

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



VISION

Orange County students will lead the nation in college and career readiness and success.

MISSION

To ensure that all students are equipped with the competencies they need to thrive in the 21st century.

OCDE is a public education organization offering support to 27 school districts and more than 600 schools and 20,000 educators serving more than 500,000 students in Orange County

OCDE's personnel offer support, professional development, and student programs through its divisions and departments: Administrative Services, Alternative Education, Business Services, Career and Technical Education, Information Technology, Legal Services, and Educational Services.

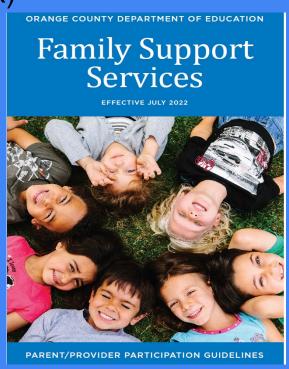
VALUES

OCDE is dedicated to the fundamental human values of respect, responsibility, integrity, and professional ethics. Our priority is service to students, schools, districts, families, and community members. We provide a safe, caring, courteous, and professional environment that fosters collaborative work and individual development for our employees. We hold ourselves and each other accountable for the highest level of performance, efficiency, resource management, and professionalism.

FAMILY PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES (Handbook)

OCDE Family Support Services handbook is available to all families, components include:

- Part 1: INTRODUCTION
- PART 2: PARENT GUIDELINES
- PART 3: PROVIDER PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES
- PART 4: DOCUMENTING CHILD'S ATTENDANCE
- PART 5: GRIEVANCE AND COMPLAINTS
- PART 6: RESOURCES



FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

The Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) Family Support Services (FSS) program helps subsidize child care payments for eligible families in Orange County. The program is funded by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), Child Care and Development Division (CCDD). Subsidized child care is provided via contracts established between OCDE Family Support and a child care provider who is an independent contractor selected by the parent.

OCDE FSS encourages families to carefully select a child care provider. Families may choose licensed family day care homes, license-exempt providers, center programs, or school districts. Parents are encouraged to select a child care setting that best reflects their parental and cultural values, meeting the individual needs of the family.

FSS MISSION GOALS

- We support families in choosing quality child care in order to facilitate the learning, growth and development of their children.
- We provide subsidized child care services allowing parents to work towards becoming economically self-sufficient.
- We provider information regarding parenting skills.
- We identify community resources to assist families.



COMMUNICATION

Family Support Services

Tel. (714) 708-3860 • Fax (714) 708-2916

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 9050, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-9050

Office Address

3001 Red Hill Ave., Bldg. 4, Suite 113, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

PART 2 (HANDBOOK)

All families are encouraged to review all parts of the handbook. PART 2 is dedicated to "PARENT GUIDELINES" pg. 11. The following are discussed in PART 2 of the handbook:

- Qualifying for child care
- Approval of services
- Eligibility requirements
- Documentation and determination of family size
- Qualifying Need
- Income requirement and documentation
- Family Fees pg. 24
- Selecting Child Care Provider pg. 27
- How to Maintain Services
- Parent Rights

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR NEED

- Employment
- Seeking employment
- Training towards vocational goal
- Progress towards vocational goal
- Educational program
- Homelessness
- Seeking permanent housing
- Incapacity
- Cash Aid Recipient (CalWORKs)
- Child Protective Services (CPS), "At-Risk" of Neglect or Abuse

DETERMINING CHILD CARE HOURS

Childcare hours are based the needed number of hours from primary and/or secondary parent in the household.

A two parent household must provide proof of need with overlapping hours for child care to be approved.

Approved hours of care are based on hours parent is working, attending educational/ vocational training, seeking work and/or seeking housing. Child Protective Services (CPS) and Incapacitated families will have their hours based on the documentation provided by a social worker or physician.

An appropriate schedule will be determined by your FSS technician based on documentation provided by you (parent/guardian). Travel time may be granted as well as study time.



FAMILY FEE vs CO-PAYMENT

FAMILY FEE

OCDE FSS is required to collect a family fee when it has been determined that a family's gross monthly income and family size falls within the Family Fee Schedule as determined by the CDSS CCDD. (The family fee is not a copayment. A co-payment is paid to the provider and a family fee us paid to OCDE FSS). pg.24

CO-PAYMENT/CO-PAY

A co-payment/co-pay is the difference between the amount the provider charges and what OCDE FSS is allowed to reimburse on your behalf per state regulations. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to pay any amount above the maximum amount OCDE FSS can reimburse to a daycare provider.

