		
Florida	no		yes	no, priority 2	yes	no		
Georgia	no ²	up to 8 weeks per year, 1st instance no more than 6 weeks	yes	yes		no		time limits for job search are TANF rules, not child care rules
Kentucky	yes					no		no limit if work search is part of approved TANF activity
Louisiana	no					no	yes	
Maryland	no		yes	yes	yes	no		no legal guarantees, but all eligible are served
Mississippi	yes	5 years				no		
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		system not TANF-based

² GA and OK do not have a law or regulation that specifies that child care is guaranteed, but as a matter of state policy child care is “guaranteed” for children whose parents are applicants or recipients of TANF who need child care to participate in state-approved activities.

**Table 2
Child Care Assistance for TANF Recipients Who are Looking for Work**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, number of months child care assistance is available	Child care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
North Carolina	no	initially, up to 30 days; may extend to 60 days with caseworker approval	yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		
Oklahoma	no ²		yes	yes	no, but all currently served	no		
South Carolina	yes					no		if attempting to start a TANF component within 2 weeks
Tennessee	yes					no		
Texas	yes					no		guaranteed only if parent(s) enrolled in CHOICES
West Virginia	no		yes	yes		no		

**Table 3
Child Care Assistance for TANF Recipients in an Approved Training Program**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, number of months child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no	2 years	yes	yes	no, but all currently served	no		no time limit so long as grades are satisfactory
Arkansas	yes					no		
Delaware	yes					no		
District of Columbia	no	varies by program	yes	yes	no	no		
Florida	no		yes	no, priority 2	yes	no		
Georgia	no ³		yes ¹	yes ¹		no		
Kentucky	yes					no		
Louisiana	yes					no		must attend job training program – or a combination of job training and employment – for an average of 20 hours a week
Maryland	no		yes	yes	yes	no		no legal guarantee, but all eligible are served
Mississippi	yes	5 years				no		
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		system not TANF-based

³ GA and OK do not have a law or regulation that specifies that child care is guaranteed, but as a matter of state policy child care is “guaranteed” for children whose parents are applicants or recipients of TANF who need child care to participate in state-approved activities.

**Table 3
Child Care Assistance for TANF Recipients in an Approved Training Program**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, number of months child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
North Carolina	no		yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		
Oklahoma	no ³		yes	yes	no, but all currently served	no		
South Carolina	yes	24 months				no		
Tennessee	yes					no		
Texas	yes	up to 18 months in CHOICES program				no		guaranteed only if parent(s) enrolled in CHOICES
West Virginia	no		yes	yes		no		

**Table 4
Child Care Assistance for TANF Applicants Diverted from Cash Assistance
by Job Search and/or Immediate Employment**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, number of months child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds are not available MUST be put on waiting list	Policy varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes		yes	no		
Arkansas	yes					no		must be employed at least 30 hours per week
Delaware	yes					no		
District of Columbia	yes	up to 3 months for job search; as long as eligible if immediately employed	yes	yes		no		all immediately employed are served
Florida	no		yes	no, priority 2	yes	no		
Georgia	no ⁴	1 year	yes ¹	yes ¹		no		
Kentucky	yes					no		
Louisiana								Louisiana does not have a diversion policy
Maryland	no		yes	yes	yes	no		
Mississippi	yes	5 years				no		
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		system not TANF-based
North Carolina	no		yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		
Oklahoma	no ⁴		yes	yes	no, but all	no		

⁴ GA and OK do not have a law or regulation that specifies that child care is guaranteed, but as a matter of state policy child care is “guaranteed” for children whose parents are applicants or recipients of TANF who need child care to participate in state-approved activities.

**Table 4
Child Care Assistance for TANF Applicants Diverted from Cash Assistance
by Job Search and/or Immediate Employment**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, number of months child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds are not available MUST be put on waiting list	Policy varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
					served			
South Carolina	yes	currently 2 weeks*	yes	yes	no	no		*plan to begin funding eligible families for 52 weeks
Tennessee	N/A							Tennessee does not have a diversion policy
Texas	yes	12 months				no		must have received a referral to attend a workforce orientation and must have located employment
West Virginia	no		yes	no	no, but all served			

**Table 5
Child Care Assistance for TANF Recipients in Higher Education**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	yes	no, but all currently served	no		must be in a 2-year program or the last 2 years of a 4-year degree
Arkansas	yes					no		if 2- or 4-year higher education is approved, TANF work activity and family is receiving cash assistance
Delaware	yes					no		policy same for approved 2- and 4-year college
District of Columbia	yes		yes	yes		no		policy same for approved 2- and 4-year college
Florida	no		yes	no, priority 2	yes	no		policy same for approved 2- and 4-year college
Georgia	no					no	yes	higher ed. is not allowed as an exclusive activity
Kentucky	yes					no		education must be an approved TANF activity; may be 2- or 4-year college
Louisiana	yes				no	no		recipient must have higher ed. (2- or 4-year) approved by TANF and must attend college – or a combination of education and employment – for an average of 20 hours a week

**Table 5
Child Care Assistance for TANF Recipients in Higher Education**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Maryland	no		yes	no	no	yes		most localities allow only 2-year higher education
Mississippi	no					no	yes	state plan does provide child care for higher education unless family is also meeting work requirement
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		policy same for approved 2- and 4-year college
North Carolina	no	24 months	yes	locally established priorities	yes	yes		
Oklahoma	no ⁵		yes	yes	no, but all currently served	no		
South Carolina	yes					no		
Tennessee	yes					no		must be enrolled as a full-time higher education student
Texas	yes	time limits vary by locality				only time limits vary		guaranteed only if parent(s) enrolled in CHOICES
West Virginia	no		yes	no	no, but all currently served	no		

⁵ OK does not have a law or regulation that specifies that child care is guaranteed, but as a matter of state policy child care is “guaranteed” for children whose parents are applicants or recipients of TANF who need child care to participate in state-approved activities.

