



## FAQs for the Child Care in Your Home Pilot Program

The Defense Department is taking yet another step to support military families with child care solutions by offering a program that assesses the viability of providing fee assistance for full-time child care in your home services. The department continues to enhance Child Care in Your Home fee assistance in the face of child care shortages and the rising cost of quality care. Learn more about the fee assistance program in the following frequently asked questions and answers.

### **Q1: What is the Child Care in Your Home program?**

**A1:** Child Care in Your Home is a five-year pilot program designed to assist military families who determine full-time, in-home child care is the best solution to meet their needs. When using CCYH, the service member serves as the employer of the child care provider.

### **Q2: What regions/locations are eligible under the Child Care in Your Home fee assistance pilot program?**

**A2:** The CCYH pilot program is offered in areas with the longest waitlists and highest demand for child care: National Capital Region; Alaska; Hawaii; San Diego; Norfolk, Virginia; San Antonio; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Seattle/Tacoma, Washington; Jacksonville, Florida; Fort Walton Beach, Florida; Fayetteville, North Carolina; and Las Vegas.

### **Q3: Who is eligible to participate in the Child Care in Your Home fee assistance pilot program?**

**A3:** Military families currently on the [MilitaryChildCare.com](https://militarychildcare.com) waitlist or requesting care via [MilitaryChildCare.com](https://militarychildcare.com) in the select regions are eligible to participate in the Child Care in Your Home fee assistance pilot program. Space is limited in each identified region/location.

Eligible military families include:

- Single or dual active-duty members
- Single or dual National Guard or reserve members on active duty
- Active-duty members with a full-time working spouse
- National Guard or reserve members on active duty with a full-time working spouse
- Active-duty members with a spouse enrolled in a postsecondary institution on a full-time basis
- National Guard or reserve members on active duty with a spouse enrolled in a postsecondary institution on a full-time basis



**Q4: What children are eligible to be covered for care in the Child Care in Your Home fee assistance pilot program?**

**A4:** Children ages 6 weeks to 5 years are eligible for the Child Care in Your Home fee assistance pilot program. School-age children ages 6-12 years are eligible only when their younger siblings are offered care and are then enrolled in CCYH. Fee assistance will conclude at the end of the school year in which the child turns 13 years of age. Families already enrolled in fee assistance who add a new or eligible child to their household, by birth or adoption, should add this child into their [MilitaryChildCare.com](https://militarychildcare.com) family profile. The newly added child will be included in the CCYH pilot program.

**Q5: What are the most significant updates to the Child Care in Your Home fee assistance program in the coming year?**

**A5:** There are a few key updates and enhancements that families should know about:

- Families are permitted to share a nanny/in-home provider through a Nanny Share Agreement.
- Child Care in Your Home providers will have the opportunity to care for their own children in the service member's home when there is a written agreement between the service member and the provider. For the health, safety and well-being of the children in care, under this agreement the child care ratio may not exceed six children to one adult. This may include no more than two infants or children considered incapable of self-preservation.
- CCYH providers will be allowed to reside with the family when hired to provide child care services. Service members, as the employers, must follow the labor and tax laws when employing their live-in provider. CCYH fee assistance is applied toward the child care fee only and will not encompass the costs related to the provider residing at the service member's home or residence. The amount of fee assistance paid for each child is based on the family's total family income and will not cover the entire cost of child care.

**Q6: Who can be hired by families to provide in-home care?**

**A6:** Child Care in Your Home providers include lawful permanent residents and family members.

- A lawful permanent resident is a foreign-born person who may permanently live and work in the U.S. but is not yet a U.S. citizen.
- A family member is defined as a person who is related to each child by blood, marriage or adoption, such as an aunt, uncle, grandparent, great-grandparent, great-great-grandparent, first cousin, niece, nephew, grandniece, grandnephew, great-aunt, great-uncle or an older sibling. Family members must be at least 18 years of age.
- A family member who serves as the child care provider in your home may not be the parent, stepparent or legal guardian of the child or children in care.
- All providers, even those preselected by or related to the family, must complete all training and background check requirements established for the program.



- CCYH providers must be eligible to work as a child care provider in the United States (e.g., be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident) and:
  - Be at least 18 years of age
  - Hold a high school diploma or equivalent
  - Read, speak and write English
  - Comply with applicable employment laws, to include income tax regulations

**Q7: What are child care providers required to accomplish?**

**A7:** Provider requirements include, but are not limited to, successful background check completion, training and their general oversight responsibilities as the caregiver for the service member's children.

**Q8: Will the department help families hire in-home providers?**

**A8:** Families will be responsible for finding their own in-home care providers. Families may use the [expanded child care service](#) available through Military OneSource to search for in-home providers.

**Q9: What is the process for background checks and ensuring family safety for service members who employ an in-home provider?**

**A9:** A third party administrator will be responsible for validating that in-home providers successfully complete and have favorably adjudicated the following requirements for background checks:

- Fingerprint-based FBI criminal history background check
- State criminal history repository check
- State child abuse and neglect repository
- State sex offender registry

If the provider previously completed the background check requirements above, they must be current, which is defined as no more than five years old.

The third party administrator will also ensure that each in-home provider completes 32 hours of training covering topics including CPR and first aid, child abuse prevention, safe sleep and care for children with special needs if needed. The provider and family must also commit to semiannual monitoring so that ongoing oversight following the initial orientation is provided. Oversight visits will be with the Child Care in Your Home provider when children are present.



**Q10: How much fee assistance is provided for each family?**

**A10:** The Child Care in Your Home fee assistance is based on the child care fee only and will not cover any cost related to the provider residing at the service member's home or residence. Each family is responsible to pay their CCYH provider for all additional costs the fee assistance does not cover, as the provider fee assistance covers only a portion of the child care costs.

The amount of fee assistance provided per child is based on:

- The fee a family would pay if receiving care on the installation (based on total family income)
- The monthly rate charged by the CCYH provider

The third party administrator will provide more detailed information to help families calculate how much fee assistance they may receive.