

**State/Territory Plan
2022 - 2024**

4.4 Implement Generally Accepted Payment Practices and Ensure Timeliness of Payments

4.4.1 Certify by identifying and describing the payment practices below that the Lead Agency has implemented for all CCDF child care providers.

b. To the extent practicable, support the fixed costs of providing child care services by delinking provider payments from a child's occasional absences by: Note: The Lead Agency is to choose at least one of the following:

State/Territory	i. Paying based on a child's enrollment rather than attendance. Describe the policy or procedure.	ii. Providing full payment if a child attends at least 85 percent of the authorized time. Describe the policy or procedure.	iii. Providing full payment if a child is absent for five or fewer days in a month. Describe the policy or procedure.	iv. Use an alternative approach for which the Lead Agency provides a justification in its Plan. If chosen, please describe the policy or procedure and the Lead Agency's justification for this approach.
Alabama			Payment is authorized for up to five (5) absences (consecutive or non-consecutive) per month. Absences with a documented statement by a physician are paid for an additional five (5) days. Chronic illness for which documentation is provided is allowed for up to ninety (90) consecutive days without causing the parent to lose eligibility.	

Alaska				<p>When care is authorized as a full or part month and the child only attends between 1 and 5 days, payment is calculated at the part month rate. When care is authorized as a full month and the child is in care at least 6 days payment is calculated at the full month rate. Units of care are authorized as enrollment on a full month or part month basis when 17 through 23 full and/or part days of care are needed in the month. When a family needs full or part days of care beyond 23 day units, in addition to an enrollment authorization, the full or part day units are authorized in addition to the full or part month.</p>
American Samoa	<p><i>The Lead Agency may issue subsidies based on enrollment. This procedure was enacted when COVID-19 was discovered and remains in effect as of the date this Plan was drafted.</i></p>	<p><i>During periods of non-emergencies/ disasters, the Lead Agency issues the full payment if a child attends at least 85 percent of the authorized time.</i></p>		
Arizona	N/A	N/A	N/A	<p>The Lead Agency, as stated in the Provider Registration Agreement signed by the provider, will reimburse for no more than two (5) days per month for a child who is absent. The Provider must have a policy in place for charging non-ADES families for absent days in order to claim reimbursement for ADES families. Providers must meet requirements listed in the Provider Registration Agreement such as being open and the child would normally have been in care on the absent day.</p>

Arkansas	NA	NA	NA	<p>Child care providers may bill and be reimbursed for up to 10 holidays per calendar year. They are also allowed to bill a maximum of 40 absentee days per child per calendar year. Absentee billing is allowed as follows: July – October 12 days, not to exceed 6 in a given month; November – February 16 days, not to exceed 8 in a given month; March – June 12 days, not to exceed 6 in a given month.</p>
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California	<p>For Direct Service contractors, reimbursement is based on the maximum reimbursable amount (MRA) in their annual child development contract. The MRA is based on child days of enrollment, which means the total number of days every child is certified to attend a center-based program, regardless of attendance. Families are allowed up to ten excused absences. For Alternative Payment (AP) programs, reimbursement to AP providers is based on enrollment for families with set schedules, whereas the hours of service provided are broadly consistent with the hours of need certified during the enrollment process. For families with variable schedules and for license-exempt providers, reimbursement is based on attendance rather than enrollment, up to the maximum certified hours of need. Per the Child Care Providers United (CCPU) agreement with California, effective July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, contractors must reimburse Alternative Payment Program providers, including license-exempt providers, and family child care providers operating through a family child care home education network, based on the families' certified need rather than attendance. Contractors must provide reimbursement to those providers who remain open through June 30, 2022.</p>			
Colorado	<p>County departments of human services may enter into contracts for slots agreements with licensed child care providers. The purpose of these contracts is to negotiate a guaranteed payment, based on full-time or part-time monthly</p>	<p>Effective 8/1/2021 The Department will be utilizing Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act funds to increase economic support to providers that accept subsidy children through an increased number of monthly</p>	N/A	N/A

units, regardless of occasional absences.

absences as one of our identified strategies. Effective 8/1/2021-6/30/2022 Colorado Child Care Assistance Program rules require counties to reimburse licensed child care providers for absences as follows:

1. No fewer than two (6) absences per month if they are in levels one (1) or two (2) of the department's quality rating and improvement system.
2. No fewer than three (7) absences per month if they are in levels three (3), four (4), or five (5) of the department's quality rating and improvement system.
3. No fewer than two (6) absences per month if they are a school age child care program that does not have a quality rating through the department's quality rating and improvement system.

