

Policy Transmittal Office of Self-Sufficiency Programs



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Number: SS-PT-21-018

Issue date: 08/16/2021

Updated: 09/16/2021

Topic: Child Care

Due date: 09/16/2021

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: Type B | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" 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"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Direct Pay Unit, Overpayment Writing Unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Residential Services | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Policy/rule title:	ERDC Copay Restructure		
Policy/rule number(s):	OAR 461-155-0150 Child Care Eligibility Standard, Payment Rates, and Copayments	Release number:	
Effective date:	10/01/2021	Expiration date:	N/A
References:			
Web address:	https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/caf/arm/B/461-155-0150.htm		

Update: There have been corrections made to the previously issued transmittal, they are highlighted below.

Discussion/interpretation:

ERDC Copay Restructure:

The Child Care Policy team is excited to share that starting October 1, 2021, a new copay structure will be in place and families will see significantly lower copays than previously applied prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a reminder, the final month of \$0 copay for new ERDC applicants will be September 2021. Families who apply for ERDC before September 30, 2021 and whose ERDC benefits begin before 9/30/21 will qualify for a \$0 copay for their full ERDC certification period. Families with certifications or recertifications beginning October 1, 2021 or later, will be assigned a copay from the new structure. **Families that are enrolled in Early Head Start or a contracted Head Start slot will receive a \$0 copay.**

What you need to know about the new copay structure:

- The average family copay will be \$16 per month.
- Families under 100% of federal poverty level (FPL) will have a \$0 copay.
- The highest family copay will be \$130 per month (for recertifying families of five or more with income over 225% FPL).
- If families are eligible for Reduced Copay (RCP), this has been lowered to \$0 for the first three months following a family's TANF case closure.

For comparison, under the copay structure in place before COVID-19, the average family copay was \$272 per month and the highest family copays were over \$1,200 a month.

The following charts show the new copay amounts based on gross monthly income for each household size:

EDG size of 2	
Countable monthly income:	Copay:
\$0 - \$1452.99	\$0
\$1453 - \$2178.99	\$5
\$2179 - \$2904.99	\$10
\$2905 - \$3267.99	\$40
\$3268 - \$4293	\$100

EDG size of 3	
Countable monthly income:	Copay:
\$0 - \$1,830.99	\$0
\$1831 - \$2745.99	\$5
\$2746 - \$3203.99	\$10
\$3204 - \$3660.99	\$15
\$3661 - \$4118.99	\$50
\$4119 - \$5303	\$110

EDG size of 4	
Countable monthly income:	Copay:
\$0 - \$2209.99	\$0
\$2210 - \$3313.99	\$5
\$3314 - \$3865.99	\$10
\$3866 - \$4417.99	\$20
\$4418 - \$4969.99	\$60
\$4970 - \$6313	\$120

EDG size of 5	
Countable monthly income:	Copay:
\$0 - \$2587.99	\$0
\$2588 - \$3881.99	\$5
\$3882 - \$4527.99	\$10
\$4528 - \$5174.99	\$25
\$5175 - \$5821.99	\$70
\$5822 - \$7323	\$130

EDG size of 6	
Countable monthly income:	Copay:
\$0 - \$2965.99	\$0
\$2966 - \$4448.99	\$5
\$4449 - \$5189.99	\$10
\$5190 - \$5930.99	\$25
\$5931 - \$6671.99	\$70
\$6672 - \$8333	\$130

EDG size of 7	
Countable monthly income:	Copay:
\$0 - \$3344.99	\$0
\$3345 - \$5015.99	\$5
\$5016 - \$5851.99	\$10
\$5852 - \$6687.99	\$25
\$6688 - \$7523.99	\$70
\$7524 - \$8522	\$130

EDG size of 8 or more	
Countable monthly income:	Copay:
\$0 - \$3722.99	\$0
\$3723 - \$5583.99	\$5
\$5584 - \$6514.99	\$10
\$6515 - \$7443	\$25
\$7444 - \$8375.99	\$70
\$8376 - \$9305	\$130

Implementation/transition instructions: Families applying or recertifying for October ERDC benefits will receive the new lower copay amounts. Families who are already receiving ERDC benefits and qualified for a \$0 copay, will continue to receive the \$0 copay through the end of their certification period.

Important: Due to system implementation delays the following guidance is being

provided until the ONE system is updated with the new copay structure.

Any applications or renewals processed *between August 16, 2021 and September 15, 2021* for benefits effective October 1, 2021:

ONE will authorize and send an eligibility notice with an **incorrect copay** amount. The ONE system will begin sending correct copay notices, with the new lower copay amounts effective September 16, 2021.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

When you run eligibility, inform the family of their correct copay amount beginning October 2021 based on the charts above. Deloitte will re-process the cases impacted, so correct copay amounts will be reflected in ONE. Families affected will receive a new notice stating the corrected copay. No further action will need to be taken by staff. Direct Pay Unit will send corrected billing vouchers if needed.

The copay calculator and ERDC website will be updated as soon as possible for staff and families to access the above charts. When advising families of their correct copay amounts, **do not** use the copay calculator online until it is updated as this is not reflective of the new copay restructure. Please refer to the charts in this transmittal.

Training/communication plan: Do not encourage families to transition off TANF benefits early in order to lock in the \$0 copay. It is important to have a conversation with a family to go over their circumstances and explain their options. It should be the family's decision to choose to remain on TANF if eligible or transition onto ERDC if eligible. If families are eligible for Reduced Copay (RCP), this has been lowered to \$0 for the first three months following a family's TANF case closure.

August's Coffee Chat with Child Care will focus on the new copay restructure, as well as provide guidance and direction for staff. [Please join us at 8:30 a.m. on Aug. 24, 2021.](#)

Local/branch action required: N/A

Central office action required: Oregon Administrative Rule 461-155-0150 is being amended to reflect the new copay structure. Reports are being reviewed by Central Office. Communication is being sent to stakeholders, providers, and parents.

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	