

TANF CHILD CARE ELIGIBILITY & COORDINATION

CHILD CARE 3 - 1

OPA, Pathways, CCR&R Coordination

Supersedes: Child Care 3-1 (7/7/2018)

References: 52-2-701 – 704 & 52-2-711 – 713 MCA
Sections 37.80.101-103, 37.80.201-202, 37.80.205-206, 37.80.301
302, 37.80.305-306, 37.80.315-316, 37.80.501 ARM
45 CFR Part 98.20 – 47

General Rule

Parents participating in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families [TANF] Cash Assistance program administered by the State of Montana contact their Pathways Case Manager to arrange for a Best Beginnings Child Care Scholarship for Pathways Employability/Service Plan activity that require child care. The Pathways Case Manager makes an electronic referral to the Child Care Resource & Referral [CCR&R] agency.

The Best Beginnings Child Care Scholarship may begin on the date the CCR&R receives the electronic referral form. The parent then has 30 calendar days from the date of the Pathways referral to submit a completed application to the CCR&R agency. If an application is not submitted within 30 calendar days, the case will be closed.

TANF Families must use providers listed in 37.80.101(2). Each family has a monthly copayment listed in ARM 37.80.202.

An Eligibility Renewal Reminder Notification is sent to the TANF family 45 days from the end of the eligibility period.

TANF Families Require Affordable, Appropriate, Suitable Care Within a Reasonable Distance

CCR&Rs, in conjunction with the Pathways Case Manager, shall inform the families participating in the TANF Cash Assistance program that they are exempt from penalties for non-participation in required activities if they need child care and cannot find child care for children under age six that is appropriate, affordable, suitable, and within a reasonable distance.

See Policy Section 1-3 for definitions of the following terms: Affordable Child Care, Appropriate Child Care, Reasonable Distance, and, Unsuitable Informal Care.