

The Child Care Assistance Program

Public Assistance Programs: A Series

December 2024

Public Assistance Programs is a series of publications that describe state and federal programs that provide assistance in the form of healthcare, income, food, housing, and child care. Each work in the series describes an individual program. Please see the list on the last page for other works in this series.

Overview

The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) is a federal-state program that subsidizes child care expenses for low-income families. The purpose of the program is to help parents with the cost of child care so that the parents can seek or retain employment or participate in education or training that leads to employment. In fiscal year 2023, an average of 11,500 families and 22,150 children participated in CCAP each month in Minnesota, and combined federal, state, and county spending on the program was about \$240 million.

This brief describes some aspects of the program, including how it is administered, its eligibility requirements, families' benefits and financial requirements, how child care providers are reimbursed under the program, and how the program is funded. Minnesota House Research also offers a shorter overview of CCAP, as well as a brief that provides a topical discussion of a recent federal rule that modifies the regulations governing programs like CCAP.

Contents

Program Administration	. 2
CCAP Subprograms	. 3
Recipient Profile	. 5
Child and Family Eligibility	. 6
Families' Benefits and Financial Responsibilities	. 8
Provider Eligibility and Participation	. 9
Payments to Child Care Providers	10
Expenditures	12
Funding Sources	13
About This Series	15

Program Administration

CCAP is governed by federal and state laws. At the federal level, the U.S. Congress enacts laws that set broad requirements and standards for child care subsidy programs, like CCAP, and federal agencies adopt regulations and provide administrative guidance to states. States are responsible for designing and administering their child care subsidy programs within federal parameters and in compliance with federal requirements. Like many of Minnesota's public assistance programs, the counties and Tribes do much of the hands-on work of administering CCAP.

Federal

The federal Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act and section 418 of the Social Security Act authorize federal funding for child care subsidies and set out the requirements with which states must comply to receive the funding.¹ The various funding streams authorized under these acts are collectively referred to as the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). The CCDBG Act of 2014 (Pub. L. No. 113-186) is the most recent reauthorization of the CCDBG Act, and it sets out the following seven purposes for child care subsidies:

- 1) to allow states to have maximum flexibility in developing their child care subsidy programs
- 2) to promote parental choice in regard to child care services
- 3) to encourage states to help parents make informed choices about child care by providing information and education
- 4) to assist states in delivering high-quality early care and education to parents trying to become independent of public assistance
- 5) to assist states in implementing health, safety, licensing, and registration standards
- 6) to improve child care and development of children receiving assistance
- 7) to increase the number and percentage of children from lower-income families in high-quality child care settings

The federal Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) administers child care subsidy programs, issues federal rules and guidance, oversees implementation of the rules and guidance, and provides technical assistance to states. DHHS also allocates and administers CCDF funding.

¹ The CCDBG Act is codified at <u>United States Code title 42, section 9858</u>, et seq. Section 418 of the Social Security Act is codified at <u>United States Code, title 42, section 618</u>. These laws also authorize federal funding for child care subsidy programs administered by U.S. territories and Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations.

State

At the state level, CCAP is administered by the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF).² Many of the program's requirements are found in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 142E, and Minnesota Rules, chapter 3400.

DCYF is responsible for supervising county and Tribal administration of CCAP and providing training and technical support to counties and Tribes. DCYF has authority to receive, administer, and expend federal funds from the CCDF and administers state funding for CCAP. DCYF is responsible for coordinating the various funding sources, maximizing the use of CCDF funds, and allocating funds to counties and Tribes for CCAP services. Additionally, DCYF is responsible for producing and submitting to DHHS the state plan required by federal law. The plan must describe how the state is implementing various components of the program, such as how payments to child care providers are set. DCYF submitted the most recent state plan, covering federal fiscal years 2025 to 2027, in June 2024.

Counties and Tribes

In general, counties administer CCAP under the supervision of DCYF. County duties include accepting families' applications and determining their eligibility for assistance, determining the eligibility of child care providers to accept payment under the program, reimbursing providers for care provided, and claiming funding for CCAP from DCYF.

An Indian Tribe with a reservation in Minnesota may contract with DCYF to administer CCAP, in place of a county, in a Tribe's areas. Under such a contract, a Tribe carries out the duties expected of a county, and a portion of CCAP funding is transferred from counties in which the Tribe's reservation is located to the Tribe for purposes of administering the program. As of the date of this report, DCYF contracts with two Tribes in this way—the White Earth Nation and the Red Lake Nation.