**Table 6
Child Care Assistance for Former TANF Recipients
Who Have Left TANF Due to Earnings**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	no	yes	no		must apply within 6 months after leaving TANF in order to avoid waiting list
Arkansas	yes	up to 36 months				no		
Delaware	yes	as long as meet income guidelines				no		
District of Columbia	no	as long as eligible	yes		no	no		all eligible who apply are currently served
Florida	no	24 months	yes	no, priority 3	yes	no		
Georgia	no ⁶	12 months TCC plus continued services	yes	yes		no		“seamless” services if family remains income-eligible
Kentucky	yes	12 months				no		family must remain employed with income at or below 85% of SMI
Louisiana	yes	up to 3 months				no		
Maryland	no		yes	yes	yes	no		
Mississippi	yes	12 months				no		

⁶ GA does not have a law or regulation that specifies that child care is guaranteed, but as a matter of state policy child care is “guaranteed” for children whose parents are applicants or recipients of TANF who need child care to participate in state-approved activities.

Table 6
Child Care Assistance for Former TANF Recipients
Who Have Left TANF Due to Earnings

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		system not TANF-based
North Carolina	no		yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		must meet eligibility criteria of employment, education, CWS, CPS or developmental needs
Oklahoma	no ⁶		yes	yes	no, but all currently served	no		
South Carolina	yes	24 months				no		
Tennessee	yes	18 months				no		must have some paid employment and total hours of activity must be 20 hours or greater
Texas	yes	12 months transitional				no		entitled to 18 months transitional if exempt from CHOICES and voluntarily participated
West Virginia	no		yes	yes	no, but all are served	no		

Table 7
Child Care Assistance for Former TANF Recipients Who are
Currently Employed and Have Left TANF Due to Time Limits

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	yes	no			must apply within 6 months of leaving TANF to avoid waiting list
Arkansas	no		yes	no	yes	no		
Delaware	yes					no		
District of Columbia	no	not limited	yes		no	no		
Florida	no		yes	no, priority 3	yes	no		
Georgia	no		yes			no		family may receive child care assistance if they meet income and employment/ training eligibility criteria
Kentucky	yes	12 months				no		child care is assured if family is employed, earning less than 85% of the SMI, and leaves TANF for any reason
Louisiana	no		yes			no		
Maryland	no		yes	no	yes	no		
Mississippi	yes	12 months				no		
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		
North Carolina	no		yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		

**Table 7
Child Care Assistance for Former TANF Recipients Who are
Currently Employed and Have Left TANF Due to Time Limits**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Oklahoma	no		yes	no, priority 2	no, but all served	no		
South Carolina	yes	up to 24 months				no		individuals who become employed within two years of losing TANF assistance due to time limits may apply for transitional child care once they become employed; if they remain eligible, may receive child care for 2 years
Tennessee	yes	18 months				no		work, education and training may be combined to equal full-time employment
Texas	no		yes	no	yes	no		
West Virginia	no		yes	no	no	no		system based on income eligibility, regardless of TANF status

**Table 8
Child Care Assistance for Income-Eligible, Employed Families**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	no	yes	no		
Arkansas	no		yes	no	no	no		
Delaware	no		yes	no	yes	no		
District of Columbia	no		yes	no	no	no		
Florida	no		yes	no, priority 3	yes	no		
Georgia	no		yes	no	no	no		
Kentucky	no		yes	no	no	no		
Louisiana	no		yes	no	no	no		
Maryland	no		yes	no	yes	no		
Mississippi	no		yes	no	yes	no		
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		
North Carolina	no		yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		
Oklahoma	no		yes	no, priority 2	no, but all currently served	no		
South Carolina	no		yes	no	no	no		
Tennessee	no		yes	no	yes	no		

Table 8
Child Care Assistance for Income-Eligible, Employed Families

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Texas	no		yes	no	yes	no		policy regarding priority for services does not vary, but income limits for eligibility do vary by locality
West Virginia	no		yes	no	no, but all eligibles served	no		system based on income eligibility, regardless of TANF status

**Table 9
Child Care Assistance for Income-Eligible Families Looking for Work
at Initial Application**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	For how long if family meets income eligibility criteria	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no					no	yes	
Arkansas	no	10 days	yes	no	yes	no		
Delaware	no					no	yes	
District of Columbia	no	12 weeks	yes	no	no	no		
Florida	no	not limited by state	yes	no, priority 3	yes	no		
Georgia	no					no	yes	
Kentucky	no					no	yes	recipients who have already secured but not begun employment when they apply may receive child care subsidies for up to 2 weeks prior to starting the job if the care otherwise would be lost
Louisiana	no					no	yes	
Maryland	no	1 month	yes	no	no	no		
Mississippi	no	not limited by state	yes	no	yes	no		
Missouri	no	not limited by state	yes	no	no	no		
North Carolina	no	not limited by state	yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		

**Table 9
Child Care Assistance for Income-Eligible Families Looking for Work
at Initial Application**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	For how long if family meets income eligibility criteria	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Oklahoma	no						yes	
South Carolina	no						yes	recipients who have already secured but not begun employment when they apply may receive child care subsidies for up to 2 weeks prior to starting the job if the care otherwise would be lost
Tennessee	no						yes	
Texas	no						yes	
West Virginia	no					no	yes	

Table 10
Child Care Assistance for Income-Eligible Families Between Jobs
(i.e. gap in employment while receiving child care subsidies)

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no					no	yes	
Arkansas	no	10 days	yes	yes	no	no		
Delaware	no	1 month	yes	no	yes	no		
District of Columbia	no	12 weeks	yes	no	no	no		
Florida	no	1 month	yes	no, priority 3	no	no		
Georgia	no	2 weeks	yes	yes	no	no		
Kentucky	no	1 month	yes	no	no	no		
Louisiana	no		no			no	yes	
Maryland	no	1 month	yes	no	yes	no		
Mississippi	no	2 months	yes	yes	no	no		
Missouri	no	30 days	yes	no	no	no		
North Carolina	no	initially, up to 30 days; may extend to 60 days with caseworker approval	yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		
Oklahoma	no		no		no, but all currently served	no	yes	
South Carolina	no	1 month	yes	yes	no	no		

Table 10
Child Care Assistance for Income-Eligible Families Between Jobs
(i.e. gap in employment while receiving child care subsidies)

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Tennessee	no	1 month	yes	no	yes	no		
Texas	no		no			no	yes	
West Virginia	no	1 month	yes	yes	no	no		