EXAMPLE: Daycare charges \$350 per week, OCDE FSS can only reimburse \$300 per week per regulations. Parent is now responsible for payment of the \$50 weekly co-payment amount directly to the daycare provider.

POSSIBLE OUT OF POCKET COST TO PARENT

Please Be Aware: There is a possibility for additional out-of-pocket cost to a parent.

Please reference pg. 26 in your handbook.

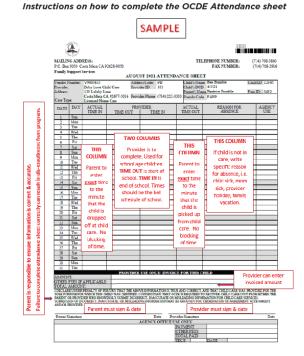
Please note: OCDE FSS does not reimburse daycare providers for private kindergarten/private academic hours.

POSSIBLE OUT-OF-POCKET COST TO PARENT

- Family Fee based on Fee Schedule as determined by the CDSS CCDD. This monthly fee is paid to OCDE FSS.
- Co-Pay co-payment made directly to their selected child care provider when provider charges over the Regional Market Rate Ceiling (RMR)
- Provider Fees such as registration, materials, and insurance if amount exceeds the RMR
- 4. Other Provider Costs -
 - Payment for hours/days of child care that have not been authorized by OCDE FSS.
 - Payment of non-operational days that exceed 10 allowable days for payment
 - c. Fees assessed for late pick up or early start of child care, transportation, notice to withdraw from child care, or any other fees not eligible for reimbursement by OCDE FSS.
 - d. OCDE will not reimburse parent for any deposits made to hold a spot for child.
- Academics student's academic portion of the day for child attending Kindergarten or above.

DOCUMENTING A CHILD'S ATTENDANCE

- 1. The child care attendance sheet is a legally binding record of attendance that must be completed daily with actual time in and time out.
- 1. Parent and Provider must sign and date the bottom of the attendance sheet under penalty of perjury that the time and day of attendance is true and correct.
- The attendance sheet will be reviewed in detail by OCDE FSS staff to ensure accuracy based on guidelines established by the California Department of Education and OCDE FSS policies and procedures prior to processing for reimbursement.
- 1. Attendance sheets must be completed daily in ink pen.
- 1. White out is not allowed. Cross out and initial mistakes, then write in correct information.
- 1. All reasons for absence must be specific and documented on the attendance sheet.
- 1. Attendance sheets are mailed each month to child care provider.



Note: Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) fiscal year runs July 1st through June 30th. Any outstanding attendance sheets for this date range must be submitted by US Mail no later than July 7th. Original attendance sheets are required, do not send by email. ANY ATTENDANCE SHEET RECEIVED AFTER THE JULY 7th DEADLINE MAY BE SUBJECT TO NON-PAYMENT. Payment can only be made using the current fiscal year's monies.

CHANGE IN FAMILY STATUS OR SERVICES

Parent may voluntarily self-report a change in their family's status. To make a change, parent is to contact their assigned OCDE FSS representative by submitting a request in writing by email, fax, US Mail or dropped through mail slot at Family Support Services' office. Parent may request in writing to:

- Increase hours of service without increasing family fee;
- Reduce family fees without decreasing service hours; or
- Decrease in service hours

Parent may request a transfer of child care from one provider to another.

- Parent must complete a Transfer Request form and submit to OCDE FSS.
- Request are processed on a first come first served basis, contingent upon available funding (pg. 31)

PARENT RIGHTS

- 1. Family may choose the type of care that best meets their cultural and family values.
- 2. Family has the right of confidentiality. The use or disclosure of individual family information will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the program by OCDE FSS, with the exception of a court order, subpoena, or in the investigation of a crime. OCDE FSS may contact employers, training institutions, County Welfare Department, other state and federally funded child care programs, doctors, or other qualified professionals to verify information to determine eligibility to receive subsidized child care services.
- 3. Family has the right to request an appeal hearing for any action reflected on an NOA. Parent must file a written request for hearing before the appeal date listed on the front of the NOA. See Appeal Process (pages 50-51)
- 4. Family has the right to review their eligibility file. Requests for copies of records must be made in writing. Charge will be \$0.25 per page payable by money order.
- 5. Family has unlimited access to their child(ren) and child care provider caring for their child(ren) during normal hours of provider operation and whenever the child(ren) are in the care of the provider.