This exceeds the number of monthly absences required to provide full payment if a child attends at least 85% of the care that is authorized.

Effective 7/1/2022 the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program rules will require counties to reimburse licensed child care providers for absences as follows to provide full payment if a child attends at least 85% of the care that is authorized.

1. No fewer than two (3) absences per month if they are in levels one (1) or two (2) of the department's quality rating and improvement system.
2. No fewer than three (4) absences per month if they are in levels three (3), four

		<p>(4), or five (5) of the department's quality rating and improvement system.</p> <p>3. No fewer than two (3) absences per month if they are a school age child care program that does not have a quality rating through the department's quality rating and improvement system.</p> <p>The average number of authorized days of care per month from January 2019-December 2020 was 18.65 days/month. (85% of 18.65 = 15.85) Thus, a minimum of three absences per month is required to meet full payment if a child attends at least 85% of monthly care that is authorized.</p>		
Connecticut		Based on Connecticut's General Statutes: Occasional absences does not affect provider payments, however frequent absences which exceed 25% of current care schedule could result in a change in the child care certificate level.		
Delaware			11006.4.1 Paying for Absent Days and Holidays in Child Care. Providers are paid up to five (5) absent days. As a result of the pandemic, the state modified this policy and began reimbursing for up to 10 absent days. The state is considering making this initiative permanent.	
District of Columbia	The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) pays the full monthly rate, based on enrollment, for children who attend child care in a month and are absent 10 or fewer days (or 15 days if the absence is excused). For children who are absent more than 10 days in a given month (or 15 days if the absences is excused) OSSE			

pays for up to 10 days of absences (or 15 days if the absence is excused) as well as any days that the child was in attendance. No documentation is required to support the unexcused absences. Excused absences must be accompanied by a doctor's note or other valid documentation submitted with the invoice. During the public health emergency, OSSE allows COVID-related absences to be counted as excused. OSSE's Child Care Subsidy Guidance dated February 19, 2021 describes the documentation required for COVID-related absences. If a child has not attended child care at all in the past 60 days the program was open and serving children, the provider must terminate the child's enrollment and OSSE will discontinue payment to the provider. Providers must make at least two attempts to contact the parent/family of a non-attending child before terminating the child from the program. Cessation of payment due to non-attendance will not affect the child's subsidy eligibility: if the child re-enrolls or resumes attending at the same provider or another provider participating in the subsidy program, OSSE will resume payment to the provider on behalf of the child. Procedures for terminating enrollment due to non-attendance are outlined in OSSE's Frequently Asked Questions Supporting Subsidized Child Care Attendance and Payment:

https://osse.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/osse/page_content/attachments/COVID%20Attendance%20FAQs%20Updated%20March%202021.pdf

<p>Florida</p>	<p>The State supports fixed costs of providing child care services by requiring the ELC to reimburse the provider based on the child's authorized hours of care needed, either part-time or full-time. For a child who is authorized only full-time care, an ELC shall not recoup or adjust a provider's reimbursement for days a child attends part-time. The ELC shall not reduce authorized hours of care prior to redetermination unless the parent requests a reduction in the authorized hours of care based on hours of care needed (Rule 6M-4.500, F.A.C.). During a state of emergency due to a natural, man-made disaster or health crisis pandemic, the Lead Agency may revise payment practices to reduce the financial impact in accordance with Rule 6M-4.501, F.A.C. This may include extending the number of allowable paid days due to closure during the impacted time-period, not to exceed thirty days behind the declared state of emergency, however, the Lead Agency may choose to end this practice earlier.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The State currently supports fixed costs of providing child care services by delinking provider payments from a child's occasional absences and providing full payment if a child is absent for up to a certain number of days in a month. In accordance with Rule 6M-4.500(4), F.A.C., reimbursement shall be authorized for no more than three absences per calendar month per child except in the event of extraordinary circumstances. In these cases, the ELC or its designee shall provide written approval for payment based on written documentation provided by the parent justifying the excessive absence for up to an additional seven days. During a state of emergency due to a natural, man-made disaster or health crisis pandemic, the Lead Agency may revise payment practices to reduce the financial impact for providers. This may include reimbursing fully for child absences during the impacted time period, not to exceed thirty days beyond the declared state of emergency, however, the Lead Agency may choose to end this practice earlier.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Georgia</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The Lead Agency understands that a child care subsidy provider is committing to a space and cost when taking on care for an eligible child. To support the provider and delink payments from attendance to the highest degree possible, CAPS program policy states that a child need only attend at least one day a week for the provider to claim a full weekly payment for that child. Also, providers can claim up to two weeks a year for each eligible child if the child is absent an entire week.</p>

