

Policy Transmittal Office of Self-Sufficiency Programs



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Business Manager

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Number: SS-PT-20-020
Issue date: 09/15/2020

Topic: Child Care

Due date: 9/15/2020

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):

- New policy
 Policy change
 Policy clarification
 Executive letter
 Administrative Rule
 Manual update
 Other:

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type} | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self-Sufficiency Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Intensive In Home Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Residential Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Direct Pay Unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Policy/rule title:	Temporary ERDC eligibility change, distance learning during COVID-19 pandemic		
Policy/rule number(s):	461-135-0440 Temporary Policies for Child Care Benefit Eligibility and Payment (ERDC and TANF); COVID-19	Release number:	
Effective date:	9/1/2020	Expiration date:	Until further notice
References:			
Web address:	https://apps.state.or.us/cf1/caf/arm/A/461-135-0440.htm		

Discussion/interpretation:

School age children **can be approved for ERDC** while children are participating in distance learning due to COVID-19 related concerns or school closure.

ODHS Child Care Policy is clarifying rules around child care need since many children are not attending in-person schooling this fall. While in other situations, such as home schooling, children would not be eligible for child care benefits while free care is available, ODHS understands that many parents may need to work – this can include working from home or out of the home – during the state of emergency.

Providers **can bill** ODHS for helping children with distance learning. For example, a provider may help a child to log in online, contact a teacher, develop schedules to support a child's distance learning and assist with completion of school work.

Providers **may not bill** ODHS for academic instruction, such as tutoring or for the cost of tuition; they may only bill for hours of child care provided. Any additional costs charged by the provider for these services (teaching, tutoring, etc.) must be billed separately to the parent.

Implementation/transition instructions:

Continue to approve child care benefits and staff situations as needed with ODHS Child Care Policy.

For JOBS child care, plans should be set up to support families while also considering availability of care. If plan hours can be set during non-school hours to allow parents to care for their children, this should be done, however in situations where this is not possible (such as WO steps where their work schedule overlaps with school hours), child care hours may be authorized. For questions or additional clarification, please contact [TANF Policy](#).

Training/communication plan:

Guidance is being shared with partners, stakeholders, families and providers in early September.

The ODHS [Child Care Assistance website](#) will be updated as needed.

Local/branch action required:

Refer all billing questions from families and child care providers to DPU at 1-800-699-9074. Staff should email policy questions to ChildCare.Policy@dhsosha.state.or.us.

Central office action required:

This transmittal has been sent to Self-Sufficiency Programs' staff for review with branch and district leadership. A temporary rule was adopted effective September 1, 2020 with amendments being adopted as needed.

Field/stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by:

Filing instructions:

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

Contact(s): Child Care Policy	
Phone:	Fax:
Email: ChildCare.Policy@dhsosha.state.or.us	