

Maximizing Child and Adult Care Deductions for CalFresh

New eligibility guidelines increase the gap between the gross and net income eligibility limits for CalFresh. Helping families maximize appropriate, eligible CalFresh deductions will assist additional households in accessing benefits.

Dependent Care Deduction: “The actual amount paid for the care of a child or other dependent in the household.”

Considerations when verifying your client’s dependent care costs:

1. Dependent care costs can be verified through an affidavit. The household must specify the following under penalty of perjury on the affidavit:
 - a. The name of the provider
 - b. The total amount billed
 - c. Out of pocket expense
 - d. The amount of any subsidies
2. Information provided on any of the following forms also count as formal verification:
 - a. CF 285 (CalFresh only application)
 - b. SAWS2PLUS (Dual CalFresh/Medi-Cal application)
 - c. MyBenefitsCalWIN (Online application)
 - d. CF 10 Dependent Care Cost Affidavit
3. Expenses paid on a weekly or bi-weekly basis will be converted to a monthly expense by multiplying the weekly expense by 4.33 or bi-weekly expense by 2.167.
4. When a household has fluctuating care expenses, they can elect to have the anticipated expenses averaged over the certification period.
5. Dependent care costs covered by subsidies may not be deducted for purposes of CalFresh.

