

This is a message from the Division of Policy

Title: Enrollment Stabilization for Food Stamp (FS) Child Care

Date: September 28, 2007

Priority: High

Category: Informational

Action Required: No

Response Required: No

Purpose:

The purpose of this e-mail is to advise Child Care Information Services (CCIS) agencies that enrollment stabilization hours for FS child care has been increased from 20 to 30 hours per week.

Discussion:

Some CCIS agencies have expressed concern about the number of enrollment stabilization hours for FS cases. Many of their FS families are engaged in an unpaid activity for more than 20 hours per week. Currently this requires the CCIS to contact the County Assistance Office (CAO) for confirmation that the parent needs more hours of care. This is cumbersome and time consuming for both the CCIS and the CAO. Additionally, many families receiving FS child care need full-time care five days a week in order to address their travel needs to and from the activity.

Procedure:

Families receiving FS child care are eligible to receive up to 30 hours of child care per week while attending unpaid activities. CCIS agencies should discuss the number of hours needed with the parent. Parents may self-certify the days and hours of care up to 30 hours. As always, the CCIS may give less care if the parent indicates a need for fewer than 30 hours. If the parent needs more than 30 hours the CCIS should receive verification of the need for additional hours through an update from CIS, a revised Employment Development Plan (EDP) or a collateral contact with the CAO worker.

EXCEPTION: If the parent needs more than 30 hours solely due to travel to and from an activity, the CCIS may increase the hours and note it in case comments in CCMIS.

Next Steps:

1. Share this information with appropriate staff

2. Contact your Subsidy Coordinator with questions

OBSOLETE