



Social Assistance Act R.S. P.E.I 1988, Cap. S-4.3	Program	Child Care Subsidy	
	Subject	Eligibility	<i>Policy #4</i>
Effective Date: January 7, 2011		Authorized by:	
Revised Date: July 1, 2014		Deputy Minister	

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To ensure all Child Care Subsidy beneficiaries meet social and financial needs requirements.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

2.1 **Child with Special Needs:** A child with ongoing intellectual, mental, or physical impairment, diagnosed by a medical professional, that causes him/her to need specialized care.

2.2 **Education/Training Programs:** For the purposes of the Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP), education/training programs refer to courses or programs designed to train persons in specific skills which increase employability, such as diploma programs, degree programs, life skill programs, trade licenses, apprenticeships, and English/French Alternate Language programs.

2.3 **Full Day Child Care:** Child care of more than 4 hours per day.

2.4 **Half Day Child Care:** Child care of 4 hours or less per day.

2.5 **Liquid Assets:** Assets easily converted to cash such as the realizable value of stocks, bonds, debentures, investment certificates, cash on hand, cash in a bank or trust company, mutual funds, etc.

2.6 **Parent-share:** The amount that parents/families are expected to contribute to the cost of child care services and which is dependent upon their income and resources.

3.0 POLICY STATEMENT

Social Assessment

3.1 In determining social needs, special consideration is given to the needs of the child and the family. The social need for child care subsidy can be established by any one or a combination of the following:

- parents who are working, including full-time or part-time employment;
- parents who are attending education/training programs (who cannot receive child care funding through their program);
- medical needs of parents;
- diagnosed special needs of children; and
- children in need of protection.

3.2 Child care subsidy will not be approved for parents working on a volunteer basis.

Parents under 18

3.3 Parents under the age of 18 have a need to work toward financial independence by working on employment related goals such as completing basic education, job readiness training, post-secondary education or work experience programs. As such, quality child care arrangements are essential for young parents to work toward independence.

3.4 Where a parent is under the age of 18 and living with parents, child care subsidy may only be provided while the young parent remains in school and the student may apply for subsidy in his/her own right. Christmas break and March break will be considered as part of their school year as will summer break if the young parent intends to return to school the following September.

3.5 Where a parent is under the age of 18 and is living apart from their parents, he/she may apply for child care subsidy in his/her own right.

Parents Receiving Social Assistance

3.6 Applicants receiving social assistance will have already been evaluated for similar financial criteria by the Department. It is assumed that the financial criteria for eligibility to the CCSP has already been met unless there has been a recent change in financial circumstances.

3.7 For applicants receiving social assistance, no parent-share will apply. However, any costs above the maximum daily rate will be the responsibility of the applicant.

Financial Assessment

- 3.8 If an applicant is found eligible on the basis of social need, an income test, consisting of a review of liquid assets and financial eligibility, is completed by the Department.
- 3.9 The applicant's net income (see *Income Policy*) and the number of persons in the family group will be considered to determine eligibility and parent-share. The following table lists the monthly income level up to which full subsidy is available. If the applicant's income exceeds this level, the Sliding Scale Income Test will determine parent-share.

Number of persons in family group	Level up to which full subsidy is available
2	\$1,453.34
3	\$1,713.34
4	\$1,933.34
5	\$2,093.34
6	\$2,273.34
7	\$2,393.34
8	\$2,493.34
9	\$2,593.34
10	\$2,693.34

- 3.10 The calculation for eligibility may indicate the applicant is eligible for full or partial subsidy. If the applicant is eligible for partial subsidy, the applicant is responsible to pay the remaining balance of the total child care cost.
- 3.11 The Department will pay the per diem rate established by the Child Care Centre up to the maximum allowed per age group and type of care, less any fee paid by the parent or other organization.

3.12 Maximum per diem rates are paid according to the following:

Child Care Centres (full day programs)	Per Diem Rates
Infants (birth - 2 years)	\$34
2 year olds	\$28
3-4 year olds	\$27
School Age Child Care (up to the age of 12)	
Full day rate (storm days, school holidays, professional development days, etc.)	\$18
Before and After School	\$11

3.13 Changes in per diem rates due to change in the child's age will take effect on the child's birthday.

4.0 REFERENCES

Child Care Facilities Act, R.S.P.E.I., Cap. C-5.

HISTORY:

July 1, 2014 - Editorial and format changes; updated per diem rates in Section 3.12.