

SOLVING PROBLEMS

- Work with the Resource and Referral Center to help find child care.
- Can't find child care? You have "good cause" not to make your appointment or do your welfare to work task. **Make sure you tell your worker. Put it in writing.**
- If you have a newborn, you may be "exempt" from doing welfare to work. See *Exemption brochure*.
- You can get child care when volunteering to do welfare-to-work.
- Can't fix the problem? **Ask for a hearing!**
 - √ If you are in Stage 1, fill out the back of any CalWORKs Notice of Action, or call 800-952-5253.
 - √ For other stages, ask the agency running the program for a hearing.



Call Legal Services

CalWORKs

Making it Work for You

CalWORKs Childcare

Getting Help Paying
for Your Child Care



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CALWORKS CHILD CARE

What is CalWORKs Child Care?

Payments through the CalWORKs program for those in welfare-to-work or work, and former recipients in training or working.



When Do I Get It?

- You are doing a welfare-to-work appointment or assignment.
- If you are working and getting cash aid, even if you found your job without help from the county.
- If you got CalWORKs aid in the last two years.

For What Age Children?

- Children 10 or under.
- If there is funding, CalWORKs will cover children who are 11 or 12.
- Children of *any age* who can't stay alone because of a physical,

You can get child care for children *not* on CalWORKs themselves, such as children on SSI.



mental, or developmental disability.

What Child Care is Covered?

You can pick the type of child care you want:

- Child care in the provider's home. This person may be a licensed family child care provider. If caring for the children of only one family, however, the provider does not need a license.
- Child care in your own home. *The child care person does not need a license.* It could be a relative, neighbor, or friend.
- Child care in the provider's home. *This person does not need a license* if caring for the children of only one family.
- Care in a licensed child care center.

WHEN CAN'T I GET IT?

You can't get paid to care for your own children. Also, other adults on *your* grant and people who don't clear "Trustline" can't get paid to do the care.

IS IT FREE?

- If you are getting CalWORKs aid, there is no charge *unless* you choose child care that is more expensive than what the state will cover for free.
- Once you're off cash aid, you'll have to begin to pay a "family fee" (share of cost) as your income increases.



HOW IS IT PAID?

Usually, to the child care provider. If care is done in your home, the county may give *you* the money to pay the worker. CalWORKs should pay up front if that is how the person runs their business.

Stages of Child Care

You should not notice moving between the stages. It's important to know about them, though, in case you have problems.

Stage 1

- This is for families in welfare-to-work activities that are not stable.
- It's also used for up to two years after you stop getting CalWORKs, if the other stages of child care can't be used.
- The welfare department either runs this stage or contracts with "Alternative Payment Programs." or families that are in stable welfare-to-work activities.
- It's also used for up to two years after you stop getting CalWORKs, *if your* income is

In Stage 2 & 3, the Department of Education is in charge, but locally the program is run by Alternative Payment Programs or the welfare department.