CCAP Subprograms

CCAP is divided into subprograms, which are largely governed and administered in the same way. However, there are important distinctions among the subprograms related to eligibility and financing, as described here. The subprograms include MFIP, transition year assistance, and basic sliding fee (BSF) assistance.

Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) child care assistance is for MFIP- or diversionary work program (DWP)-eligible families. MFIP child care assistance is a forecasted program, meaning that the projected state cost of the assistance is estimated by state agencies and reflected in Minnesota Management and Budget's forecast of revenue and expenditures in

² Historically, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) administered CCAP, but program administration transferred to DCYF in July 2024.

November and February of each year. As a result of being a forecasted program, everyone who is eligible for MFIP assistance receives it.

Transition year assistance, including **transition year extension assistance**, is for families who have transitioned off MFIP or DWP, thus losing their MFIP child care assistance. Transition year assistance is available to families for 12 months after transitioning off MFIP or DWP. Transition year extension assistance is available to families that have completed their transition year and are on the waiting list for Basic Sliding Fee (BSF) assistance. The extension is available until the family can receive BSF assistance. For funding purposes, both transition year and extension assistance are considered part of MFIP assistance and are forecasted programs that everyone who is eligible receives.

Basic Sliding Fee child care assistance is for families who are not participating in MFIP or DWP or receiving transition assistance.³ BSF assistance receives a capped state appropriation, so participation in BSF is limited by available funds.⁴ When funding is unavailable through the BSF program, a county or Tribe must add families to a waitlist. As funds become available, families receive BSF assistance according to the priority list in statute.⁵

The number of families on the BSF waiting list varies from month to month. For example, during fiscal year 2023, the number of families on the waiting list fluctuated between a low of 766 families in July 2022 and a high of 3,761 families in April 2023. As of August 2024, there were 2,069 families across four counties on the waiting list.⁶

³ From 1997 through 2007, the Minnesota Legislature funded the At-Home Infant Child Care Program, which provided subsidies to BSF-eligible families who wanted to care for infants at home in lieu of receiving a subsidy for child care received outside the home. The program is no longer in effect, as it has not received funding since 2007.

⁴ The Minnesota Legislature established a statewide child care subsidy program for welfare recipients and other low-income families in 1985. In 1989, the legislature separated the funding for BSF assistance from the funding that provided child care subsidies as an entitlement for eligible families receiving welfare and set a capped state appropriation for BSF assistance. The assistance has evolved into CCAP in response to the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Pub. L. No. 104-193) and other federal and state laws, and the cap on BSF assistance has been retained.

⁵ <u>Minn. Stat. § 142E.04</u>, subd. 4.

⁶ DHS, Child Care Assistance Program Basic Sliding Fee Waiting List August 2024, at <u>https://dcyf.mn.gov/sites/default/files/2024-10/CCAP%20August%202024%20Waiting%20List.pdf</u>.

Recipient Profile

In fiscal year 2023, an average of about 11,500 families and 22,150 children participated in CCAP each month.⁷ The average monthly CCAP payment per family was \$1,710. See Table 1 for more details.

Program	Average Number of Families Enrolled Each Month	Average Number of Children Enrolled Each Month	Average Monthly Child Care Payments per Family	
MFIP child care assistance	4,765	8,988	\$1,776	
BSF child care assistance	6,775	13,169	\$1,663	
All child care assistance	11,539	_	\$1,710	

Table 1: CCAP Caseload and Direct Service Payments, FY 2023

Sources: Minnesota Department of Human Services, Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program, State Fiscal Year 2023 Family Profile; Minnesota Department of Human Services, Background Data Tables for February 2024 Forecast.

Notes: The data sources do not provide the average number of children enrolled in the entire program each month. MFIP child care assistance includes transition-year families.

Nearly two-thirds of the children who were served under CCAP were under the age of six years old, with:

- 15.3 percent under 2 years old;
- 25.0 percent 2 to 3 years old; and
- 22.7 percent 4 to 5 years old.

Most families who participated in CCAP in fiscal year 2023 were working families who needed child care for employment, which was the case for about 70 percent of families in MFIP assistance and 90 percent of families in transition status and in BSF assistance.

⁷ The data in this section are from DHS, Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program: State Fiscal Year 2023 Family Profile, DHS-6664K-ENG 12-23, January 2024.