Guam				<p>If a child attends 50% plus one day during any given month, full payment is remitted. If a child attends 50% or less during any given month, payment is pro-rated based on attendance and daily subsidy rate.</p> <p>During a declared state of emergency or disaster, the Lead Agency may pay providers based on a child's enrollment status rather than attendance up to the Declaration end date, subject to the availability of funds. During the state of emergency, the absent day policy is expanded, and child care providers can bill the lead agency for the full month for children scheduled to be in care. The Lead Agency may extend this policy up to six months beyond the end of the emergency period.</p>
Hawaii	<p>Hawaii Department of Human Services pays the provider prospectively based on the child's enrollment rather than attendance until the Department is notified of the child's disenrollment or more than five (5) unexcused absences, at which time payment may be suspended or reevaluated. When a caretaker does not notify the child care provider of the child's absence, this is considered an unexcused absence.</p>			

Idaho	<p>Providers are obligated to bill the Idaho Child Care Program (ICCP) using their own usual and customary rates for child care to persons not entitled to receive benefits under ICCP; additionally, Local Market Rates and copayments are based on the parents' qualifying activity hours, not the amount or frequency of a child's attendance at child care. Therefore, if it is the provider's usual and customary practice to bill for absences, billed child care expenses will be paid for temporary breaks in attendance that are one month or less. (IDAPA 16.06.12.502 and 16.06.12.505)</p>	<p>Providers are obligated to bill ICCP using their own usual and customary rates for child care to persons not entitled to receive benefits under ICCP; additionally, Local Market Rates and copayments are based on the parents' qualifying activity hours, not the amount or frequency of a child's attendance at child care. Therefore, if it is the provider's usual and customary practice to bill for absences, billed child care expenses will be paid for temporary breaks in attendance that are one month or less. (IDAPA 16.06.12.502 and 16.06.12.505)</p>	<p>Providers are obligated to bill ICCP using their own usual and customary rates for child care to persons not entitled to receive benefits under ICCP; additionally Local Market Rates and copayments are based on the parents' qualifying activity hours, not the amount or frequency of a child's attendance at child care. Therefore, if it is the provider's usual and customary practice to bill for absences, billed child care expenses will be paid for temporary breaks in attendance that are one month or less. (IDAPA 16.06.12.502 and 16.06.12.505)</p>	
Illinois	N/A	N/A	N/A	<p>CAAP Policy 06.03.01 - 80% Attendance Rule: Payment for all CCDF providers will be based on eligible days if the total of days attended for all CCAP children are 80% or higher of the family's eligible days. Providers who have less than 50% expected attendance due to disaster, mass illness or other reasons may apply for an Attendance Exemption to be paid for the affected days.</p>

<p>Indiana</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Provider payments are delinked from a child's occasional absence through Indiana's business rule for the number of hours of attendance required for full time payment. Providers are paid a full time rate for any non-school age child who attend at least 25 hours per week. Providers are paid a full time rate for school age children who attend at least 10 hours a week during the school year). Provider payments are delinked to occasional absences through the use of paid personal days, paid holidays and paid inclement weather days. Effective March 22, 2020 families were provided an additional 41 absence days (for a total of 61) to COVID-19. This change is in effect until Executive Order 20-02, which declared that a public health emergency exists throughout the State of Indiana expires, or is extended and provides a new expiration date. In addition, families receive 6 paid holidays and up to six inclement weather days as needed.</p>
<p>Iowa</p>		<p>During eligibility determination each child in the family that is eligible for care is authorized for an appropriate number of weekly units for child care services. If a child is absent from the provider's program during a day that the authorized schedule allows care the provider is allowed to bill for that day up to four times per month. When calculated on a monthly basis this results in the provider receiving full payment if a child attends at least 85 percent of the authorized time.</p>		

