



Ohio Revised Code

Section 5104.38 Rules governing financial and administrative requirements for publicly funded child day-care.

Effective: September 30, 2025

Legislation: House Bill 96

In addition to any other rules adopted under this chapter, the director of children and youth shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code governing financial and administrative requirements for publicly funded child care and establishing all of the following:

(A) Procedures and criteria to be used in making determinations of eligibility for publicly funded child care that give priority to children of families with lower incomes and procedures and criteria for eligibility for publicly funded protective child care or homeless child care. The rules shall specify the maximum amount of income a family may have for initial and continued eligibility. The maximum amount shall not exceed three hundred per cent of the federal poverty line. The rules may specify exceptions to the eligibility requirements in the case of a family that previously received publicly funded child care and is seeking to have the child care reinstated after the family's eligibility was terminated.

(B) A schedule of fees requiring all eligible caretaker parents to pay a fee for publicly funded child care according to income and family size, which shall be uniform for all types of publicly funded child care, except as authorized by rule, and, to the extent permitted by federal law, shall permit the use of state and federal funds to pay the customary deposits and other advance payments that a provider charges all children who receive child care from that provider.

(C) A formula for determining the amount of state and federal funds appropriated for publicly funded child care that may be allocated to a county department to use for administrative purposes;

(D) Procedures to be followed by the department and county departments in recruiting individuals and groups to become providers of child care;

(E) Procedures to be followed in establishing state or local programs designed to assist individuals who are eligible for publicly funded child care in identifying the resources available to them and to



refer the individuals to appropriate sources to obtain child care;

(F) Procedures to deal with fraud and abuse committed by either recipients or providers of publicly funded child care;

(G) Procedures for establishing a child care grant or loan program in accordance with the child care block grant act;

(H) Standards and procedures for applicants to apply for grants and loans, and for the department to make grants and loans;

(I) A definition of "person who stands in loco parentis" for the purposes of division (OO)(3) of section 5104.01 of the Revised Code;

(J) Procedures for a county department of job and family services to follow in making eligibility determinations and redeterminations for publicly funded child care available through telephone, computer, and other means at locations other than the county department;

(K) If the director establishes a different payment rate under division (E)(3)(d) of section 5104.30 of the Revised Code, standards and procedures for determining the amount of the higher payment that is to be issued to a child care provider based on the special needs of the child being served;

(L) To the extent permitted by federal law, procedures for enrolling and paying for up to thirty days of child care for a child whose caretaker parent is seeking employment, taking part in employment orientation activities, or taking part in activities in anticipation of enrolling in or attending an education or training program or activity, if the employment or the education or training program or activity is expected to begin within the thirty-day period;

(M) Any other rules necessary to carry out sections 5104.30 to 5104.43 of the Revised Code.