

Maximizing Child and Adult Care Deductions for CalFresh

Many families underutilize the Dependent Care Deduction. Encourage families to maximize eligible CalFresh expenses to assist households with accessing increased benefits.

Dependent Care Deduction: “The actual amount paid for the care of a **child or other dependent** (such as an older adult) in the household.”

Examples of Dependent Care:

- Formal Childcare Facilities (such as daycare)
- Monthly babysitting by a professional, family member, friend, neighbor, etc.
- Summer Camp Program
- Youth Program (such as YMCA or Boys’ and Girls’ Club)
- Transportation to and from the care facility

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:**
 - The name of the provider
 - The total amount billed
 - Out of pocket expense
 - 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. [CF 10 Dependent Care Cost Affidavit](#)

For more information, contact calfresh@sdhunger.org

d. Sworn Statement

- 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.*