Child and Family Eligibility

Children and their families must meet specified eligibility requirements, including financial requirements, to participate in CCAP. In general, once a family is determined eligible for CCAP, the family remains eligible for 12 months, at which time eligibility must be redetermined.⁸

General Eligibility

A child is eligible for CCAP if the child is under the age of 13 (or 15 if the child is disabled), meets citizenship requirements,⁹ and the child's family:¹⁰

- has all parents (or one parent in a single-parent household) participating in an authorized activity, which includes working, searching for a job, or engagement in training or educational activities;¹¹
- applies for CCAP in the county where they live;
- selects an eligible child care provider;
- cooperates with the establishment of paternity and enforcement of child support obligations for all children in the family and assigns the child care portion of support to the state; and
- meets the following subprogram-specific requirements:
 - to receive MFIP assistance, the family must participate in MFIP or DWP or meet the requirements to receive MFIP assistance as a student parent;¹²
 - to receive transition year assistance, the family must have closed out of MFIP or DWP but have received MFIP or DWP for at least one of the six months prior to closing out;
 - to receive transition year extension assistance, a family's transition year period must have ended, the family must continue to be eligible for assistance, and the family must be on the waiting list for BSF assistance; and

⁸ There are several reasons a family may lose eligibility for CCAP while the family is in the 12-month period before redetermination. For example, a family may lose eligibility before redetermination if the family does not pay its required copayment. For more details, see section 8.15 of the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Policy Manual.

⁹ Per federal law, to be eligible for CCAP, children must be citizens or have an accepted immigration status or use the subsidy for care in a setting that is subject to public educational standards (e.g., Head Start or a prekindergarten program operated under public educational standards).

¹⁰ "Family" for purposes of this qualification is defined in <u>Minnesota Statutes</u>, section 142E.01, subdivision 13.

¹¹ This requirement does not apply to a parent who is unable to meet the requirement, per the determination of a licensed physician, licensed psychologist, or a social services agency. Also, families that are homeless are exempt from the work, education, and training participation requirements for three months from the date the county receives the family's CCAP application.

¹² Families who participate in MFIP or DWP and forego the cash assistance grant may still receive MFIP child care assistance if they are otherwise eligible.

 to receive BSF assistance, a family must not currently participate in MFIP or DWP or be in a transition year.

Financial Eligibility

Financial eligibility for CCAP is based on a family's income and assets. The income limit is assessed by measuring a family's annual gross income against a standard measure, state median income (SMI), for the family size.¹³ The asset limit is expressed as a specified dollar amount. For eligibility purposes, the value of the family's assets cannot exceed the dollar value of the asset limit.

Income Limits

The different CCAP subprograms have different income limits for eligibility at program entry. To receive MFIP assistance, a family must be income-eligible for the MFIP cash assistance program, and the family must have income at or below 67 percent of SMI for its family size. To receive transition year assistance or BSF assistance, a family must have income at or below 47 percent of SMI, adjusted for family size.

During the 12-month period before a family's eligibility is redetermined, all families become ineligible for CCAP if their income increases above 85 percent of SMI for their family size. At redetermination, all families become ineligible for CCAP if their family income is above 67 percent of SMI for their family size. Table 2 shows the dollar limits by family size for each of the income eligibility points.

% of	Family Size					
SMI	2	3		Eligibility Criterion		
47%	\$40,156	\$49,605	\$59 <i>,</i> 053	\$68,502	\$77,950	For non-MFIP/DWP families, income must be at or below these amounts to be eligible at application
67%	\$57,244	\$70,713	\$84,182	\$97,651	\$111,120	For MFIP/DWP families, income must be at or below these amounts to be eligible at application For all families, income must be at or below these amounts to remain eligible at redetermination

Table 2: Income Eligibility for CCAP by Family SizeEffective October 2, 2023

¹³ For purposes of CCAP eligibility, "income" is defined at <u>Minnesota Statutes section 142E.01</u>, subdivision 17.

% of			Family Siz			
SMI	2	3	4	Eligibility Criterion		Eligibility Criterion
85%	\$72,623	\$89,711	\$106,798	\$123,886	\$140,973	For all families, if income is ever above these levels the family is ineligible

Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services, Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program Copayment Schedules, DHS-6413J-ENG 10-23.

Notes: "SMI" is state median income. SMI is prepared by the U.S. Census Bureau from the 2017 through 2021 American Community Survey (ACS).

Asset Limits

To be eligible for CCAP, a family's assets cannot exceed \$1,000,000.¹⁴ This asset limit is in effect at application, during the 12-month period before redetermination, and at redetermination.