**Table 11
Child Care Assistance for Income-Eligible Families Attending Education
or Training Program**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	no	yes			higher education only eligible if it is 2-year program or the last 2 years of a 4-year degree
Arkansas	no		yes	no	no	no		
Delaware	no		yes	no	yes	no		
District of Columbia	no		yes	no	no	no		
Florida	no		no			no	yes	
Georgia	no		yes	no	yes	no		teen parents attending high school/GED program are given priority
Kentucky	no		yes	no	no	no		
Louisiana	no		yes	no	no	no		must attend job training program – or a combination of job training and employment – for an average of 20 hours a week
Maryland	no		yes	no	yes	yes		some areas do not allow 4-year college
Mississippi	no		yes	no	yes	no		full-time students are not required to meet a work requirement, but part-time students must work at least 10 hours a week
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		
North Carolina	no		yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		limited to a total of 2 years if enrolled in post-secondary education

**Table 11
Child Care Assistance for Income-Eligible Families Attending Education
or Training Program**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Oklahoma	no		yes	no, priority 3	no	no, but all currently served		up to 4 years of college
South Carolina	no		yes	yes	no	no		
Tennessee	no		yes	no	yes	no		education or training must be full-time
Texas	no	varies by locality	yes	no	yes	no		priority for services does not vary, but time limits for eligibility vary by locality
West Virginia	no		yes	no	no	no		job training/education defined as on-the-job training, CWEP, vocational training, secondary school programs, post-secondary school programs, colleges and universities; also count 1 to 3 hours of study time per hour of classroom activity

**Table 12
Child Care Assistance for Children with Special Needs**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	no	yes			
Arkansas	no		yes	no	no	no		no rate differential
Delaware	no		yes	yes	yes	no		
District of Columbia	no		yes	yes	no	no		no income limit
Florida	no		yes	no	no	no		not treated as special needs for certification, but differential payment rate
Georgia	no		yes	yes	no	no		
Kentucky	no		yes	no	no	no		family must be income-eligible
Louisiana	no		yes	no	no	no		
Maryland	no		yes	yes, within each priority category	yes	no		family must be income-eligible
Mississippi	no		yes	no, priority 2	yes	no		higher reimbursement rates
Missouri	no		yes	yes	yes	no		no sliding fee; rates based on developmental age of child
North Carolina	no		yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		

Table 12
Child Care Assistance for Children with Special Needs

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Oklahoma	no		yes	yes	no, but all served	no		higher reimbursement rate; parent of child on SSI has no co-pay
South Carolina	no		yes	yes	no	no		different eligibility criteria (medical expenses deducted from income); state has special needs "set-aside"
Tennessee	yes	18 months				no		no parental employment required; higher income limit (75% of the SMI)
Texas	no		yes	no	yes	no		
West Virginia	no		yes	yes	no	no		must be income-eligible; higher payment rate

**Table 13
Child Care Assistance for Children in Foster Care**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	yes		no		
Arkansas	yes					no		child care is guaranteed only if child care is reflected in the case management plan; family does not have to be income-eligible; funds from SSBG or IV-B
Delaware	no		yes	no	yes	no		
District of Columbia	no		yes	yes	no	no		no income limit
Florida	no		yes	yes	all children served; top priority	no		yes, foster parent must be employed unless otherwise specified in therapeutic plan
Georgia	no ⁷		yes ¹	yes ¹	yes	no		foster parents must be working or in education/training
Kentucky	no		no	no	N/A	no		paid from different funding source and administered separately
Louisiana	no		yes	no	no	no		
Maryland	N/A							child care for this group provided by another system

⁷ Georgia does not have a law or regulation that guarantees child care. However, as a matter of state policy child care is “guaranteed” for children who are in the custody of the Department of Family and Children Services; children who are in court-ordered supervision where child care is part of the court order/case plan; and children in families with open Child Protective Services cases where child care is part of the case plan.

Table 13
Child Care Assistance for Children in Foster Care

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Mississippi	no		yes	no	yes	no		
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		need for child care must be specified as part of case plan
North Carolina	no		yes	locally set priorities	yes	yes		
Oklahoma	yes		yes	yes	no, but all served	no		available for working foster parents but not those in school
South Carolina	no		yes	yes	no	no		foster parents must be working or in school; no fee charged
Tennessee	no		yes	yes	yes	no		no income test or parental employment required
Texas	yes		no					children up to age 19 eligible; guaranteed only if referred by protective service worker; funding for children in protective services is provided by CPS agency
West Virginia	no		yes	no	no	no		foster parents must be working or in school; parents' income is disregarded

**Table 14
Child Care Assistance for Children Receiving Protective/Preventive Care**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
Alabama	no		yes	yes	no			
Arkansas	yes					no		child care is guaranteed only if child care is required by the case management plan
Delaware	no		yes	yes	yes	no		
District of Columbia	yes		yes	yes	no	no		
Florida	no		yes	yes	yes	no		top priority by statute
Georgia	no ⁸		yes ¹	yes ¹		no		
Kentucky	yes					no		protective care is guaranteed, regardless of income; preventive care must meet income eligibility guidelines
Louisiana	no		yes	no	no	no		
Maryland	no		yes	no	yes	no		funding for these children is available through social services
Mississippi	no		yes	no	yes	no		
Missouri	no		yes	no	no	no		

⁸ Georgia does not have a law or regulation that guarantees child care. However, as a matter of state policy child care is “guaranteed” for children who are in the custody of the Department of Family and Children Services; children who are in court-ordered supervision where child care is part of the court order/case plan; and children in families with open Child Protective Services cases where child care is part of the case plan.

**Table 14
Child Care Assistance for Children Receiving Protective/Preventive Care**

State	Child Care is guaranteed by law or regulation	If limited, length of time child care assistance is available	Child Care provided only if funds available	Child Care provided only if funds available, BUT group is given top priority	If funds not available, MUST be put on waiting list	Varies across localities	Family not eligible	Special policies or restrictions
North Carolina	no		yes	most localities make CPS a priority	yes	yes		
Oklahoma	no		yes	yes	no, but all served	no		
South Carolina	no		yes	yes	no	no		child care assistance provided regardless of income
Tennessee	no		yes	yes	yes	no		
Texas	yes					no		
West Virginia	yes		no			no		guaranteed only if referred by protective service worker; funding for children in protective services provided by CPS agency

Table 15
Do you consider the immigration status of the
child's parent or guardian when determining
eligibility for child-care subsidies?