ABANDONMENT OF CARE

OCDE FSS is notified by child care provider that child has not been attending. An OCDE FSS representative will initiate contact with parent. If contact cannot be made, a NOA will be issued for disenrollment if there has been no communication with child care provider and/or OCDE for 30 consecutive calendar days.

If contact is made with parent, OCDE FSS will determine and note the type of absence. The ATTENDANCE SHEET POLICIES AND PROCEDURES form will be sent to parent to complete and sign. The form is to be returned to OCDE FSS by due date requested. Parent is counseled that they must check in on a weekly basis to provide update until child returns to care.

For more information, refer to pg. 47

NOTICE OF ACTION (NOA)

A Notice of Action is issued when care is approved or denied, there is a change in your services, or services are being terminated.

- An effective date will always be listed on NOA.
- Anytime you make any adjustments to your account or report a change you will receive a Notice of Action to summarize the changes applied. These forms are for your reference and do not need to be submitted back.

If you do not agree with the information reflected on your NOA received you do have the option to submit an appeal request.

- You must complete the appeal section of the Notice of Action (page 3) and submit it to your assigned family service technician.

1. NOTICE OF AC	TION (C	COMPLETE EIT	HER 1	.A. OR 1.	B.)																
1.A. Application for Si	ervices			1.B. Reci			es														
Services Approved to Begin : 02/27/2023			Change in Service																		
Date Services Denied If appealed, appeal is due by: 03/15/2023 Date			Termination of Service for Delinquent Fees Effective Date of Action: If appealed, date appeal is due by:																		
										2. DISTRIBUTION	OF NO	TICE						X			
										☐ Notice Given to Pa	arent/	Notice Mailed:		Date Notice Give			iven or	ven or Tracking No.			
										Caretaker Recipient's Initials:	Caretaker ☑ First Class				Mailed: 02/24/2023						
3. PARENT/CARE	TAKE	Other:	M		UZIZAIZ	.020		-			-										
Parent/Caretaker A	IAKE	RINFORMATIO	N	Parent/Ca	pretoker	B	-				_										
Jane Doe				T GIOLOGI	a. stanti	_															
Address				City			Zip	Telephone													
3001 Red Hill Ave				Costa Mesa			92626 123-456		456-7	789											
4. APPROVED CH	IILD CA	RE SERVICES	(Com	olete all info	rmation	for ea	ch child	approv	ed for s	service	s.)										
Name(s) of Child(ren) F	Receiving S	Services	Progra			Enter	Approve	d Hours	of Enrol	Iment											
			Cod	1 1000	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sa										
		01/01/2023	CAPP	School	0.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	0.0										
Jay Doe										0.00											
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	Prov.		CAPP	Vacation School Vacation		9.00				9.00	0.0										
Jake Doe Program: CAPP-CRRSA	Prov.	OCDE Preschool 02/01/2022 OCDE Preschool		School Vacation	0.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.0										
Jake Doe Program: CAPP-CRRSA Monthly Family Fee_	Prov.	OCDE Preschool 02/01/2022 OCDE Preschool Part-tir	ne <u>\$0</u>	School Vacation	0.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.0										
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_	California - Health and Hu		California Department of Social Services
	Engaged in Vocational Tra	aining/Education	
✓	Employed or Seeking Emp	ployment	
	Incapacitated Parent(s)		
	Documentation of Child's E	Exceptional Needs	
	Homelessness		A
7. REA	ASON FOR ACTION:	State the specific reaso terminated.	on(s) services were denied, changed,
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		ved 5 days per week. Time In/bl	me oul may change from day to day.
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8. AGE Orange 9. NAI Ana Cel	ENCY NAME County Department of Educ	cation **REPRESENTATIVE** rvice Technician/ Phone: 714-708	me out may change from day to day.
8. AGE Orange 9. NAI Ana Cel	ENCY NAME County Department of Educ ME/TITLE OF AGENCY Is-Sandoval/ Title: Family Se	cation **REPRESENTATIVE** rvice Technician/ Phone: 714-708	me out may change from day to day.

