

DCFS Child Care Program



The DCFS Child Care Program (ages 0-13 yrs old) :

♦ **Is available to parents, relative caregivers and resource parents with children under DCFS supervision (open cases include FFA,FFH,NREFM, Minor Parents & SILP)**

- ♦ Makes care available to children who have been assessed to be at potential risk for abuse and/or neglect;
- ♦ Provides care to children who are with their parents, in placement with relatives, or in foster care;
- ♦ Strives to ensure child safety and placement stabilization; and,
- ♦ Provides an important safety net for children who are at risk of abuse and/or neglect.

Length of the DCFS Child Care Program:

- ♦ Care may be approved for up to two (2) year at a time [if eligible] for parents, relative caregivers, and resource parents.
- ♦ A new request must be completed by the case carrying Children's Social Worker (CSW) every 24 months and submitted to the Child Care Program staff at the DCFS Regional Office.
 - If the case is open beyond 24 months, a new referral must be completed by the CSW prior to the termination date to recertify the parent, relative caregiver or resource parent.
 - Childcare will continue to be provided as long as the case remains open. **Please note, when the case is closed (Reunification, KinGap, Adoption, or Legal Guardianship), childcare will continue to be provided only through the end date of the certification period; however, services will NOT be recertified after the end of the certification period.**

Application Process:

1. The CSW completes the electronic DCFS 324 childcare referral that is accessible on the Referral Portal found on LAKids.
2. DCFS 324 Form is submitted electronically via the Portal to the Child Care Program staff in the DCFS Regional Office for processing.
 - The DCFS 324 must include the name of the licensed childcare provider selected by the parent, relative caregiver or resource parent, **the child care schedule, which is the days, drop off and pick-up time of the child, can not exceed 50 hrs. per week.** The licensed childcare provider must be located in Los Angeles County.
3. Child Care Program staff schedules an in-person interview with the parent, relative caregiver or resource parent.
4. Child Care Program staff checks that all eligibility requirements are met.
5. Parent, relative caregiver or resource parent is issued the authorization for subsidized childcare.

DCFS Child Care Program • 12440 E. Imperial Highway • Fifth Floor, Room 529 • Norwalk, Ca 90650



Contact the Child Care Specialist in each DCFS Office for further assistance.