

Child Care Billing Update for Foster Children

What's Changing? Child care providers will now have the ability to submit direct billing for child care expenses for family foster children. The foster parent will not have to pay child care expenses up front and be reimbursed, as they do currently, if the child is with an eligible child care provider.

Why? The change will alleviate a foster parent's responsibility for payment and reimbursement. It will facilitate more timely payments to eligible child care providers. Increasing support and convenience for caregivers can help stabilize a child's placement in foster care.

How Child Care Centers/Providers Become Eligible: To be eligible for the new process, the child care provider **MUST** have a Child Care Assistance (CCA) Provider Agreement with DHS.

Any child care provider seeking to become licensed/registered may contact Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) for assistance with the application process at 1-800-722-7619 or <https://iowaccrr.org>. Existing licensed/registered providers seeking a Child Care Assistance Provider Agreement (CCA) may apply through the Department of Human Services online [Child Care Provider Portal](#).

Child care providers can also apply to be Non-Registered with a CCA Provider Agreement. An application can be completed online through the [Child Care Provider Portal](#) or an application packet can be mailed from the centralized child care unit by emailing the CCA Registration Inbox crsacca@dhs.state.ia.us.

Foster Parent Steps: New family foster care placements needing child care services must begin using the CCA process on September 1, 2022. Existing family foster care placements that have an identified child care need must convert to the CCA process by 11/1/22.

If the child care provider is not licensed/registered and does not have a CCA Provider Agreement, and they do not wish to complete that process, child care payments will continue to be submitted to the ongoing DHS social worker by utilizing the Child Care Expense Statement for Foster Children for reimbursement.