Alabama	no
Arkansas	yes, parent must be a citizen or in the country legally
Delaware	no, if child is U.S. citizen
District of Columbia	no
Florida	yes
Georgia	no
Kentucky	no
Louisiana	yes
Maryland	no
Mississippi	no
Missouri	no
North Carolina	no, not if child is U.S. citizen
Oklahoma	no
South Carolina	yes
Tennessee	yes, parent must be citizen or legal alien
Texas	no
West Virginia	no

Table 16
Income Eligibility Ceiling as a Percentage of
Statewide Median Income (SMI)
(Single Parent with Two Children)

State	Statewide Median Income (family of 3)		Income Eligibility Ceiling At Initial Application (Entry)			Income Eligibility Ceiling At Redetermination (Exit) If Different		
	Annually	Monthly	Annually	Monthly	As % of SMI	Annually	Monthly	As % of SMI
Alabama	\$40,522	\$3,377	\$18,048	\$1504	45%	\$27,756	\$2,313	68%
Arkansas	\$32,463	\$2,705	\$22,404	\$1,867	69%			
Delaware	\$53,064	\$4,422	\$27,768	\$2,314	52%			
District of Columbia	\$47,145	\$3,929	\$27,924	\$2,327	59%			
Florida	\$41,927	\$3,494	\$21,228	\$1,769	51%	\$28,296	\$2,358	67%
Georgia	\$43,385	\$3,615	\$24,276	\$2,023 ⁹	56%			
Kentucky	\$38,668	\$3,222	\$22,200	\$1,850 ¹⁰	57%			
Louisiana	\$38,713	\$3,226	\$29,040	\$2,420	75%			
Maryland	\$55,867	\$4,656	\$25,140	\$2,095	45%			
Mississippi	\$35,480	\$2,957	\$30,156	\$2,513	85%			
Missouri	\$43,830	\$3,653	\$17,784	\$1,482	41%			
North Carolina	\$43,504	\$3,625	\$32,628	\$2,719	75%			
Oklahoma	\$37,198	\$3,100	\$23,232	\$1,936 ¹¹	62%			
South Carolina	\$41,714	\$3,476	\$20,820	\$1,735	50%	\$24,288	\$2,024	58%
Tennessee	\$40,525	\$3,377	\$24,324	\$2,027	60%			

⁹ If this family had a child with special needs, the income ceiling would be \$2,334 per month.

¹⁰ If this family were leaving TANF to enter the workforce (i.e. in Transitional Child Care) the income ceiling would be \$2,739 per month.

¹¹ This is net income. The gross income ceiling would be \$2,420 (or 77% of the SMI) after the 20% earned income deduction is applied and could be even higher if other income deductions applied.

Table 16
Income Eligibility Ceiling as a Percentage of
Statewide Median Income (SMI)
(Single Parent with Two Children)

State	Statewide Median Income (family of 3)		Income Eligibility Ceiling At Initial Application (Entry)			Income Eligibility Ceiling At Redetermination (Exit) If Different		
	Annually	Monthly	Annually	Monthly	As % of SMI	Annually	Monthly	As % of SMI
Texas	\$40,326	\$3,360	\$34,272	\$2,856 ¹²	85%	local option ¹³	local option	
West Virginia	\$36,681	\$3,057	\$28,296	\$2,358	77%			

¹² The statewide ceiling is 85% of the SMI, but some localities have a lower income limit for initial eligibility. Income figures are for SFY 2000 and will increase based on ACF Issuance: LIHEAP-IM-2000-11.

¹³ Some localities have established a higher income eligibility ceiling at redetermination.

**Table 16-A
Income Eligibility Ceiling as a Percentage of
Federal Poverty Level (FPL)¹⁴
(Single Parent with Two Children)**

State	Income Eligibility Ceiling At Initial Application (Entry)			Income Eligibility Ceiling At Redetermination (Exit) If Different		
	Annually	Monthly	As % of FPL	Annually	Monthly	As % of FPL
Alabama	\$18,048	\$1504	128%	\$27,756	\$2,313	196%
Arkansas	\$22,404	\$1,867	158%			
Delaware	\$27,768	\$2,314	196%			
District of Columbia	\$27,924	\$2,327	197%			
Florida	\$21,228	\$1,769	150%	\$28,296	\$2,358	200%
Georgia	\$24,276	\$2,023 ¹⁵	172%			
Kentucky	\$22,200	\$1,850 ¹⁶	157%			
Louisiana	\$29,040	\$2,420	205%			
Maryland	\$25,140	\$2,095	178%			
Mississippi	\$30,156	\$2,513	213%			
Missouri	\$17,784	\$1,482	126%			
North Carolina	\$32,628	\$2,719	231%			
Oklahoma	\$23,232	\$1,936 ¹⁷	164%			
South Carolina	\$20,820	\$1,735	147%	\$24,288	\$2,024	172%
Tennessee	\$24,324	\$2,027	172%			

¹⁴ Based on 2000 Federal Poverty Level of \$14,150 per year for a family of three.

¹⁵ If this family had a child with special needs, the income ceiling would be \$2,334 per month.

¹⁶ If this family were leaving TANF to enter the workforce (i.e. in Transitional Child Care) the income ceiling would be \$2,739 per month.

¹⁷ This is net income. The gross income ceiling would be \$2,420 (or 77% of the SMI) after the 20% earned income deduction is applied and could be even higher if other income deductions applied.

Table 16-A
Income Eligibility Ceiling as a Percentage of
Federal Poverty Level (FPL)¹⁴
(Single Parent with Two Children)

State	Income Eligibility Ceiling At Initial Application (Entry)			Income Eligibility Ceiling At Redetermination (Exit) If Different		
	Annually	Monthly	As % of FPL	Annually	Monthly	As % of FPL
Texas	\$34,272	\$2,856 ¹⁸	242% ¹⁷	local option ¹⁹	local option	
West Virginia	\$28,296	\$2,358	200%			

¹⁸ The statewide ceiling is 85% of the SMI, but some localities have a lower income limit for initial eligibility.