If a family declares its assets are \$1,000,000 or less, then the family meets the asset limit requirement with no further verification needed. If a family declares assets over \$1,000,000, then the family's assets must be evaluated to determine if their countable assets are more than \$1,000,000. The value of the following are considered countable assets:

- cash held by all family members;
- value of bank accounts held by all family members;
- value of stocks, bonds, pensions, and retirement accounts held by all family members, unless there is a penalty for early withdrawal;
- value of all vehicles beyond one vehicle per family member who is age 16 or older; and
- real property other than the property the family lives on, real property that is homesteaded, and property used for self-employment or self-support.

Families' Benefits and Financial Responsibilities

Benefits

Under CCAP, a family receives a subsidy for child care services. In most cases, the subsidy is paid directly to a child care provider selected by the family. The subsidy amount depends on a variety of factors, including the child's age and disability status, the amount of a family's required copayment, and the cost of child care in the area in which a child receives care. (For more information, see the section, "Payments to Child Care Providers.") A family cannot exceed 120 hours of subsidized care in a two-week period for each eligible child. In addition to receiving a subsidy for child care, a family may also be reimbursed for up to two child care registration fees per year for each eligible child.

¹⁴ The asset limit is in federal law (<u>42 U.S.C. § 9858</u>n(4)). States are allowed to set the asset limit at any amount lower than \$1,000,000.

Benefit duration varies according to subprogram and authorized activity. In general, families may receive MFIP assistance for as long as they participate in MFIP or DWP and engage in authorized activities; however, participation in MFIP is limited to 60 months in a lifetime (with some exceptions). Eligible families may receive 12 consecutive months of transition year assistance when they are no longer MFIP-eligible. After the 12 months, the family can receive a transition year extension for as long as the family remains eligible for assistance and is on a BSF waiting list. Families may receive assistance through the BSF program for eligible children for as long as the family is income-eligible and engaged in an authorized activity, except that student assistance under the BSF program is limited to the amount of time necessary to complete a degree program.

Financial Responsibilities

Families who receive CCAP subsidies are assessed a biweekly copayment. A family's copayment is set for an entire 12-month period at application and then recalculated at redetermination. The amount of the copayment is based on family size and a family's annual gross income. The copayment is \$0 for families with income under 75 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) and then gradually increases to 14 percent of income until the family's income is above 67 percent of SMI and the family is no longer eligible for assistance.¹⁵

If a family selects a child care arrangement that costs more than the subsidy they receive from CCAP, then the family is responsible for any amount over the subsidy, in addition to the family's copayment. Additionally, a family is responsible for the portion of a child care provider's registration fees that exceed the maximum amount allowed for registration fees and any registration fees beyond the two that are reimbursed under state law.

Provider Eligibility and Participation

A child care provider must meet specified requirements to register with CCAP and receive payments. The requirements are met if the provider is licensed by a state or Tribe or is under the jurisdiction of the federal government. As such, both licensed child care centers and licensed family child care providers are eligible to register with and receive CCAP payments.

A child care provider that is allowed to operate without a license in Minnesota (or is licenseexempt) is not automatically eligible to participate in CCAP; rather, a license-exempt provider must show compliance with the specified requirements through certification or registration.¹⁶ A license-exempt child care center, such as a program that provides before and after school care only to school-age children or a public school-based preschool program, must become certified under <u>Minnesota Statutes</u>, <u>chapter 142C</u>, to accept CCAP payments. An individual who only cares for related children, children from a single, unrelated family, or both is exempt from

¹⁵ In 2023, 75 percent of FPL for a family of four was \$22,500. The CCAP copayment schedule is available at <u>https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6413L-ENG</u>.

¹⁶ For a list of entities that are allowed to provide child care in Minnesota without a license, see <u>Minnesota</u> <u>Statutes, section 142B.05</u>, subdivision 2.

licensure in Minnesota but must meet the requirements in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 142E, to register as a legal nonlicensed provider to accept CCAP payments.

Table 3 shows the number of licensed and license-exempt providers that registered as CCAP providers and the number that served children in fiscal year 2023.

Type of Child Care Provider	Number Registered as CCAP Providers	Percent Serving CCAP Recipients
Licensed family child care providers	1,718	59.1%
Licensed child care centers	1,258	74.9%
Certified, license-exempt child care centers	550	70.9%
Legal, nonlicensed child care providers	152	53.9%

Table 3: Child Care Provider Participation in CCAP FY 2023

Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services, Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program State Fiscal Year 2023 Provider Profile, DHS-7819G-ENG 12-23.