Kansas

.Benefits are authorized and paid on a prospective basis, based on the projected hours of care needed for the month and converted to blocks of time. Absent days are not a part of the calculation, as benefits are issued to the family's benefit card prior to the delivery of services and prospective hours are based on the full months need for care. Each family has a written agreement with their provider on the terms of their child care services, the same as families who do not receive subsidy. This agreement is individualized in nature and the family follows the payment procedures that are established within that agreement. The family can then transfer benefits at any time during the month to make payment to their provider.

N/A

N/A

In Kansas child care benefits are calculated separately for each child. Benefits are determined by a combination of factors: the age of the child; the numbers of hours of care each month the child needs converted to blocks of time; the family's family share, the child care provider's standard rate; and DCF maximum rates. Benefits are issued prospectively, and Kansas does not reduce prospected benefits to account for absences, nor do we collect overpayments for time the child was not in care. This allows families to maintain the child's slot in their child care setting, regardless of occasional absences. Benefits for each child are automatically put into the parent's EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) account at the start of each month. All Child Care benefits are put into a single Child Care account for that household. Providers may charge parents for their child's slot and/or absent days, if this is consistent with the provider's stated private pay policy. Parents are responsible for their family share amount and any additional charges agreed upon between themselves and their child's providers.

Kentucky		Licensed and certified providers may receive payment for up to five absences per month. Payments for more than five excused absences per child per month may be approved if the absence meets the following criteria for an extraordinary absence. An extraordinary absence is defined as: a) a death in the family; b) illness of the child or applicant; or c) a disaster verified by utility, local, state or federal government.		
Louisiana	Under the Pandemic Protective Services Crisis Procedure the Lead Agency has been paying based on enrollment. The Lead Agency may continue to pay on enrollment post-COVID-19 with attendance being factored in.	Absence payments are paid for 5 days per calendar month for full time children.		
Maine	Maine has utilized the CCDF COVID relief funds in the way of paying based on enrollment while funds are available.			
Maryland	Pay is based on units of care per day (up to three (3) hours, 3-6 hours, or 6 or more hours. Maryland provides full payment if a child attends any portion of the day. In addition, Maryland pays up to 60 days of absences per calendar year.	Maryland provides full payment if a child attends any portion of the day. In addition, Maryland pays up to 60 days of absences per calendar year.	Maryland allows up to 60 days of absence per calendar year.	Maryland pays up to 60 absences per calendar year. We believe this demonstrates the need of child care and supports continuity of care for the child care provider and the child.
Massachusetts	Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, EEC began paying subsidized providers based on their enrollment, instead of based on attendance. This payment practice started in March 2019 and will continue indefinitely at this time.			