¹⁹ Some localities have established a higher income eligibility ceiling at redetermination.

Table 17
Eligibility Ceilings and Maximum Co-Payment for Family of Three
(assumes family of 3 with one infant and one 4-year-old in full-time, center-based care)

State	Income Eligibility Ceiling			Maximum Co-Payment			Provider can charge rate supplement
	Annually	Monthly	As % of SMI	Annually	Monthly, for both children	As % of Income	
Alabama	\$18,048	\$1,504 ²⁰	45%	\$2,076	\$173	12%	yes
Arkansas	\$22,404	\$1,867	69%	\$5,976	\$498 ²¹	27%	no
Delaware	\$27,768	\$2,314	52%	\$8,388	\$699	30%	yes, if no state contract
District of Columbia	\$27,924	\$2,327	59%	\$5,688	\$474	20%	no
Florida	\$21,228	\$1,769 ²²	51%	\$1,872	\$156	9%	yes
Georgia	\$24,276	\$2,023 ²³	56%	\$3,120	\$260	13%	yes
Kentucky	\$22,200	\$1,850	57%	\$2,208	\$184	10%	yes
Louisiana	\$29,040	\$2,420	75%	\$5,940	\$495	20%	yes
Maryland	\$25,140	\$2,095	45%	\$5,688	\$474 ²⁴	23%	yes
Mississippi	\$30,156	\$2,513	85%	\$2,280	\$190	8%	yes
Missouri	\$17,784	\$1,482	41%	\$2,076	\$173	12%	yes, except CPS
North Carolina	\$32,628	\$2,719	75%	\$2,940	\$245	9%	yes
Oklahoma	\$23,232	\$1,936 ²⁵	62%	\$2,628	\$219	11% ²⁶	no

²⁰ This family would remain eligible for child care assistance until its income exceeded \$2,313 a month, or 68% of the SMI.

²¹ Co-payments vary by rate area; amount included in table is an estimate based on the average price of child care for the hypothetical family.

²² This family would remain eligible for child care assistance until its income exceeded \$2,358 a month, or 67% of the SMI.

²³ Higher eligibility for children with special needs.

²⁴ Co-payments are based on the cost of care in a local market. \$474 would be the highest co-payment in the most expensive of the state's seven regions. The state average co-payment for a family of three with two children in full-time, center-based care is \$334 a month, or 16% of income.

²⁵ This is net income. The gross income ceiling would be \$2,420 (or 77% of the SMI) after the 20% earned income deduction is applied and could be even higher if other income deductions applied.

²⁶ The parent fee would be only 9% of income if based on gross income after the earned income deduction is applied.

Table 17
Eligibility Ceilings and Maximum Co-Payment for Family of Three
(assumes family of 3 with one infant and one 4-year-old in full-time, center-based care)

State	Income Eligibility Ceiling			Maximum Co-Payment			Provider can charge rate supplement
	Annually	Monthly	As % of SMI	Annually	Monthly, for both children	As % of Income	
South Carolina	\$20,820	\$1,735 ²⁷	50%	\$936	\$78	4%	yes
Tennessee	\$24,324	\$2,027	60%	\$2,904	\$242	12%	yes
Texas	\$34,272	\$2,856	85%	\$3,768	\$314 ²⁸	11%	no
West Virginia	\$28,296	\$2,358	77%	\$1,296	\$160	7%	no

..

²⁷ This family would remain eligible for child care assistance until its income exceeded \$2,024 a month or 58% of the SMI.

²⁸ Co-payments vary across localities; this is an estimate.

Table 18
Co-Payment for Family of Three at Poverty Level
(assumes family of 3 with one infant and one 4-year-old in
full-time, center-based care)

State	Co-payment, for both children			Provider can charge rate supplement
	Annually	Monthly	As % of Income	
Alabama	\$1,560	\$130	11%	yes
Arkansas	none	none	0%	no
Delaware	\$2,196	\$183	16%	yes, if center not under state contract
District of Columbia	\$888	\$74	6%	no
Florida	\$1,248	\$104	9%	yes
Georgia	\$420	\$35	3%	yes
Kentucky	\$1,164	\$97	8%	yes
Louisiana	\$2,292	\$191	16%	yes
Maryland	\$108	\$9	.07%	yes
Mississippi	\$684	\$57	5%	yes
Missouri	\$1,044	\$87	7%	yes, except for CPS
North Carolina	\$1,272	\$106	9%	yes
Oklahoma	\$888	\$74	6%	no
South Carolina	\$732	\$61	5%	yes
Tennessee	\$828	\$69	6%	yes
Texas	\$1,560	\$130 ²⁹	11%	no
West Virginia	\$516	\$43	4%	no

Assumptions: Poverty level income for family of three is \$14,150 per year, or \$1,179.17 per month. Daily rates converted to monthly rates by multiplying by 5 days a week and 4.3 weeks a month.

²⁹ Fees vary across localities; this is an estimate.

Table 19
Income Disregarded When Determining Eligibility for Child Care Assistance

Alabama	food Stamps, foster care subsidies, energy assistance checks, in-kind income
Arkansas	\$100 per working adult
Delaware	none
District of Columbia	TANF payments, SSI
Florida	child support if court-ordered
Georgia	SSI, tax refunds, gifts, value of food stamps, income of children, energy assistance payments, work expenses, adoption supplement, TANF, housing subsidies
Kentucky	SSI, any income solely to child, any one-time payment
Louisiana	earned income tax credit, in-kind income and full amount of foster care payments, \$2,200 per child disregarded for minor parent's family or for relative caretakers
Maryland	TANF payments, SSI, tax refunds, food stamps, child support from non-custodial parent up to \$2,200 per child
Mississippi	only income from employment is considered when determining eligibility for child care assistance; all other income is disregarded
Missouri	health insurance premiums
North Carolina	28 income disregards, including: Work First Family Assistance, SSI, lump sum payments, food subsidies, foster care assistance payments, adoption assistance payments, loans, grants, scholarships, Section VIII housing subsidies, in-kind contributions, employee benefits for child care, etc.
Oklahoma	20% earned income deduction, legally binding child support paid outside the home, government rent or housing subsidies, irregular income of less than \$30 per calendar quarter, some lump sum payments, in-kind income, money from sale of property, bank or trust account withdrawals, capital gains, earnings of children, reimbursements, tax refunds, money from third parties, loans, grants that preclude their use for living expenses, educational assistance, IV-E adoption subsidies, SCORE and ACE income, income excluded by federal law
South Carolina	SSI, work expenses, foster care payments, income from property sold, loans and grants, tax refunds, gifts, insurance payments, food stamps, work/study income
Tennessee	yes, child support paid by custodial parent and food stamps
Texas	food stamps
West Virginia	loans, gifts, lump sum income, grants & scholarships

