

# Child Care Assistance Update

October 18, 2022

We are excited to announce that the New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS) is now accepting applications for child care vouchers for families citywide! You are receiving this email because you expressed interest in receiving assistance paying for child care and provided your contact information through our Child Care Contact Link. If you are still interested, review the eligibility criteria, and if you think you may be eligible, you can apply today!

## **What is a child care voucher?**

Child care vouchers are a government funded resource available to eligible families to help cover the cost of child care for children ages 6 weeks to 13 years old. Children with disabilities are also covered up to age 19. There are hundreds of home-based and center-based providers that accept childcare vouchers across NYC, who offer child care services in safe and positive learning environments.

## **How do I know if I am eligible?**

To be eligible for a child care assistance, you must meet all the eligibility criteria below. Eligibility is based on your family size, residency, income, and reason for care. It is verified using the documentation you submit with your application. If you're unsure whether you're eligible, [take this short survey](#) to see if you might be!

### **1. One or more of the following statements is true for you right now. For a two-parent household, one or more must be true for both parents:**

- I am working a minimum of 10 hours per week at minimum wage (\$15) or above
- I am participating in an approved educational/vocational training activity
- I am looking for work
- I am experiencing homelessness (this could include living in temporary housing, such as with friends or relatives)
- I am receiving services in response to domestic violence
- I am attending a 4-year college

### **2. Your household income is at or below the annual eligibility cap, as detailed below.**

A "family" for this purpose includes a parent or parents (or legal guardians) and children under age 18 years old. If other family members also live in your household, they shouldn't be counted toward family size and their income shouldn't be included.

### **3. Your children have an eligible immigration status.**

Any child that needs care must have an eligible immigration status – for example, they are a United States citizen, have a green card, or are a refugee or asylee. The application does not require parents to give any information about their own immigration status – just their child's.

#### **Who should not fill out a new application?**

- If you are currently receiving cash assistance through HRA, you should not fill out this application. Instead, contact your Benefits Access Center to see if you are eligible for child care through your cash assistance case.
- If your family has already been found eligible for subsidized child care (for example – another child in your family has a child care voucher or is enrolled in EarlyLearn), you should not fill out this application. Instead, please contact our Call Center to add a new child to your case and determine best next steps.
- If you are already receiving subsidized child care through ACS, DOE, or HRA, you do not need to complete this application again.

#### **Who should fill out a new application?**

If you are in need of child care services, meet the criteria above, and none of the exceptions apply to you, you can apply today!

#### **Please follow these steps to apply for a child care voucher:**

**1. Complete the Application for Child Care Assistance (CFWB-012), which can be found [here](#) along with step-by-step instructions. Any additional forms you need to complete can be [found here](#).**

**2. Gather the required documents listed on the Child Care Assistance New Application Submission Checklist, which is included in application packet after the application and instructions.**

**3. Mail your completed Application and all required documentation to: NYC Children – EDU, PO Box 40, Maplewood, NJ 07040**

#### **Have questions? We are here to help.**

Please call the ACS Call Center at 212-835-7610. We are available Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:30pm.

**You may be found ineligible if you submit an incomplete application. Check your application to make sure you haven't missed any steps or left out any required documents.**

**Need help?** Please call the ACS Call Center at 212-835-7610, Mon-Fri 8:30am-5:30pm