<p>Michigan</p>	<p>Due to COVID 19 and Executive Order 2020-21: During the time period of March 16, 2020 - June 20, 2020, (Pay Periods 007 through 013), providers were instructed to bill regular child care hours instead of absence hours when the child was in attendance, absent, or the facility was closed. Providers were not required to utilize annual absence hours during this time. During the time period of August 16, 2020 (Pay Period 018) - December 19, 2020, (Pay Period 026) child care providers may bill the child care subsidy for care provided during the school day for school-age children. To be eligible for billing the child must be enrolled in a virtual education program where virtual learning is the only available option, or the family has a health concern. If funding becomes available this policy could be extended.</p>	<p>All Michigan child care providers billing for CDC are allowed to bill for up to 360 absence hours per child per fiscal year for days when the child would normally be in care, regardless of the reason for the absence. For children in full time care who attend 85% or more of the time, the 15% absence is covered, resulting in full payment. The maximum payment issued per child is for 90 hours every two weeks (Michigan pays biweekly). There are 26 two-week pay periods per year. 90 hours multiplied by 26 pay periods is equal to 2,340 maximum available hours per child per year. 2,340hours multiplied by 15 percent (amount required to be covered) is equal to 351 hours per year. Michigan allows 360 hours per year, exceeding the requirement for full time enrollment. For part time enrollment, 360 hours is an even greater percentage of allowable absence hours (example: for a child approved 60 hours every two weeks, 360 hours covers up to 23 percent of absences). Additionally, to ensure the child has absence hours available through the year, billing of absence hours is limited to 10 consecutive days of billing for absences when no billing for care is submitted.</p>		
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Minnesota	<p>Program pays for a child's scheduled and authorized hours of attendance, not actual hours attended. If a child attends for any part of their authorized schedule, care is fully paid for that day with no restrictions. When a child is absent an entire day they were scheduled and authorized to be in care, care can be paid up to 25 absent days per calendar year. More absent days can be paid due to medical conditions or illness of a parent or sibling living with the child care assistance (CCAP) family if documentation is submitted to the family's agency administering child care assistance.</p>	<p>Program pays for a child's scheduled and authorized hours of attendance, not actual hours attended. If a child attends for any percent of their authorized schedule in a day, care is fully paid for that day with no restrictions. Programs must report if a child is attending less than 50 percent of authorized hours or days in a 4-week period.</p>		
Mississippi	<p>During times when emergency or disaster conditions exist, such as COVID-19 or other emergency situations, the Lead Agency may elect to pay providers based on enrollment rather than on attendance as funding allows. This practice may continue until such time as normal community functions are able to resume by order of the MSDH and/or the Office of the Governor.</p>		<p>The provider receives full payment for the month, provided the child does not have more than five absences within the month.</p>	
Missouri	<p>The Lead Agency is conducting two activities to pilot a system that pays for enrollment rather than attendance. (1) Using COVID-19 relief funding, the Lead Agency will pilot a program for approximately 8,000 foster children to ensure providers can immediately accept children in foster care when asked. Using data regarding children in foster care by geographical area, the Lead Agency will determine the number of foster children, on average, across the state, and the number of child care providers needed to adequately serve foster children in their area of the state. The Lead Agency will determine</p>			<p>Currently, child care providers may bill for up to five absences and/or holidays per month, for children authorized 20 or more units of care per month. Child care providers may bill for up to three absences and/or holidays for children authorized for 3-19 units of care per month. A child must be in care at least one unit during a service month for child care providers to claim absences and/or holidays. Absences are defined as a child facility being open for business and with a child being absent when they would normally be in care. Holidays are defined as any date the facility is closed for business</p>

a reasonable period of time (e.g., 90 days) that the provider would need to fill a vacant slot or risk losing it. (2) The Lead Agency will pilot a payment system for infants and toddlers and children with special needs who are enrolled in the Child Care Subsidy program. This pilot will provide payment for enrollment, defined as the total amount of units a child has been authorized to attend. The payment system for both of these pilots will include a rigorous monitoring component that examines a prescribed number of records to ensure payments are made in accordance with CCDF policies and reduces the incidence of improper billings on the part of providers. Monitoring of this payment system includes the number of days and type of attendance (e.g. half-time, part-time, full-time) that a child was in attendance in order for the provider to receive payment for the entire enrollment. The Lead Agency is investigating how similar states use this approach to inform its policy and will monitor the effectiveness of the payment changes in meeting the program goals. The Lead Agency will routinely collect quantitative and qualitative information (e.g., payment data, provider feedback) to conduct an evaluation of the outcomes from these two pilot programs. These data will be used to determine the feasibility of including additional children in a pay for enrollment system, rather than attendance.

on a day they would normally be open. Child care providers may bill up to 11 holidays in a state fiscal year.

