



Need help paying for child care?



Apply for the San Diego County Centralized Eligibility List

Child care has become the second-largest expense for families – spending up to 50% of their household budget a year. No family should have to choose between paying rent and child care.

The San Diego County Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) is one application that connects you to different child care agencies across San Diego. Apply to receive free or low-cost child care services.

How it works

- Families must complete an application.
- Applications will be served in priority order.
- Families must meet needs, family size, and income eligibility. (Refer to the table below for income eligibility.)
- Eligible families will receive a call from a subsidized child care agency for enrollment screening and to schedule an enrollment appointment.
- Proof of family size, income, and need for child care services will be required to complete the enrollment appointment.

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Income Eligibility Table

Family Size	1-2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Gross Monthly Income	\$6,008	\$6,842	\$7,941	\$9,211	\$10,482	\$10,720	\$10,958	\$11,196	\$11,435	\$11,673	\$11,911

Complete Application

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