

Presumptive Eligibility Policy in Monroe County (NY)

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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 Monroe County (NY).

<p>How do families apply for assistance through presumptive eligibility?</p>	<p>Families are required to submit the standard application form to access the program. They must answer all questions and check off a box on the cover sheet that the local district created requesting presumptive eligibility. In addition to checking the box, the customer must provide proof of any earned and unearned income—verification of 4 current consecutive weeks of gross wages (i.e., copies of paystubs)—and verification of the need for care (i.e., verification of work hours from your employer).</p>
<p>How long are families granted presumptive eligibility?</p>	<p>Presumptive eligibility is granted for 30 days. Families receive confirmation of their presumptive eligibility status within 24 to 48 hours of submitting their application.</p>
<p>How long are families given to submit an application and required documentation?</p>	<p>Families need to submit documentation within 10 days but are given an additional 5-day grace period. An extension may be granted if requested.</p>
<p>Are families required to have a child care provider selected to apply for presumptive eligibility?</p>	<p>No. If a family doesn't have a provider, the district will issue the parent/caregiver a child care certificate for them to take to a child care provider of their choice. The provider the parent/caregiver chooses must be eligible (licensed) to receive subsidy payment.</p>
<p>How does the state determine the level of support?</p>	<p>Families are issued a child care certificate after an expedited review of income and need for care information provided with the application and cover letter. Copays (weekly family share) are determined after a full eligibility determination is made.</p>
<p>What happens if families do not complete the verification process?</p>	<p>If families do not complete the verification process, the case is closed after the 30th day. At that point, the families' child care assistance will stop, and their cases will be closed. They would have to restart the process to get access to child care support again.</p>
<p>How are families and providers notified about the status of presumptive eligibility?</p>	<p>Families are notified within 48 hours about the status of their application for presumptive eligibility. For a final determination, families are notified within 30 days of their application.</p>