Montana	During the COVID-19 emergency, Montana will pay at 100% authorized amount regardless of attendance. The scholarship is not paying solely based off enrollment.	Montana defines full-time child care as care certified over 30 hours per week on a regular basis. Absent days are available for children receiving full-time child care. A child earns two absent days per month, and a full-time day is defined as more than six hours and less than 12 hours. Two absent days a month provides a full payment for a child because two absent days equal more than 15% of the authorized time.	Montana defines full-time child care as care certified over 30 hours per week on a regular basis. Absent days are available for children receiving full-time child care. A child earns two Absent Days per month, and a full-time day is defined as more than six hours and less than 12 hours. Two full-time days is 10 hours multiplied by 2 Absent Days equals 20 hours per month. Full-time care for a month is defined as 30 hours multiplied by 4 weeks equals 120 hours per month. 20 hours per month (2 Absent Days) divided by 120 hours per month (full-time child care) equals 16.7% of the authorized time. Two Absent Days a month provides a full payment for a child because two Absent Days equal more than 15% of the authorized time.	
Nebraska				The Lead Agency pays based on a child's attendance. Child care providers are allowed to bill up to five absent days per month per child.
Nevada	Child care payments are generally made based on a clients schedule. Those clients that are reimbursed based on actual attendance (varied schedule, before and after school programs) are allowed 21 absences per year, for any reason. Temporarily, due to COVID-19, all providers are being paid subsidy based on enrolment rather than attendance. Absences are not required to result in termination of subsidy.	NA	Payments are generally made based o a parent's approved schedule. The exceptions are varying schedules and before and after school programs. When a family works a varied schedule, policy allows 21 absence days per year to ensure payments to providers and stability for families. Before and after school programs frequently cannot take payments for days the child was not in attendance, so policy reflects this practice.	NA
New Hampshire				

New Jersey	Payment policies are based on attendance. However, since March 2020, due to COVID-19, providers temporarily have been paid based on enrollment.	Payment policies allow full-time payment based on 80% of the authorized time. However, since March 2020, due to COVID-19, providers temporarily have been paid based on enrollment.	Payment policies allow for five consecutive documented absences within a two-week pay cycle. However, since March 2020, due to COVID-19, providers temporarily have been paid based on enrollment.	The above payment policies, based on enrollment, have been enacted due to the federal and state Public Health Emergency due to COVID and as an effort to respond to the needs of providers in order to remain operational and sustainable.
New Mexico	The Lead Agency pays child care providers based on the following criteria: payment is based on enrollment rather than attendance; and full payment if child is absent 14 or fewer consecutive days of unexcused absences. 8.15.2.15D NMAC Provider Requirements - Notification of changes: Child care providers must notify the department if a child is disenrolled or child care has not been used for 14 consecutive calendar days without notice from the client. (1) If the above notification was met, the provider will be paid through the 14th calendar day following the first date of nonattendance. (2) If a provider does not notify the department of disenrollment or of non-use for 14 consecutive calendar days, the provider will be paid through the last date of attendance. 8.15.2.17 NMAC - Payment for Services: The department pays child care providers on a monthly basis, according to standard practice for the child care industry. Payment is based upon the child's enrollment with the provider as reflected in the child care placement agreement, rather than daily attendance.	N/A	The Lead Agency pays child care providers on a monthly basis, according to standard practice for the child care industry. Payment is based upon the child's enrollment with the provider as reflected in the child care placement agreement, rather than daily attendance. Providers shall be paid through the 14th day following the first day of nonattendance provided the department was notified within the timeframe prescribed above. If the department is not notified within the prescribed timeframe, the provider shall be paid through the last date of attendance. The Lead Agency will not pay the monthly rate if the child is absent for more than 14 days or if the provider fails to notify the department of disenrollment or care not used for 14 consecutive calendar days.	N/A
New York				An LDSS has the option to pay for a child's temporary absence from care provided by a child care provider with which the LDSS has a contract or by other

child care providers with the exception of legally-exempt family and in-home caregivers. Temporary absences from child care are allowed up to 12 days in any one calendar month; provided, further, that such absences may total no more than 12 days in any three-month period if the LDSS selects a three-month period for determining maximum temporary absences, or 24 days in any six-month period if the social services district selects a six-month period for determining maximum temporary absences.

In extenuating circumstances, reimbursement for temporary absences may be allowed for an additional three days in any one calendar month; provided, further, that all absences may total no more than 20 days in any three-month period if the LDSS selects a three-month period for determining maximum temporary absences, or 40 days in any six-month period if the LDSS selects a six-month period for determining maximum temporary absences.

Currently out of the 58 LDSSs in New York State, 50 pay for absences. Additionally, LDSSs have the option to pay for up to 5 days for program closures per year.

As a temporary measure to accommodate short-term needs of communities during the COVID-19 emergency, OCFS authorized the option for a LDSS to apply for a waiver which allowed them to pay for additional absence days up to 30 days in a 30day period.

