

I. CHAPTER OVERVIEW

Families who are income eligible for child care services are required to pay a portion of the cost of child care through parental fees. This chapter describes who must pay a parental fee, how parental fees are assessed and special circumstances that may affect parental fees.

II. WHEN PARENTAL FEES ARE NOT ASSESSED

[Parental fees](#) are not assessed for child care services when one of the following apply:

- A. Child care services are provided in conjunction with a child protective services plan to enable the child to remain in his/her own home;**
- B. Services are needed to support child welfare services as described in [Chapter 5: Establishing Need and a Plan of Care](#);**
- C. Children who are receiving foster care services and need child care services. The foster children must be in the custody of the county department of social services and**
 - 1. Residing in a licensed foster care home, or
 - 2. Placed with an adult other than their parents.

NOTE: If a child returns home and is no longer in the custody of the department of social services, the parent's income must be considered to determine eligibility for services.

- D. Children with no income who reside in the home of an adult other than their parents. For example, a child who resides in the home of someone other than their biological or adoptive parent would be considered a family unit of one, and there is no parental fee required for child care services if there is no countable income available to the child.**

III. WHEN PARENTAL FEES ARE ASSESSED

- A. When a family is deemed income eligible through Food and Nutrition Services (FNS), the parent fee is calculated from the verified gross monthly countable income.**
- B. All families who are eligible for child care services based on their countable income will be charged a parental fee for a portion of the cost of child care services.**