



Subsidized Child Care

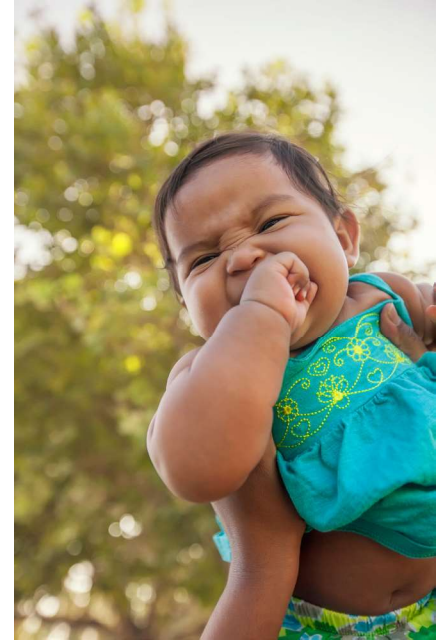
How to Get Help Paying for Child Care

If you need help finding or paying for child care call (916) 369-0191 and talk with a **Child Care Specialist**, who can help you apply for services on **Child Action, Inc.'s (CAI)** general child care program, provide referrals to licensed child care programs and answer any questions you might have about child care.

You can also call the **Childcare Eligibility List (CEL)** at (916) 369-0191 or go online at www.thecel.net to apply for **CAI's** general child care program (**California Alternative Payment Program, CAPP**). Ask about cash aid eligibility if you have never been on it, or it has been longer than 24 months since you last received it.

If you have received cash aid within the last 24 months and are no longer aided, you could be eligible for **CAI's** Stage 2 program. If you think you are eligible, please call (916) 361-0511 to apply.

If you are receiving cash aid and participating in a Welfare-to-Work activity with the **Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance (DHA)**, ask your worker to approve your need for child care and send a referral to **DHA's Child Care Payment Unit (CCPU)** to be enrolled on the Stage 1 program. You can also be referred to **CAI** once you are stable on Stage 1 (typically working or going to school).



Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance (DHA)	Stage 1 Child Care	Child Action, Inc. (CAI)	Stage 2, Stage 3 or CAPP Child Care
	You must be on cash aid.		You can be on cash aid or not.
	You must be referred to the CCPU by your County worker.		You can call CAI directly (see the phone numbers above). Or you can be referred by the CCPU.
	Your County worker will determine your eligibility.		CAI will determine your eligibility.
	Your provider must sign paperwork for the County.		Your provider must complete an enrollment on CAI's program.
	You or your provider must request reimbursement from the County for payment. You can get the form from the County or CAI or online at dhaweb.saccounty.net/financial/childcare.html		You or your provider must submit a CAI Attendance Form to CAI. (The form will be sent to your provider before each month of care.)
The County will pay your provider.	CAI will pay your provider.		

Note: If you lose your Stage 3 child care because of funding cuts, you may be eligible for DHA's Diversion Program. Call your Child Action, Inc. worker for additional information about Diversion.



3 Stages of CalWORKS Child Care

	Family Eligibility	Eligible Children	Lead Agency	Local Providers
Stage One	<p>Stage One provides child care subsidies for the first 3 to 6 months that families are eligible to receive cash aid, typically while they are in training or a work activity program, volunteering, or beginning to work. However, families can remain eligible for up to 2 years after leaving aid under certain circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Until the county determines that their work situation is stable, or • During periods when Stage 2 funds are not available. 	Children in the 10 years and younger 11 and 12 year olds	California Department of Social Services	<p>County Social Service Departments</p> <p>Phone #----- -----</p> <p><i>(Counties may contract with Alternative Payment Plans like Child Action, Inc.)</i></p>
Stage Two	<p>Stage Two is available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families on CalWORKs, once their plan has been signed and their work situation is stable, as determined by the county. <p>Families transitioning off CalWORKs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage Two is also available to eligible diversion cases* <p>Families leave Stage Two when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have received 24 months of child care after leaving cash aid. • Their income exceeds 70 percent of the state median income. • They no longer need child care. 	Children up to 13 years of age.	California Department of Education	<p>Child Action, Inc., www.childaction.org or call (916) 369-0191 and other Alternative Payment Plans</p>
Stage Three	<p>Stage Three is funded as a set-aside in the larger child care subsidy program available to the working low-income families. Stage Three is available to eligible former CalWORKs families who have exhausted their two-year time limit in Stage One and/or Two. Families remain eligible as long as their income is at or below 70 percent of the state's median income and there is space and funding available.</p>	Children up to 14 years of age	California Department of Education	<p>Child Action, Inc., www.childaction.org or call (916) 369-0191 and other Alternative Payment Plans</p>

*Diversion Program

State law requires that all counties implement a diversion program. CalWORKs Diversion is a one-time lump sum payment or service provided to individuals to avoid the need for extended assistance under the CalWORKs program. Diversion payments can be both cash and non-cash and can be used, for example, to pay for vehicle repairs, car insurance, or rent for a family. Individuals and/or families must meet CalWORKs eligibility requirements. Counties have sole discretion to determine who can receive diversion payments, for what purposes, and in what amount. State law sets no limits on the maximum amount of diversion payments or services, or the number of times a county can provide this benefit to a family.

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