Pursuant to the FY 2022 Enacted

				Budget of the State of New York, changes related to the payment of absences will be implemented. OCFS is in the process of making the necessary regulatory change to support this policy shift.
North Carolina	Payment is based upon enrollment with an allowance for up to 10 days of paid absences per month.			
North Dakota			Each child is allowed up to 40 hours, or 5 days, of absence hours per month. More than 40 hours per month can be allowed in situations that result in closures or absences due to inclement weather, state and national emergencies, or other emergencies as determined by the lead agency.	
Northern Mariana Islands	CCDF will pay based on the child's enrollment. If the child is enrolled on a full-time basis, the provider will be paid the full-time rate for that month regardless of the child's absences.			
Ohio	NA	Ohio provides full payment when a child attends at least 41% of the time for a full-time category of authorization and 28% of the time for a part-time category of authorization.	NA	NA
Oklahoma			Parents who need full time care may qualify for the weekly rate which pays for up to 7 absent days as long as the child attends a minimum number of days each month.	

Oregon	N/A	N/A	<p>Certified centers are allowed to claim up to 30 absent days per month if a child attended one day in the month and they were anticipated to attend during the month. For all other providers they may bill for absent days. The Oregon Department of Human Services can pay for up to five days when a child is absent from care and the child was scheduled to be in care, and it is the provider's policy to bill for absent days and the absent time is indicated on the child's attendance log. Oregon Department of Human Services will not pay for more than five consecutive days of scheduled care for which the child is absent.</p>	N/A
Pennsylvania			<p>According to OCDEL Policy if an ELRC discovers ten consecutive absences on the child care provider invoice for a child but the provider did not report these absences, the action is to mark the child with five absences on the invoice and the child's enrollment is suspended on the sixth day. If a child is absent for five or fewer days in the month full payment is made. This applies for up to 45 days of absences in the year.</p>	

Puerto Rico	In the event of a declared emergency because of a natural disaster or a public health emergency, the ACUDEN administrator may assess the situation to issue payment for enrollment rather than attendance.	N/A	N/A	The child must have at least 80% attendance to proceed with the full payment to the provider. In the case of a justifiable reason, such as child or caregiver illness, vacations, medical appointments, or treatments, among others, the situation is evaluated and approved, as needed. The provider is not penalized for payment since they do not have control over the situation. During the COVID 19 pandemic provider were paid based on child's enrollment and not by attendance.
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Rhode Island	<p>Effective March 2020, the lead agency started paying based on enrollment rather than attendance. This is a flexible payment practice that was introduced to support CCDF families and providers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The practice remains in effect and the lead agency intends to continue this practice while the state of emergency remains in effect. The lead agency is also considering the long term operational and fiscal sustainability of this practice beyond the pandemic.</p>	N/A	<p>An eligible child, enrolled with an approved provider, shall not be absent for more than five (5) days per month of authorized child care, unless granted a good cause exemption by DHS as a result of a serious health condition or unusual family circumstance. Once the five (5) days per month limit has been reached, no payment shall be made for periods of authorized child care in which the eligible child is not in attendance unless a good cause exemption has been granted. The department reserves the right to consider repeated extended absences of an eligible child when making recertifications of CCAP eligibility.</p> <p>Effective June, 2020, this policy is temporarily being waived due to COVID-19.</p> <p>218-RICR-20-00-4.12.7 http://www.dhs.ri.gov/Regulations/218-RICR-20-00-4%20Child%20Care%20Assistance%20Program.pdf</p> <p>Emergency regulations: https://www.policy.dhs.ri.gov/pdf/218-RICR-20-00-4%20Child%20Care%20Assistance%20Program/218-RICR-20-00-8%20Child%20Care%20Assistance%20Program%20Amended%20Emergency%20Part%208.pdf</p>	N/A
South Carolina			<p>The LA pays by the week and allows up to 31 absences per 52-week eligibility period. Payments are made to providers for the entire week of care as long as a child attends at least one day to ensure continuity of care for children with CCDF-funded subsidies.</p>	

South Dakota

NA

NA

If a child is absent from care, the Lead Agency may reimburse the child care provider for a maximum of 50 hours a month for the time the child is not in care. The Lead Agency determined 50 absent hours is equal to 5 days based on the established 210 monthly maximum hours of care. This monthly maximum of 210 hours is divided by 4.333 weeks in a month, which equals 48.47 hours weekly. The weekly hours are divided by 5 days which equals 9.69 hours, rounded to 10 hours daily.

