

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, stepparents, or their nonparent relative caretaker.** A child who resides in the home of someone other than their biological or adoptive parent or nonparent relative caretaker 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.**