

## Child Care: Income Guidelines

Hamilton County's Child Care Services (CSS) program helps eligible low income working parents find and pay for child care. The income requirements are explained in this fact sheet.

### Who is eligible for the child care program?

There are four major eligibility requirements:

- You must be working or be in an approved work activity.
- You must have physical custody of your child.
- Your initial gross monthly household income for your family size must be equal to or less than 125% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
- Your gross monthly household income for your family size must be equal to or less than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to maintain your eligibility for service.

### What does gross monthly household income mean?

Gross monthly household income means your total income before taxes. That includes your paycheck, child support, cash assistance, social security, disability, etc.

### What is 125% or 200% of the poverty level?

Below is a chart that lists what 125% and 200% of the Federal Poverty Level is for your family size. To use the chart, first find your family size. (For more information on how to determine family size see the Fact Sheet: HCJFS 7981 – *How Much Do Parents Pay?*) If your gross monthly income is equal to or less than the income listed for your family size, then you are probably eligible for the child care program. If your gross monthly income is greater than the income listed for your family size, then you are probably not eligible. But final eligibility can only be determined by completing an application.

Family Size	125% Federal Poverty Level	200% Federal Poverty Level
2	\$1,533	\$2,452
3	\$1,931	\$3,090
4	\$2,329	\$3,726
5	\$2,726	\$4,362
6	\$3,125	\$5,000
7	\$3,523	\$5,636
8	\$3,920	\$6,272
9	\$4,319	\$6,910
10	\$4,716	\$7,546
11	\$5,114	\$8,182
12	\$5,513	\$8,820

**Note:** Federal Poverty Levels usually change each year around July. This chart was last updated in July 2011.