

Presumptive Eligibility Policy in Delaware

Alejandra Londono Gomez | June 2023

Presumptive eligibility for child care subsidies through the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) is a policy that allows families to receive temporary child care assistance while their eligibility for the program is being determined. This means that families can get almost immediate financial assistance to pay for child care services, even as their application is being processed and verified. During this provisional period, families are allowed time to submit outstanding documents while getting access to much-needed care. Families must complete the application process to receive ongoing subsidies. Presumptive eligibility policies vary by state or jurisdiction. Currently, only four states and one county have a presumptive eligibility policy in place, so most states have a tremendous opportunity to expedite access to care for families by implementing this policy. See below to learn more about presumptive eligibility in Delaware.

How do families apply for assistance through presumptive eligibility?	Families are required to submit a subsidy application to access the program.
How long are families granted presumptive eligibility?	Presumptive eligibility is granted for a period of 30 to 60 days, depending on the date the application is submitted. To prevent disrupting payments to providers, eligibility will finish at the end of the month the individual receives care.
How long are families given to submit an application and required documentation?	Families are given 14 days to submit documentation to the agency that determines eligibility.
Are families required to have a child care provider selected to apply for presumptive eligibility?	No
How does the state determine the level of support?	Families are awarded care using the individual's self-attestation of income and eligible activity. Copays cannot increase after final eligibility determination.
What happens if families do not complete the verification process?	Families who applied and did not submit documentation to verify eligibility for the program will not get access to the child care assistance program through presumptive eligibility again.
How are families and providers notified about the status of presumptive eligibility?	Families receive a notice in the mail, and providers can check the status on their portal system.