

# Child Care Assistance in New Mexico

## CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE

- Helps parents and/or legal guardians pay for child care while they are working or attending school.
- Children must be 6 weeks -13 years of age and U.S. citizens or eligible immigrants. There are no immigration requirements for parents/ guardians.
- Families participating in the TANF program are automatically eligible.
- Apply in person, mail, phone or fax at a local CYFD office. Call CYFD at (505) 827-7499 or 1-800-832-1321 for more information.



## HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Families must meet the household income limits below to be eligible for assistance:

# in household	Max. monthly income to be approved.	Max. to remain eligible
2	\$2,030	\$2,707
3	\$2,553	\$3,403
4	\$3,075	\$4,100
5	\$3,598	\$4,797
6	\$4,120	\$5,493
7	\$4,643	\$6,190
8	\$5,165	\$6,887

## ASK FOR A FAIR HEARING IF YOU ARE DENIED OR DISAGREE WITH A DECISION IN YOUR CASE

**Ask for a Fair Hearing** in writing at a CYFD office. Use a blank piece of paper or ask for a form and get a receipt when you turn it in. NM Center on Law and Poverty has forms you can use.

**Contact NM Center on Law and Poverty at (505) 255-2840 for more information.**

## PARTICIPANT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- CYFD must give you a written decision on your application within 10 days of you turning in all required paperwork.
- Once you are approved for assistance, your family remains eligible for 12 full months.
- If you experience any of the following changes, you must report them **within 5 days**. These changes may affect your eligibility to continue receiving assistance:
  - If you stop working or going to school or reduce your hours for three months or more;
  - If a parent, stepparent or legal guardian becomes available to provide care;
  - If someone leaves or joins your household;
  - If your income increases above the maximum monthly amount (see chart).

## CHILD SUPPORT COOPERATION

- Families participating in the Child Care Assistance Program must enforce child support against an absent parent.
- Families do NOT have to enforce child support if it is not in the best interests of the child. This includes situations where the family is experiencing domestic violence.
- Submit a request for an exemption in writing to CYFD.