

Division of Child Care

Supporting the well-being and economic independence of Arizona's families by providing quality child care assistance and services.

Updated: June 2022

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- Provider Network & Support Administration
- Family Support & Eligibility Administration
- ECE Quality & Systems Building Administration
- Operations Support Administration
- IT Systems Administration
- Performance & Strategic Initiatives Team

Child Care and Development Block Grant

Legal Authority: The 2014 Child Care *and* Development Block Grant recognizes that child care providers play a critical role in early childhood brain development.

As Arizona's Lead Agency for CCDBG, DES is required to ensure equal access to quality care, focused on child development & well-being.

- ★ **In Arizona, we accomplish this through State & Community Coordination, Child Care Assistance, DHS Licensing Standards, the DES Provider Registration Agreement, Certified Family Providers, and Quality Set Aside.**

Child Care and Development Fund

Major Provisions of CCDF:




- Protect the **health and safety** of children in child care.
- Help parents make **informed choices** and access information to support child development.
- Support **equal access** to stable, high **quality** child care for children from low income families.
- Enhance the quality of the early childhood and child care **workforce**.



CCDF: Coordination & Collaboration



CCDBG/CCDF Resources

-  [Arizona CCDF State Plan: FFY 2022-2024](#)
-  [Administration for Children & Families Office of Child Care](#)
-  [Office of Child Care: CCDF Reauthorization](#)

DES Child Care Assistance Programs

Child care assistance is available for families at or below 165% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) with children 12 years of age or younger:

- Low-income working families
 - Full or part-time employment
 - Self-employment
- Teen parents enrolled in high school, GED, ESOL, or remedial education programs
- Residents of homeless or domestic violence shelters
- Individuals who are unable to care for their children due to:
 - A physical, mental or emotional condition
- Individuals who are unavailable to care for their children due to:
 - Participation in court-ordered community service
 - Participation in a drug treatment program

**A child care application is required.
Verification of income and activity are required.**

DES Child Care Assistance Programs, cont.

DID YOU KNOW?

Child care assistance is also available for grandparents and guardians when the following criteria are met:

- When the parent of the child is not living in the same home
- When the grandparent or guardian is engaged in an eligible activity

Only income received on behalf of the child is considered for child care assistance.

A child care application is required. Verification of relationship or guardianship and activity are required.

DES Child Care Assistance Programs, cont.

Child care assistance is available for other individuals and children in certain circumstances, without regard to income, for the following:

- Referrals from the Arizona Department of Child Safety or Tribal Child Welfare programs
- Referrals from a DES Jobs Program
- DES Cash Assistance recipients
 - Grant Diversion program for job search
 - A child care application is required.
 - TANF recipients who are employed
 - A child care application and verification of employment are required.

DES Child Care Assistance

- Average assistance is \$675 per month per child
- Nearly 30% of all children authorized for DES child care assistance are referred by the Department of Child Safety
- Statewide, there are about 2,800 licensed/certified child care providers.
- More than 50% of Arizona's providers contract with DES to serve families eligible for Child Care Assistance, including:
 - Certified Family Child Care Homes
 - DHS Licensed Child Care Centers
 - DHS Certified Child Care Group Homes

Child Care Application Process

Individuals seeking child care assistance submit the following to a local office:

- A completed [Application for Child Care Assistance](#) / [Spanish Application for Child Care Assistance](#)
- Proof of identity for the applicant
- Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Qualified Immigrant Status for all children needing care
- Selected DES Contracted Child Care Provider

 des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care/how-apply-for-child-care-assistance

Child Care Application Process, cont.

Submit the following *verification of eligible activity* documents (as applicable) to a local office:

- If employed:
 - the most recent paycheck stub, or
 - if newly hired, an [Employment and Wage Verification Statement](#), or
 - if self-employed, monthly self-employment records or previous year income tax return
- If unable or unavailable to care, a completed [Unable/Unavailable Status form](#)
- If residing in a shelter, a completed [Verification of Shelter Case Plan](#)
- If a teen parent, proof of school attendance

 des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care/how-apply-for-child-care-assistance

Child Care Application Process, cont.