CCD 7617 (8/21) Required Form - No Substitute Permitted

Page 2

APPEALS

If parent disagrees with an action, parent may appeal and request a hearing with OCDE FSS by the appeal deadline indicated in the NOA.

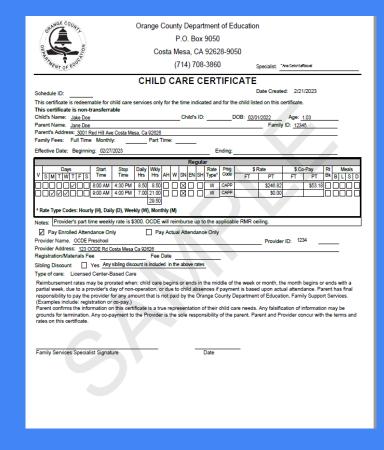
Parent may use the back of the NOA to request a hearing (see instructions on back of NOA) or submit request in writing via email, fax or US Mail. Please include a copy of the NOA or state the action you are appealing.

State of	California - Health and Human S	ervices Agency	Califo	ornia Departme	nt of Social Servi	ces				
you do r	Information: If you do not agree wit d action. To protect your appeal rig not respond by the required due da your appeal may be considered a	thts, you must fo ates or fail to sub	llow the instructions	described in ea	ch sten listed he	low If				
STEP 1:	Complete the following appeal in	formation to requ	uest a local hearing:							
	Name of Parent/Caretaker		Telephone No.							
	Address		City		Zip					
	In this section, please explain why	in this section, please explain why you disagree with the agency's action.								
	Check Box If an Interpreter is Needed at the Local Hearing:	Signature of Pe Hearing	rson Requesting a L	ocal Date						
STEP 2:	Mail or deliver your local hearing request within 14 days of receipt of this notice to: This section must be completed by the agency before the notice is served A. Agency Name: Orange County Department of Education									
	B. Agency Address: 3001 Red H		uite 113			_				
	C. City/State/Zip: Costa Mesa, C					_				
	D. Name of Agency Contact: Ma									
	E. Agency Telephone Number:	714-708-3860 /F Morozco@ocde.		E-Mail:	ex					
STEP 3:	Within ten (10) calendar days foll notify you of the time and place o attend the hearing. If you or your an appeal, and the action of the a	of the hearing. Your representative d	ou or your authorized to not attend the hea	l representative	are required to					
STEP 4:	Within ten (10) calendar days follo decision.	owing the hearin	g, the agency shall r	mail or deliver to	you a written					
STEP 5:	If you disagree with the written decision of the agency, you have 14 calendar days in which to appeal to the CDID must include the following documents and information: (1) a written statement specifying the reasons you believe the agency's decision was incorrect, (2) a copy of the agency's decision letter, and (3) a copy of both sides of this follow. You may either fax or mail your appeal to the contact information below:									
	Chi	ild Care and Dev Attn: Appeals 744 P Street, Sacramento Phone:(833 Fax:(916)	MS 9-8-351 . CA 95814) 559-2420							
STEP 6:										
CCD 76	517 (8/21) Required Form - No Sul	hstitute Permitte	4		Family ID:	14049				

CHILD CARE CERTIFICATE

The Child Care Certificate "Certificate" is the parent's official contract with OCDE FSS, it will always reflect the approved schedule and the rate the provider is requesting. When our program is not able to cover the full rate requested by the provider, a co-pay will reflect on the certificate. Please note, OCDE has a maximum reimbursement cap for children depending on their age group, approved hours, and type of facility.

Certificate is issued at initial enrollment, recertification and any time there is a change in the families hours of care approved or provider's information.



RESOURCES

Children's Home Society of California – (714) 456-9800

333 South Anita Drive, Suite 350, Orange, CA

92868

Resource and Referral Hotline: (714) 543-2273

https://www.chs-ca.org/

Orange County United Way

By dialing 2-1-1, you reach a FREE, 24-hour emergency hotline linking you to thousands of local health and human services resources. Staffed 24 hours per day by caring, experienced and trained specialists https://www.unitedwayoc.org/how-we-are-doing-more/get-help-211/

Social Services Agency of Orange County To find local office visit http://ssa.ocgov.com/

Child Care Licensing – (714) 703-2800

https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-licensing

Reimbursement Ceilings for Subsidized Child Care https://rcscc.adm.dss.ca.gov/