NA

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lead Agency may reimburse a child care provider for unlimited absent hours for the time the child is not in care for a reason related to COVID-19 which may include: the child program is closed to address program needs related to COVID-19; a family has chosen to keep their child home out of precaution or because the parent is not currently working due to COVID-19; the family is quarantined at home due to exposure to COVID-19 or a COVID-19 illness. The Lead Agency communicates with child care providers the specific months this policy change is in place.

Tennessee	Effective October 1, 2019, Lead Agency program staff were trained on revised policy to delink provider payment from occasional absences by paying based upon enrollment rather than attendance. Absences would not impact payment for a given child unless the child was absent for more than 20 days in a row. After an absence of 20 consecutive days, the Lead Agency would reach out to the family to confirm that the child was not returning to care before stopping the payments to the provider.			
Texas	TWC Chapter 809 Child Care Services rule §809.93 requires that a Board or its child care contractor reimburse a regulated provider based on a child's monthly enrollment authorization. Providers are reimbursed for the full authorization regardless of the child's attendance.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Utah	The Lead Agency pays based on enrollment after the minimum eight hours of attendance is met in the initial benefit month. Providers are required to report if a child attended less than eight hours or is no longer enrolled. If a child remains enrolled and has not attended child care in the past 90 days, the provider must report the child stopped attending. When a parent reports a change in providers, the child is no longer considered enrolled with the first provider and payments will end with that provider.			

Vermont	Providers are paid on the weekly amount approved by either attendance of the child or a code to represent the reason for the absence. Coded days include P code-provider closed day (15 per fiscal year), V code-parent vacation day (10 per fiscal year), S code-child sick day (unlimited), N code - no notice (1 week paid if parent did not give notice), H code-hold the spot (limited use, approved by CDD).	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virgin Islands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virginia			Providers licensed by the Lead Agency, providers approved under local ordinance in Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax, licensed family day system approved homes, Department of Education approved programs, and providers approved by the U.S. Department of Defense are paid for 36 absent days per year per child. Additional absent days can be paid for up to four weeks in a twelve month period if the parent is ill or incapacitated. This time period can be extended, if necessary. Payment can also be made for up to one month during a break in employment or training if a subsequent activity is scheduled to begin within that period and if child care arrangements would otherwise be lost	Level 2 Vendors and any certified preschool, voluntarily registered family day home, or religiously exempt child day center shall receive payment for 10 holidays, if the vendor charges the general public for those holidays.

Washington				DCYF recognizes that providing more stability in subsidy payments facilitates provider participation and parental choice, so we model our licensed child care payment structure to align with the private pay market as closely as possible. Licensed center providers are eligible to claim payment for any absent days in a month as long as the child attends at least one day within that month and the child is authorized care. Licensed family home providers are authorized a monthly unit which providers may claim when the child attends care during the month. All licensed providers may claim payment for absent days during the ten-day advanced notice period when the period extends into a new month. The child does not have to attend one day in the new month in this case.
West Virginia		Children who attend at least 13 days per month are reimbursed at the full monthly rate. The full monthly rate is the daily rate multiplied by twenty. Children who attend more than twenty days are paid at the daily rate.	Children who attend at least 13 days per month are reimbursed at the full monthly rate. The full monthly rate is the daily rate multiplied by twenty.	
Wisconsin	The Lead Agency's EBT payment practice prospectively loads funds for the parent's monthly child care needs. The child care need is determined by an assessment of the hours of child care needed for the parent to participate in their approved activity.	N/A	N/a	N/A

Wyoming	Due to COVID-19 and while funding is available, if the facility was open and the child attended any days during the month, full authorizations are paid.	Outside of COVID needs, the Department authorizes full payment when a child attends at least 85% of the authorized time. The child care provider will submit an invoice, and the Department's fiscal staff will determine, via audit of invoice, if the child's attendance was at least 85%.	NA	NA
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