

Who can get help?

You may get help from the CCA program if you have a child who needs care who is:

- Under the age of 13.
- Under the age of 19, if the child has special needs.
- Age 13 up to age 16 if there are special family circumstances that put the safety and well being of the child at risk if left home alone. (The parent or guardian must apply for an exception to policy.)
- A U.S. citizen or legal qualified alien.
- Lives in Iowa.

The caretaker must have a need for childcare services such as:

- Employed 28 or more hours per week.
- Participate in academic or vocational training full time.
- FIP recipient participating in PROMISE JOBS activities.
- Medical absence or incapacity.
- Seeking employment.
- Protective child care.

What must my childcare provider do?

Your provider must be approved by DHS to receive payment from the CCA program. Ask your DHS child care assistant worker for help choosing a provider. If your provider is not DHS approved, DHS will provide you with the necessary form to take to your childcare provider.

How to apply?

You can fill out the form on line, print out an application form and mail it in, or get an application form from any DHS office. A

printable version of the CCA paper application is available at:

http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/Consumers/Child_Care/CCAAssistance/CCAforConsumers.html

You may apply on line at www.oasis.iowa.gov for CCA and other benefits. Or you can apply for CCA only at:

<https://ccmis.dhs.state.ia.us/ClientPortal/Welcome.aspx>

Food Assistance Program

The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is the cornerstone of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA'S) nutrition assistance program in Iowa. The program is called Food Assistance. The goal of the program is to help low-income Iowans meet their nutritional needs by supplementing the household's food budget with benefits that can be used to purchase groceries.

Who can get help?

Eligibility is determined by the number of people in your home, the amount of earned and unearned income, and the amount of resources in your household. To apply and determine eligibility, go to the site at: www.oasis.iowa.gov

How do I apply?

You can fill out the form on line, print out an application form and mail it in, or get an application form from a DHS office. Call your local DHS office for help with applying for Food Assistance.

For additional information visit:

www.ifapa.org

Department of Human Services



Financial
Assistance
for Relative
Caretakers

What if I have questions?

Any local Department of Human Services (DHS) office can answer questions about the programs and services described here. Contact the local DHS office serving the county where you live. You can visit the DHS website at: www.dhs.state.ia.us

You may also contact the DHS Field Operations Support Division by calling 515-281-6899 or 800-972-2017.

How do I apply?

To receive DHS services, you must complete an application form. You can fill out the form on line, print out an application form and mail it in, or get an application form from any DHS office. The *Health and Financial Support Application* for FIP, Food Assistance, Child Care Assistance, and medical assistance is available at: www.dhs.iowa.gov/Consumers/Assistance_Programs/CashAssistance/FamilyInvestmentProgram.html. Complete the application and return it to the DHS office serving the county where you live. You can also apply on line for these programs at: www.oasis.iowa.gov

Family Investment Program (FIP)

FIP is Iowa's Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program. FIP provides temporary cash assistance for needy families as they become self-supporting. Relatives are not subject to PROMISE JOBS requirements. If the relative is interested in receiving FIP for their own needs, DHS would assess their income, resources, and time limits when determining eligibility. The relative would participate in PROMISE JOBS in order to become self-sufficient.

Who can get help?

To receive FIP as a caregiver, you must:

- Be a U.S citizen or legal qualified alien.
- Live in Iowa.
- Provide a social security number or proof of application for a number.
- Provide all information needed to determine eligibility and benefit level.
- Have a minor child (under age 18 or 19 and still in high school) in the home.
- Be related to the child or children for whom you are caring. DHS rules define which relatives can qualify for caretaker FIP.

Your income is not counted when applying for caretaker FIP for relatives' children. Your income is counted when applying for yourself and your children.

Licensed Foster Care Program

Relative caretakers can apply to become licensed foster parents for their relative. To obtain more information contact Iowa KidsNet at 1-800-243-0756.

Medicaid

Medicaid (known as Title 19) is a program that pays for a wide range of medical and health care costs for people who qualify. These services are covered only if they are medically necessary and provided by Medicaid participating providers of services. However, in many counties, some people covered by Medicaid are required to get certain medical services through a managed health care provider (either a health maintenance organization (HMO) or a MediPass doctor).

Who can get help?

These people have the opportunity to select a provider; however, if they do not select one, they will be assigned a provider. A provider that chooses to participate in the Medicaid program must accept the payments that Medicaid makes and make no additional charges to the recipient for services covered under the program. However, some services covered by Medicaid do require a small co-payment be paid.

The child may be eligible for Medicaid and relationship to the caregiver is not an eligibility factor. The caregiver does not have to be a birth relative. This program does not depend on your income or resources; however the child's income is an eligibility factor (social security, child support, etc.).

How do I apply?

You can complete the application on line, print out an application form and mail it in, or get an application form from any DHS office. You may apply on line at www.oasis.iowa.gov or complete and print an application at: http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/Consumers/Health/Medical_Insurance/WhatsAvailable.html

Child Care Assistance

Child Care Assistance (CCA) is available to the children of income-eligible caretakers who are absent for a portion of the day due to employment or participation in academic or vocational training or PROMISE JOBS activities. Assistance may also be available for a limited period to the children of a caretaker looking for employment or treatment for physical or mental illness.