Submit the following *additional verification* documents (as applicable) to a local office:

- Proof of unearned income, such as Social Security Income (SSI), Child Support, loans, etc.
- Proof of relationship or guardianship when the applicant is not the parent of the children needing care

When an Application for Child Care Assistance is ***not*** required:

- Referrals from a DES Jobs Program
- Referrals from the Arizona Department of Child Safety or Tribal Child Welfare programs

 des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care/how-apply-for-child-care-assistance

Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R)

★ **As part of the Child Care Assistance application, parents must select a DES-approved child care provider**

Arizona's CCR&R helps families find the best options by providing information for their child care search and decision, including:

- Searchable registry of local child care programs
- State licensing rules and regulations
- Availability of child care assistance
- Quality child care indicators



 azccrr.com



1-800-308-9000

For More Information: Child Care Assistance

Find a local DES Child Care office to speak to a DES Eligibility Specialist for more information.

-  des.az.gov/find-your-local-office
-  des.az.gov/es/localizar-una-oficina

Tribal CCDF

- Participation in the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) allows Tribal governments the opportunity to design, implement, and support programs which are beneficial to the unique needs of Tribal citizens.
- Through the CCDBG Act, American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) grantees receive no less than 2 percent of discretionary CCDF funding and up to 2 percent of mandatory CCDF funding.
- In Arizona, 13 Tribal Nations participate in CCDF.



Tribal CCDF

Arizona Tribal CCDF Entities (December 2020):

1. Cocopah Indian Tribe
2. Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
3. Gila River Indian Community
4. Hopi Tribe
5. Hualapai Tribe
6. Navajo Nation
7. Pascua Yaqui Tribe
8. Quechan Indian Tribe of The Fort Yuma Indian Reservation
9. Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community
10. San Carlos Apache Tribe
11. Tohono O'odham Nation
12. White Mountain Apache Tribe
13. Yavapai Apache Nation

Becoming a DES Child Care Provider

There are 3 types of DES providers that care for families who receive DES child care assistance:

Certified Family Child Care Providers: DES certified family child care providers to care for up to four children at one time in their home for compensation.

Non-Certified Relative Providers: An NCRP provides child care services within the State of Arizona for members of their own family who are approved for DES child care, and are related by blood, marriage or by court decree.

DES Contracted Child Care Centers and Child Care Group Homes: Licensed Centers and Group Homes can contract with DES and receive financial reimbursement for providing child care to children eligible for DES child care assistance.

State CCDBG Quality Set-Aside Programs and Contracts

DES partners with community organizations and other state agencies to meet the CCDBG goals for children, families, and the child care workforce, including:

- Child Care Resource & Referral
- Preventing Suspension & Expulsion
- Professional Career Pathways Project
- CCDBG Training and Professional Development
- Quality Enhancement and Accreditation

DES Child Care at Residential Shelter Contracts

- Children living in a homeless or domestic violence shelter and children referred from the Department of Child Safety are prioritized populations for DES Child Care eligibility.
- DES contracts with 3 residential shelters to provide high quality child care to children (as of June 2022):



Interested Programs - Contact: ccaprogramdevelopmentunit@azdes.gov

Arizona Child Care Recovery Plan

\$1.3 billion in new funding dedicated to Arizona's Child Care and Development Fund through the federal CARES Act, CRRSA, and ARPA.

The Division of Child Care is supporting Arizona's child care recovery with strategic investments in Arizona's early childhood education and child care network (July 1, 2021-September 30, 2024)

Updates: des.az.gov/arizona's-child-care-recovery-plan

Arizona Child Care Stabilization Grant Program

The Child Care Stabilization Grant (CCSG) Program gives Arizona's child care providers a consistent, reliable funding source to cover increased cost and challenges due to COVID-19 through June 2023.

Details, FAQs and Application: des.az.gov/CCSG

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Visit us at: des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care