

Chapter 9: Special Needs Benefits

(iii) Child Care

(a) Licensed

Intent:	To provide information about the interaction between the Income Support Program and the Child Care Services Program.
Act: (if applicable)	N/A
Regulations:	N/A
Overview: (if applicable)	N/A
Policy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unless licensed child care is unavailable or a relevant professional deems it unsuitable because of the medical, emotional, behavioral or psychological well being of a child; licensed child care must be the primary option for clients whenever and wherever possible. • As subsidies are available for licensed child care to eligible clientele through the Child Care Services Subsidy Program, licensed child care must not be funded for clients by this Department. • The Child Care Subsidy Program can provide subsidies for both child care and transportation; therefore, the Department does not fund transportation for children who have been approved for a subsidy at a licensed child care centre. • When clients have been approved for a child care subsidy through the Child Care Services Program, under no circumstances should this Department provide a top-up to the subsidy provided. • For further information on the Child Care Services Subsidy Program, please refer to the Department of Education.

Procedure:	Client Services Officers must: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refer all clients who request child care to the Child Care Services Program, unless verification from an approved professional is provided deeming licensed childcare unsuitable.• When licensed child care is unavailable or deemed unsuitable, please refer to the Departmental policy on Private Child Care.
Authority Level:	Client Service Officers
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