

SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

GUILFORD COUNTY LOCAL POLICY

Guilford County will prioritize the placement of children in care when there are insufficient funds, insufficient child care providers, or insufficient staff.

I. Priority Populations Served

Guilford County will prioritize services to the following populations in the **order** below when there are insufficient funds, staff or child care spaces:

1. Homelessness ~~(employed)~~
2. Children with special needs ~~(post-secondary education/training leading to employment)~~
3. Children in Foster Care in custody of the **Guilford County DHHS - Social Services** who are placed with employed Foster Care parents
4. Families participating with Work First Family Assistance (WFFA) and Work First Employment Services (WFES) with a current MRA-B, includes Work First retention services with a referral.
 - a. Customers with children ages 0-5. Families needing child care assistance to support Work First activities based on scheduled participation hours on current Outcome Plan.
 - b. Customers with children ages 6-12, before and after school care and full-time care during teacher workdays, holiday/school breaks, summer months to support Work First activities based on scheduled participation hours on current outcome plan.
 - c. Customers are being initially assessed for Work First services. Customers with a strong work history and/or recent connection to the workforce may consider short-term two-week job search in lieu of ongoing Work First cash assistance dependency. Work First Social Worker will assess customers to determine if two-week job search is appropriate or viable option for the customer. If during the structured two-week job search, customer obtains a bona fide job offer, referral for consideration of child care services up to full-time care based on verified scheduled employment hours. **Limit of 8 children per month (to be monitored by the Work First Supervisor).**
5. Teen parents needing assistance to complete their High School education or its equivalency
6. Children working with CPS ~~and children needing CWS daycare~~
7. **Children needing CWS daycare**

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8. Employed families
9. Families where one or both parents are participating in post-secondary education or training leading to employment activity. May receive a maximum of 20 months in this category. Excludes Graduate and Doctoral level courses
10. Children with Developmental Delays
11. Siblings of current Subsidy Childcare Assistance recipients

II. How Families Will be Pulled from the Waiting List

When funding, staff or child care spaces become available, Guilford County plans to serve families using the following option or options (such as but not limited to chronologically, using the priority order above or another method):

Guilford County plans to serve chronologically using the above priority order

NOTE: If the county chooses to serve children using the priority list, the Department of Social Services (DSS)/Local Purchasing Agency (LPA) must also have a plan to serve non-prioritized families.

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III. Vulnerable Populations Set-Aside (*select one of the options below*)



Guilford County will set aside the required 4% set-aside funds to serve families with children identified as a vulnerable population, which includes children with special needs and families experiencing homelessness. Guilford County will not add to the required set-aside amount.

OR



_____ County will set-aside more than the required 4% amount and will set aside ____ % for vulnerable populations (*Please indicate total including the 4%. For example, if your county will set aside and additional 2%, you will enter 6%*).

If the set-aside amount is depleted, vulnerable populations already receiving services will continue to be served with the regular subsidy allocation. Guilford County will continue to prioritize new children who apply and are in one of these vulnerable populations in the order that Guilford County chooses, as long as the regular subsidy allocation is not at risk of being overspent. If necessary, children in one of these vulnerable populations will be placed on the waiting list and served as soon as vulnerable populations funds are available or according to the local prioritization with regular subsidy funds.

IV. Reducing Services

If child care cases are in jeopardy of termination due to potential lack of funding, Guilford County will contact DCDEE for further guidance.

This policy is passed and adopted by the governing board (Social Services Board or County Official) _____ County, State of North Carolina, this ____ day of _____ (month) of (year) 20__.

DSS Director (Printed Name)

DSS Director (Signature)

Date

Governing Board Chair (Printed Name)

Governing Board Chair (Signature)

Date