Table 20	
Funds Available to Meet the Demand for Child Care Assistance	
State	Would your state have the funding to meet the demand if all eligible families applied for child care assistance in your state?
Alabama	no
Arkansas	no
Delaware	no
District of Columbia	no
Florida	no
Georgia	no
Kentucky	no
Louisiana	no
Maryland	no
Mississippi	no
Missouri	no
North Carolina	no
Oklahoma	no
South Carolina	no
Tennessee	no
Texas	no
West Virginia	not without TANF transition funds

Table 21
State Requirements for Face-to-Face Interview When Applying
for Child Care Assistance

State	Is a face-to-face interview required in order for a family to initially receive child care subsidies? (yes, no, varies by locality)	If no, can eligibility be determined via phone, fax, US mail or email?
Alabama	yes	
Arkansas	yes	
Delaware	yes, but can be waived for 30 days in case of transportation hardship	
District of Columbia	yes	
Florida	no, but highly recommended for additional R&R services	all
Georgia	yes	
Kentucky	no	all
Louisiana	no	US mail
Maryland	no state policy; varies by locality	US mail
Mississippi	no	US mail, fax
Missouri	no	US mail, fax, phone
North Carolina	not required by state, but most counties require them	US mail (for signature), phone (for interview)
Oklahoma	no	US mail, phone (mandatory interview)
South Carolina	no	US mail, fax, phone
Tennessee	yes	
Texas	no	US mail and fax (for documents), phone
West Virginia	yes	

Table 22
State Requirements for Face-to-Face Interview When
Redetermining Eligibility for Child Care Assistance

State	For redetermination of eligibility for child care subsidy, is a face-to-face interview required?	If no, can redetermination be done via phone, fax, US mail or email?
Alabama	yes	
Arkansas	no	US mail, phone or fax
Delaware	no	all
District of Columbia	yes	
Florida	no, but recommended	all
Georgia	yes	
Kentucky	no	all
Louisiana	no	US mail
Maryland	no state policy; varies by locality	US mail
Mississippi	no	US mail, fax
Missouri	no	US mail, fax, phone
North Carolina	not required by state, but most counties require them	US mail (for signature), phone (for interview)
Oklahoma	no	US mail, phone (mandatory interview)
South Carolina	no	US mail, fax, phone
Tennessee	yes	
Texas	no	US mail and fax (for documents), phone
West Virginia	no	US mail, fax

Table 23
State Policies Regarding Cooperation with
Child Support Enforcement

State	Does your state require that applicants for child care assistance cooperate with child support enforcement?
Alabama	no
Arkansas	yes
Delaware	no
District of Columbia	yes
Florida	yes
Georgia	no
Kentucky	no
Louisiana	no
Maryland	yes
Mississippi	no
Missouri	no
North Carolina	no
Oklahoma	yes
South Carolina	no
Tennessee	no
Texas	yes
West Virginia	no

Table 24		
Maximum Frequency of Child Care Eligibility Redetermination (assumes no changes in income or employment during eligibility period)		
State	TANF Recipients	Income-Eligible Families
Alabama	6 months	6 months
Arkansas	6 months	6 months
Delaware	12 months if participating in employment activities	6 months
District of Columbia	no limit if eligible for TANF	6 months
Florida	6 months	6 months
Georgia	12 months	12 months
Kentucky	12 months	12 months
Louisiana	6 months	6 months
Maryland	12 months	12 months
Mississippi	12 months	12 months
Missouri	12 months	12 months
North Carolina	12 months	12 months
Oklahoma	12 months	12 months
South Carolina	12 months	12 months
Tennessee	6 months	6 months
Texas	varies ³⁰	6-12 months ³¹
West Virginia	6 months	6 months

³⁰ TANF recipients enrolled in CHOICES remain eligible until their CHOICES case is closed by the CHOICES case manager.

³¹ Frequency of redetermination varies by regional boards; most localities determine eligibility every 6 or 12 months.

Table 25
Eligibility Determination for Transitional Child Care

State	Recertification <u>not</u> required	Recertification required	Can recertification be done by phone, fax, mail or email?
Alabama		recertification required	
Arkansas			
Delaware	transfer is automatic		all
District of Columbia	transfer is automatic		
Florida		recertification required	all
Georgia	transfer is automatic; TANF worker verifies income and transfers case (no parent interview required)		
Kentucky		recertification required — conducted by TANF caseworker	all
Louisiana		recertification required	US mail
Maryland		recertification required based on income	US mail
Mississippi	transfer is automatic — TANF caseworker sends “change in TANF status” form to the designated agent		
Missouri		N/A; TANF and income-eligible child care merged; no separate transitional child care program	US mail, fax, phone
North Carolina		N/A; TANF and income-eligible child care merged; no separate transitional child care program	US mail (for signature), phone (for interview)
Oklahoma		recertification required	US mail, phone (mandatory interview)
South Carolina	transfer is automatic		US mail, fax, phone

Table 25
Eligibility Determination for Transitional Child Care

State	Recertification <u>not</u> required	Recertification required	Can recertification be done by phone, fax, mail or email?
Tennessee		recertification required within 6 months	
Texas	transfer is automatic; local boards determine transitional eligibility based on documents provided by TANF caseworker		US mail, fax (for documents), phone
West Virginia		recertification required if there is a job change	US mail, fax

Table 26
Verification Documents Acceptable in Determining and Redetermining Eligibility:
Items to Verify Income

