



RICHLAND COUNTY
JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

Understanding Publicly Funded Child Care

Overview:

- ▶ Publicly funded child care is provided to assist eligible parents and caretakers with the cost of child care while they work, attend school, or take part in job training.
- ▶ Homeless and protective child care are services to assist in the care and protection of children.

Income Eligibility Standards:

- ▶ In addition to work, education, or job training requirements, parents/caretakers seeking assistance with child care costs must meet certain income requirements.
- ▶ Applicants for child care assistance must be at or below 145% of the federal poverty level, or higher if the parent of a child with special needs, at initial application. Once a parent/caretaker is eligible for child care and continues to reapply at annual redetermination dates, the parent's/caretaker's income may increase to up to 300% of the federal poverty level to remain eligible.
- ▶ The parent/caretaker will be responsible to pay a co-payment to the child care provider as part of eligibility for the child care assistance. The co-payment is based on the parent's/caretaker's income and may increase as the parent's/caretaker's income increases at annual redetermination dates.

Income/Co-payment Example

Income Copayment Example					
Family Size	2023 Federal Poverty Level (100% Annualy)	Maximum Monthly Income Limit for Initial Eligibility (145%)	Low End	High End	Weekly Copayment
2	\$19,720.00	\$2,384.00	\$2,302.00	\$2,383.00	\$47.32
3	\$24,860.00	\$3,005.00	\$2,902.00	\$3,004.00	\$59.55

For more detailed information on income and copayments click
here -> [2023-2024 Copay Desk Aid](#)

How to Apply:

- ▶ A parent/caretaker may apply for child care assistance in one of three ways:
 - ▶ Apply online - <https://benefits.ohio.gov>
 - ▶ Apply in person at Richland County Job & Family Services
 - ▶ Complete a paper application and submit it to Richland County Job & Family Services
- ▶ A parent/caretaker will need to provide the following information when applying:
 - ▶ Details about the household
 - ▶ Income verification (pay stubs, etc.)
 - ▶ Verification of work schedule, school schedule, or an approved activity
 - ▶ Name and address of child care provider (if one has been selected)
 - ▶ Birth certificates for all children who need care

TAP - Time, Attendance & Payment:

- ▶ TAP is the automated child care system used to record attendance for publicly funded child care. Attendance is recorded for the child as he/she arrives and leaves the child care provider's location.
- ▶ Families may set up an account for the TAP system ([KinderConnect](#)).
- ▶ Setting up an account allows the family to view:
 - ▶ Authorization information
 - ▶ Recorded attendance
 - ▶ Attendance transactions
 - ▶ Receive messages from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

Contact Information

Richland County Job & Family Services

171 Park Ave East

Mansfield, OH 44902

Phone: 419-774-5400

Fax: 419-774-0051

Child Care Email: Richland_Childcare@jfs.ohio.gov

Website: www.rcjfs.net/get-help/child-care-services