Registration as a CCAP provider does not mean the provider serves CCAP families, as shown in Table 2. Family choice, CCAP eligibility among families in a provider's area, and provider availability all affect whether a registered CCAP provider cares for children who are in CCAP. Moreover, not all providers who are eligible to register with CCAP do so. In Minnesota in fiscal year 2023, about 70 percent of licensed child care centers and about 28 percent of licensed family child care providers registered as CCAP providers.

Payments to Child Care Providers

Child care providers that register with CCAP are reimbursed by counties for caring for children who are in CCAP. Statute provides a maximum amount that providers can be reimbursed, regardless of how much the provider charges. The amount is often referred to as the standard maximum reimbursement rate. Statute also allows for increased rates in specified circumstances.

Standard Maximum Reimbursement Rate

The standard maximum reimbursement rate is the greater of the 75th percentile of the 2021 child care market rate survey or the rate in effect at the time of the update. Beginning in January 2025, the rate will be based on the "most recent" survey rather than the 2021 survey (with the most recent survey conducted in 2024).

DCYF is required to conduct a child care market rate survey—a survey of prices charged by child care providers in the state—every three years. The collected data inform the determination of the standard maximum reimbursement rate. In practice, the standard maximum reimbursement rate is not a single rate, but rather many different rates. The rates vary by

county, type of child care provider (licensed family child care or licensed child care center), and the age of the child receiving assistance (infant, toddler, preschool, or school-age).¹⁷ DCYF sets hourly, daily, and weekly reimbursement rates based on these factors. To provide an example of how the rates vary, Table 4 shows the rates for infants and school-age children in two counties for both family child care providers and child care centers.

Age Group	Family	Child Care P	rovider	Child Care Center				
	Hourly	Daily	Weekly	Hourly	Daily	Weekly		
Aitkin County								
Infant	\$5.13	\$40.00	\$185.00	\$4.00	\$38.00	\$180.00		
School-Age	\$5.00	\$35.00	\$150.00	\$3.85	\$35.50	\$130.00		
Anoka County								
Infant	\$5.13	\$40.00	\$185.00	\$18.00	\$221.00	\$427.00		
School-Age	\$5.00	\$35.00	\$150.00	\$14.00	\$110.00	\$310.00		

Table 4: Selected Standard Maximum Reimbursement Rates for CCAPEffective October 30, 2023

Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services, Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program Standard Maximum Rates – No Quality Differential, DHS 6441E-ENG 10-23.

Variations

Statute provides for variations from the standard maximum rates in specified circumstances. One of the variations is for providers who care for children who are in CCAP who have disabilities or special needs. The county in which the provider is located is instructed to set, with DHS approval, a rate based on the child's needs.

Child care providers that meet quality standards qualify for higher rates. Providers that hold specified accreditations can earn a rate differential of 15 percent over the standard maximum reimbursement, up to the actual provider rate. The commissioner of children, youth, and families must annually publish a list of approved accrediting organizations and must reassess approved accreditations every two years. Providers that have 3-star or 4-star Parent Aware ratings can also earn a differential over the standard maximum reimbursement rate.¹⁸ For providers with 3 stars, it is 15 percent, and for providers with 4 stars, it is 20 percent, up to the actual provider rate.

¹⁷ Certified, license-exempt child care centers receive the same rate as child care centers. Legal, nonlicensed family child care providers receive 90 percent of the maximum hourly rate for licensed family child care providers in the same county.

¹⁸ Parent Aware is the state's quality rating and improvement system for child care providers. For more information, see the House Research publication, *Parent Aware*, August 2023 https://www.house.mn.gov/hrd/pubs/ss/ssparentaware.pdf.

Registration Fees

CCAP will pay for an eligible child's registration fee, if a child care provider charges one, up to a maximum amount set in statute. The maximum amount is the greater of the 75th percentile of the 2021 child care provider survey or the registration fee in effect at the time of update. Like the standard maximum reimbursement rate, beginning January 2025, the amount will be based on the "most recent" survey rather than the 2021 survey.

Expenditures

Most of the funding for CCAP is spent on payments to providers who care for children in CCAP (this is often referred to as spending on "direct services").¹⁹ Total projected spending on direct services for CCAP was about \$237 million in fiscal year 2023 and is expected to increase to \$506 million in fiscal year 2026. Figure 1 shows the federal, state, and county contributions to actual and projected CCAP spending on direct services in fiscal years 2023 to 2026. Over this period, federal spending is expected to increase slightly from about \$183 million in fiscal year 2023 to a projected \$205 million in fiscal year 2026. State spending is expected to increase more dramatically, from \$51 million in fiscal year 2023 to a projected \$298 million in fiscal year 2026, which is largely due to increasing the rates paid to child care providers under the program. County spending is set to remain the same, at \$2.9 million each fiscal year.