State	Income can be declared; no proof required	Paycheck stub	Employer statement of pay	Tax return, if self-employed	Other income verification
Alabama		✓	✓	✓	✓ child support, Social Security, SSI, TANF
Arkansas		✓ (4)	✓	✓	✓ child support
Delaware		✓	✓	✓	
District of Columbia		✓	✓	✓	✓ child support, SSI
Florida		✓	✓	✓	✓ SSI, TANF, child support
Georgia		✓	✓	✓	
Kentucky		✓	✓	✓	
Louisiana		✓	✓	✓	✓ all unearned income
Maryland		✓ (3)	✓	✓	
Mississippi		✓	✓ (initial application only)	✓ (initial application only)	
Missouri		✓	✓	✓	
North Carolina		✓	✓	✓	✓ ³²
Oklahoma	✓ for 30 days only in initial application	✓ (2 months)	✓	✓	
South Carolina	✓ foster parents only	✓	✓	✓	Various proofs for self-employed (e.g. cash register receipts from hair stylists)
Tennessee		✓	✓	✓	

³² Self-employed applicants may be required to supply business records or account records.

Table 26
Verification Documents Acceptable in Determining and Redetermining Eligibility:
Items to Verify Income

State	Income can be declared; no proof required	Paycheck stub	Employer statement of pay	Tax return, if self-employed	Other income verification
Texas		✓	✓	✓	
West Virginia		✓	✓	✓	Social Security Income, copies of court orders

✓ Item is ACCEPTED for verification.

✚ Item is REQUIRED for verification.

Items are required for both initial application and recertification unless otherwise noted.

Table 27
Verification Documents Acceptable in Determining and Redetermining Eligibility:
Items to Verify Age of Child(ren)

State	Ages can be declared; no proof required	Birth Certificate	School Record	Other age verification
Alabama		✓	✓	family Bible
Arkansas	✓			
Delaware	✓			
District of Columbia		✓		if birth certificate is not available, passport is acceptable as proof of birth
Florida	✓			
Georgia	✓			
Kentucky		✓	✓	driver's license, ID card, medical records for children and adults
Louisiana		+		
Maryland		✓		
Mississippi	✓			
Missouri		✓	✓	passport, family Bible, or 3 rd party
North Carolina	✓			
Oklahoma	✓			
South Carolina	✓			
Tennessee		✓	✓	family Bible or immigration forms
Texas	✓			
West Virginia	✓			

✓ Item is ACCEPTED for verification.

+ Item is REQUIRED for verification.

Items are required for both initial application and recertification unless otherwise noted.

Table 28
Verification Documents Acceptable in Determining and Redetermining Eligibility:
Other Documents

State	Verify family unit/child's relationship to applicant	Child support enforcement order	Social Security numbers for all family members	School or training schedule (if student)	Verify residence in state or county	Proof of immunization for child(ren) in care	Other proofs or verifications
Alabama			✓	✓	✓ state		
Arkansas		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Delaware			✓	✓	✓ (if on border of two-state town)	✓	
District of Columbia	✓		✓	✓	+	✓	
Florida	✓	✓	✓	✓	+phone/utility bill		
Georgia				✓			
Kentucky			✓ (initial application only)	✓	✓ (initial application only)	✓	
Louisiana		✓	✓	✓			✓ citizenship/alien status
Maryland	✓ notarized declaration	✓		✓	✓ utility bill, etc.	✓	
Mississippi				✓ could be report card or enrollment documentation			
Missouri	✓	✓ (initial application only)	✓	✓	✓ license, utility bill, 3 rd party		
North Carolina		✓		✓			✓ citizenship/green card
Oklahoma		✓	✓	✓	only if		✓ if child is not a citizen,

Table 28
Verification Documents Acceptable in Determining and Redetermining Eligibility:
Other Documents

State	Verify family unit/child's relationship to applicant	Child support enforcement order	Social Security numbers for all family members	School or training schedule (if student)	Verify residence in state or county	Proof of immunization for child(ren) in care	Other proofs or verifications
					questionable		need proof of child's status
South Carolina				✓			
Tennessee	✓	✓ for TANF (initial application only)	✓ (initial application only)	✓	✓ (initial application only)		
Texas				✓	✓		
West Virginia		✓		✓			

✓ Item is ACCEPTED for verification.

✚ Item is REQUIRED for verification.

Items are required for both initial application and recertification unless otherwise noted.

Table 29
Barriers to Accessing Child Care Assistance

State	In your opinion, what is the single most difficult part of the process for families seeking child care subsidies?
Alabama	not enough money; verification document
Arkansas	not enough money to serve all families
Delaware	initial application process burdensome; proofs and coming to office
District of Columbia	health form and finding placements for infants
Florida	limited funds; requirement to meet all federal mandates for funding; providers frustrated with the bureaucracy involved in serving subsidized children
Georgia	limited dollars and lack of transportation in rural areas
Kentucky	not enough money to bring income eligibility up to 200% of FPL; difficulty in verifying eligibility determination information
Louisiana	families providing all required verification
Maryland	getting documentation in on time for child care to begin
Mississippi	not enough money to serve a significant percentage of those who apply
Missouri	lack of funding to increase income-eligibility ceiling
North Carolina	getting to county Department of Social Services during business hours
Oklahoma	finding child care providers who will accept subsidy payments, then paying until subsidy begins
South Carolina	no access to subsidies on an on-going basis; too many over income limits
Tennessee	limited funds to serve the low-income eligible population
Texas	limited dollars; non-TANF families face long waiting lists
West Virginia	intake; appointments must be scheduled only during business hours

**Table 30
Outreach Activities**

State	Efforts to inform TANF families about the availability of child care subsidies	Efforts to inform income-eligible families about the availability of child care subsidies	State has established a toll-free number for applicants for child care subsidies	State has expanded hours for intake workers, to include evenings and weekends	State has conducted a consumer-satisfaction survey
Alabama	TANF agency informs applicants about child care assistance	some regional child care management agencies conduct outreach but no statewide policy	yes, regionally	no	no
Arkansas	one-stop centers, local coalition outreach campaign, distributing information in public places, pilot electronic payment system, media campaign for quality care, CCR&R outreach statewide, website information for parents	same as for TANF	yes	no	no
Delaware	all TANF applicants informed as part of process	flyers, public information campaign, video, information on buses, info. at CHIPS	yes	yes	no
District of Columbia	community meetings, bus posters, outreach at festivals, work with faith-based community, eight-minute informational video available in every public library and health clinic, information available at bank branches, letter to TANF applicants	same as for TANF	yes, single access number	yes	yes, in 1999
Florida	formation of 57 local	same as for TANF	yes, regionally;	yes, varies by location	yes, annually

