



Child Care Assistance Program

The Rauner Administration has begun taking a series of management steps in order to manage the budget as passed by the General Assembly. In the absence of structural reforms, difficult decisions were made in order to ensure the viability of the programs that serve our state's most vulnerable.

As a result, changes have been made to the Child Care Assistance Program as detailed below:

- Copays have returned to 2013 levels
- There is currently a freeze on new applicants into the program
 - There are four exceptions to the freeze:
 - Families that are on TANF;
 - Families who make 50% or less of the poverty level;
 - Families with special need child(ren); and
 - Teen parents enrolled full-time in elementary, high school or GED classes to obtain a high school degree or equivalent
 - The freeze applies to new applicants only while it remains in place – *those already enrolled will remain enrolled*
- Begin the process necessary to implement background checks for relatives providing child care
 - No two states are alike, but most other states have implemented a policy of conducting background checks on relatives in the interest of child safety

Our commitment to serve the people of Illinois has not changed, and we continue to assist our clients in achieving self-sufficiency, independence and health to the maximum extent possible. We are dedicated to continuing to provide those services at the highest standards.

FACT SHEET