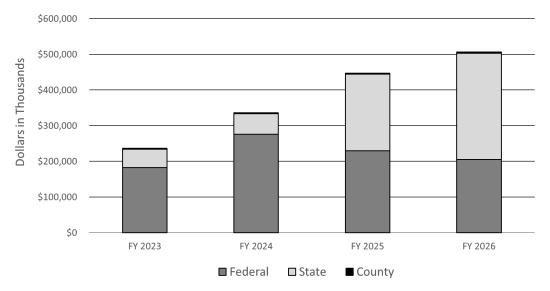


Figure 1: CCAP Spending on Direct Services, by Funding Source FY 2023-2026

Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services, Background Data Tables for February 2024 Forecast. **Notes:** The figure shows actual spending for FY 2023 and projected spending for FY 2024-2026. The required county contributions are for the BSF program, but this figure shows the county contribution as a share of all spending on direct services, not just in the BSF program.

¹⁹ According to data for fiscal year 2023, about 95 percent of total CCAP funding (from all sources) was spent on direct services, with the remaining funding spent on quality initiatives and administration. See Minnesota Department of Human Services, Background Data Tables for February 2024 Forecast.

Funding Sources

CCAP is funded with federal, state, and county dollars.

Federal Sources

The multiple federal funding streams for child care subsidies, collectively referred to as the CCDF, must be used by states in accordance with federal law and regulations. The discretionary funding stream is typically the largest share of each state's federal funding for child care subsidies.²⁰

- Discretionary funds. These amounts are authorized under the CCDBG Act and are subject to the federal annual appropriation process. The appropriated amount is allocated among states using a formula that takes into account: (1) each state's share of children under five years of age; (2) a state's share of children receiving free or reducedprice lunches; and (3) state per capita income.
- Mandatory funds. These amounts are appropriated under section 418 of the Social Security Act. Each state receives a fixed amount that is equal to the greater of the state's share of federal child care expenditures for federal fiscal years 1994 or 1995, or the average of the federal child care expenditures for federal fiscal years 1992 through 1994. (Federal fiscal year 1995 is the base year for Minnesota's mandatory funds.)
- Matching funds. These amounts are appropriated under section 418 of the Social Security Act. Each state receives an allocation from the money available after the mandatory money has been awarded; this allocation is based on the state's share of children under 13 years of age. To be eligible for matching funds, a state must first spend the maintenance of effort that is equal to the state's own spending for base year child care (which is 1995 in Minnesota). State expenditures above the maintenance of effort level are matched at the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) up to a state's maximum allocation for that year.

Additionally, a state is allowed, but not required, to transfer up to 30 percent of its Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) grant to the CCDF to be used for child care subsidies in the state.

State and County Sources

State funding for CCAP is built into the state's base budget. State funding for MFIP assistance (including transition year and transition year extension assistance) is an uncapped, forecasted appropriation from the general fund. State funding for BSF assistance is also appropriated from the general fund, but it is a capped appropriation that is not forecast. Each budget cycle, the legislature and the governor must enact a level of funding for BSF assistance that maintains, increases, or decreases funding for BSF assistance.

²⁰ Grant year 2024 CCDF funding allocations by state are available at <u>https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/data/gy-2024-</u> <u>ccdf-allocations-based-appropriations</u>.

Counties are required to annually contribute a fixed amount to the BSF program that is based on a county's required contribution for the program in calendar year 1996. Statewide, the required contribution collected from counties is about \$2.9 million each fiscal year. Counties may also choose to contribute more than the minimum requirement.

About This Series

Public Assistance Programs is a series of publications that describe state and federal programs that provide assistance in the form of healthcare, income, food, housing, and child care. Each work in the series describes an individual program.

Current works in this series include:

- Overview of Public Assistance Programs
- General Assistance (GA)
- Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medical Assistance (MA)
- MinnesotaCare
- Subsidized health coverage through MNsure
- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- Food Support
- Housing Support

Please see the health and human services area of the House Research website for more information about these programs and related topics.

Earlier Versions

Information in the series was originally published as the *Minnesota Family Assistance: A Guide* to *Public Programs Providing Assistance to Minnesota Families*, which was a comprehensive guide to these programs.



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