
Care 4 Kids Program

POLICY TRANSMITTAL



DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES-CHILD CARE TEAM

Transmittal Number: C4K-POL-11-01

Date: March 21, 2011

To: Sherri Sutera, Program Director
Care 4 Kids Program

From: Claudette J. Beaulieu, Deputy Commissioner of Programs
Department of Social Services

CC: Policy Distribution List

Subject: **Public Act 10-61 - Eligibility Period Change**

Program Issue: This transmittal implements provisions of Section 1(d) of Public Act (PA) 10-61, which increases the program eligibility period to eight months. In compliance with PA 10-61, redeterminations shall be conducted at eight-month intervals.

Background: In accordance with Section 17b-749 of the Connecticut General Statutes, DSS has established and operates the child care subsidy program, Care 4 Kids. Historically, families were granted program eligibility for six months and eligibility was redetermined at six-month intervals. PA 10-61 mandates that the program eligibility period be set at eight months, provided the family's circumstances have not changed so as to render the family ineligible for program benefits, and that eligibility determinations shall not be conducted more than one time per eight-month period.

Implementation: Several program rules contained in section 17b-749 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are dependent on the length of the program eligibility period and redetermination cycle. Effective January 1, 2011, the following changes shall be implemented:

- After eight months, the taxable earnings from the self-employment activity of each self-employed family member shall equal or exceed the state minimum wage times the number of hours the family member purports to be working in the self-employment activity on a continual basis. [Reference 17b-749-04(f)]
- If income is expected to change, there is new employment or the work schedules are changing or variable, gross income shall be calculated based on the best estimate of the income that the family is expected to receive over the next eight months. [Reference 17b-749-05(d)(3)]
- For applicants, eligibility shall be approved for a period of not less than eight months from the date the applicant is determined eligible unless there are changes that make the applicant ineligible. Redeterminations shall be scheduled at eight-month intervals. [Reference 17b-749-09(g)(4)]
- After the initial certificate on a newly granted case, the payment authorization period shall not exceed eight months for any individual certificate, [Reference 17b-749-14(b)(1)]
- Among other stipulations and except for the initial certificate on a newly granted case, payment eligibility shall end eight calendar months from the start of the payment authorization period but not later than the last day of the month of the scheduled redetermination, provided the family remains eligible. [Reference 17b-749-14(c)(4)(C)]
- Eligibility shall be redetermined at eight-month intervals. [Reference 17b-749-18(b)(1)]

Department of Social Services, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5033

Connecticut's Lead Agency for Child Care Services

CJB:te