



Publicly Funded Child Care 101 for Providers

Updated March 2022

UNDERSTANDING PUBLICLY FUNDED CHILD CARE

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) provides Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) to help eligible parents and caretakers with the cost of child care while they work, attend school, or take part in job training. Protective child care is publicly funded child care services provided to assist in the care and protection of a child.

THE PFCC PAYMENT PROCESS

ODJFS has an automated system called Time, Attendance and Payment (TAP), which families eligible for PFCC benefits are required to use to record their children’s attendance. Child care programs are also required to use TAP to submit attendance recorded by an authorized child’s parent/caretaker/sponsor to generate the PFCC payment.

Child care programs can choose to have all the families receiving care at their program use TAP to record children’s attendance. However, the attendance tracked in TAP does not meet or replace the attendance records required by ODJFS licensing rules.

Information and instructions for using TAP can be found at the TAP [website](#). Visit the New Programs [page](#) if you are new to TAP. Click [here](#) for some PFCC pointers for recording attendance.

WHO CAN PROVIDE PFCC SERVICES?

ODJFS licensed programs:

- Child Care Centers
- Family Child Care homes
- Certified In-Home Aides
- Approved Day Camps

Ohio Department of Education (ODE) licensed programs:

- Preschool Programs
- School-Age Programs



SERVING PFCC ELIGIBLE FAMILIES

Prior to caring for children eligible for PFCC, providers must complete and submit the following: provider agreement, rate information, bank information, and IRS form W-9.

Detailed instructions for completing this entire process are available here on the ODJFS website under “OCLQS PFCC Agreement and Financials Job Aids.” Once a child care program has signed and submitted an ODJFS Provider Agreement, children of families eligible for PFCC benefits may be authorized to the program’s care. For assistance with the provider portal, contact the ODJFS Child Care Help Desk at (877) 302-2347, Option 1, or CCIDS_Business_Unit@jfs.ohio.gov.

All PFCC programs must be [Step Up To Quality \(SUTQ\)](#) rated unless they meet an [exemption](#).

SUTQ is a five-star quality rating and improvement program administered by the Ohio Department of Education and ODJFS. SUTQ uses quality program standards to promote children’s learning and development. Information about SUTQ and the rating application process can be found at [Information for Providers](#).

If you think a family at your child care program may meet the income and activity requirements for the PFCC program, you can direct them to [Ohio Benefits](#), where they may apply online or print a paper application that can be mailed, faxed, or dropped off at their county JFS agency.

Our [Families Page](#) has a lot of child care information and resources to share.