**Table 30
Outreach Activities**

State	Efforts to inform TANF families about the availability of child care subsidies	Efforts to inform income-eligible families about the availability of child care subsidies	State has established a toll-free number for applicants for child care subsidies	State has expanded hours for intake workers, to include evenings and weekends	State has conducted a consumer-satisfaction survey
	coalitions, web-based simplified point of entry, local presence via workforce development boards and central agencies		statewide July 2001		
Georgia	public awareness campaign, R&Rs reach families, coordinate with high schools, parks	same as for TANF	no	yes	no
Kentucky	R&Rs do public awareness, pamphlets, parent meetings, posters	same as for TANF	no	yes, evening hours in some areas; no weekend hours	limited number of random calls to clients in June 2000
Louisiana	none	none	no	no	no
Maryland	statewide I&R for parents looking for child care, social service workers informed about child care possibilities, child care subsidy information available at public schools, kindergartens, Pre-Ks and all social service offices, planning major outreach campaign, child care subsidy workers go to job sites, planning state brochures	same as for TANF	no	yes	no
Mississippi	media campaign, applications available at multiple locations, simplified application process	same as for TANF	yes	no	no
Missouri	statewide R&R campaign for	same as for TANF	no	no	no

**Table 30
Outreach Activities**

State	Efforts to inform TANF families about the availability of child care subsidies	Efforts to inform income-eligible families about the availability of child care subsidies	State has established a toll-free number for applicants for child care subsidies	State has expanded hours for intake workers, to include evenings and weekends	State has conducted a consumer-satisfaction survey
	quality child care, periodic mailings, brochures, community outreach through schools, information on website				
North Carolina	some local agencies offer extended evening hours, some take applications at community sites, some do outreach, publish information in local newspapers, information on a division website, some counties allow parents to sign application at child care center	same as for TANF	available in some counties	available in some counties	not statewide, but some counties have conducted them
Oklahoma	outreach campaign, distributing information in public places, pilot electronic payment system	same as for TANF	no	yes, county option	no, but some counties survey
South Carolina	caseworkers inform TANF families about child care subsidies.	use "enhanced providers" to distribute applications, R&Rs, WIC-outreach, family-night programs	yes, but can't handle all the calls	yes	yes, in August, September and October 1999
Tennessee	posters, pamphlets, notices in businesses and social service agencies, counseling during application process	same as for TANF	yes	yes	yes, in 1999

**Table 30
Outreach Activities**

State	Efforts to inform TANF families about the availability of child care subsidies	Efforts to inform income-eligible families about the availability of child care subsidies	State has established a toll-free number for applicants for child care subsidies	State has expanded hours for intake workers, to include evenings and weekends	State has conducted a consumer-satisfaction survey
Texas	local boards run career centers (one-stop, easy access resource rooms with staff to help potential child care subsidy recipients); statewide R&R, website	same as for TANF	all local boards have established local 800 numbers for intake and public inquiries	hours are not set by the state, but most local boards have expanded intake hours	surveys not done at state level, but some localities have conducted consumer-satisfaction surveys
West Virginia	new social services web page has child-care eligibility guidelines, working on online application form with income-eligibility calculator	same as for TANF	no	no	no

Table 31
State Income Tax Provisions for Child Care³³

State	Type of child care provision	Description	Refundable	Is there an income cap?	Maximum benefits (1 dependent/2 or more dependents)
Alabama	none				
Arkansas	credit	20% of federal credit	no, except for care for 3- to 5-year-olds in accredited center	no	\$144 / \$288
Delaware	credit	50% of federal credit	no	no	\$360 / \$720
District of Columbia	credit	32% of federal credit	no	no	\$230 / \$461
Florida		N/A; no state personal income tax			
Georgia	none				
Kentucky	credit	20% of federal credit	no	no	\$144 / \$288
Louisiana ²	credit	10% of federal credit, up to \$25	no	no	\$25 / \$25
Maryland ³	deduction	expenses eligible for federal credit	no	no	\$117 / \$234 ⁴
Maryland	credit	beginning in tax year 2001, 32.5% of federal credit if federal AGI less than or equal to \$40,000, reduced by 10% for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof by which federal AGI exceeds \$40,000	no	\$50,000 federal AGI	\$234 / \$468
Mississippi	none				

³³ Source: National Women's Law Center, 2000, "Making Child Care Less Taxing: Improving State Child and Dependent Care Tax Provisions," Washington, DC.

² Louisiana: In contrast, Louisiana offers a credit for expenses undertaken for "dependents physically or mentally incapable of self-care" equal to 100 percent of the federal credit.

³Maryland: Beginning in tax year 2000, Maryland families may claim both the deduction and the credit.

⁴Maryland: Maryland's top tax rate is 4.875 percent.

**Table 31
State Income Tax Provisions for Child Care³³**

State	Type of child care provision	Description	Refundable	Is there an income cap?	Maximum benefits (1 dependent/2 or more dependents)
Missouri	none				
North Carolina	credit	13% of expenses eligible for federal credit for care for children under 7, 9% for children over 7, if federal AGI is less than \$25,000; 11.5% of eligible expenses for care for children under 7, 8% for children over 7 if AGI is \$25,001-\$40,000; 10% of eligible expenses for care for children under 7, 7% for children over 7, if AGI is more than \$40,000 ⁵	no	no	\$312 / \$624
Oklahoma	credit	20% of federal credit actually received though if state AGI is less than federal AGI, credit is prorated	no	no	\$144 / \$288
South Carolina	credit	7% of expenses eligible for federal credit	no	no	\$168 / \$336
Tennessee		N/A; no state personal income tax			
Texas	none				
West Virginia	none				

⁵ North Carolina: The applicable income ranges vary with taxpayer filing status. The figures given above are for married taxpayers filing jointly.