

Limitations and Exclusions

- Medically-required generators purchased or rented to power equipment necessary for an existing medical condition may be considered under Assistance for Miscellaneous Items rather than Medical and Dental Assistance. For additional information, see [Chapter 3, VI.B.4.](#)
- IHP assistance for replacing lost or damaged medical or dental equipment is limited to items of similar quality and function as the item being replaced.
- IHP assistance for medical and dental services does not include medically unnecessary procedures (e.g., procedures designed to enhance appearance, such as teeth whitening).
- A limited number of accessible items are available for qualified applicants with disabilities under Personal Property Assistance. To be eligible, these items must have been owned prior to the disaster and sustained disaster-caused damage or loss. For additional information, see [Chapter 3, VI.C.1.](#)
- IHP assistance for service animals is limited to service dogs and miniature horses that perform a qualified task for a person with a disability, as defined by the ADA of 1990 (ADA, as amended, 2008). The ADA defines service animal as “any dog [or miniature horse] that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability.”
- A service animal must be required because of a disability and perform a functional task for the applicant or a member of the household.
- IHP assistance is not available for therapy animals or emotional support animals.

3. Child Care Assistance

FEMA provides financial assistance under the ONA provision of the IHP to eligible individuals and households who have a disaster-caused increased financial burden for child care.¹⁶⁴ FEMA will award payment for Child Care Assistance for the household’s increased financial burden for up to eight cumulative weeks of child care, plus any eligible expenses, or the maximum amount of assistance for Child Care Assistance identified by the STT government, whichever is less.

FEMA may provide financial assistance to address increased disaster-caused child care expenses for eligible households with:

- Children aged 13 and under; and/or
- Children with a disability, as defined by Federal law,¹⁶⁵ up to age 21, who need assistance with activities of daily living.



Activities of Daily Living (ADL)

Activities of daily living are routine activities that people tend to do every day without needing assistance. There are six basic ADLs: eating, bathing, dressing, toileting, transferring (walking), and continence.

The respective STT government must establish the maximum amount of Child Care Assistance on a per-child or per-household basis as part of the annual ONA Administrative Option Selection process.

Conditions of Eligibility

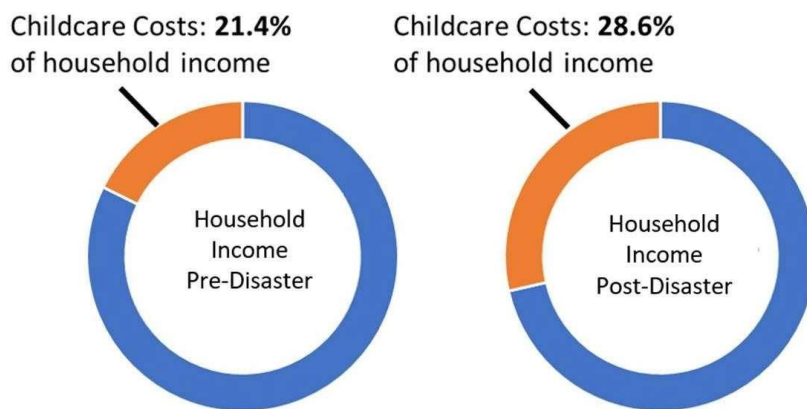
In addition to meeting general conditions of eligibility (see [Chapter 3, II.](#)), applicants must have a disaster-caused increase in financial burden for child care, regardless of whether child care expenses were required prior to the disaster, because:

- The applicant's gross household income has decreased as a direct result of the disaster; or
- The applicant's child care expenses have increased as a result of the disaster.

Applicants must certify they cannot utilize child care services provided by any other source (e.g., other Federal assistance for child care, private employer child care services) in order to qualify for Child Care Assistance.

For applicants with child care expenses prior to the disaster, FEMA compares the percentage of the household's gross income spent for child care expenses before the disaster to the percentage spent following the disaster to determine if the post-disaster child care costs create a financial burden. For example, if the household's pre-disaster income was \$3,500 per week and pre-disaster child care costs were \$750 per week, child care costs were 21.4% of the household's income pre-disaster. If the post-disaster income is \$3,500 per week and post-disaster child care costs are \$1,000 per week, child care costs are now 28.6% of the household's income post-disaster.

Figure 31: Example - Comparison of Pre- and Post-Disaster Child Care Costs



If the percentage of household gross income spent on child care post-disaster is higher than the percentage of household gross income spent on child care pre-disaster, the household has an increased financial burden for child care and may be eligible for assistance to cover the increase. In the example above, the percentage of the household's gross income spent on child care is 7.2% higher than the percentage of the household's gross income spent on child care pre-disaster. This household may be eligible to receive the difference in pre- and post-disaster household income spent on child care.

The applicant's post-disaster child care provider must be licensed, regulated, or registered under applicable SLTT government law to qualify for assistance.

The following items are eligible expenses for Child Care Assistance:

- Standard child care service fees, including personal assistance services that support activities of daily living for children with disabilities.
- Registration and health inventory fees may be eligible expenses only for applicants who require a new child care service provider.



Registration Fee

A registration fee is a one-time fee when registering an eligible child at an authorized child care provider. A health inventory fee is a medical office fee for processing required medical paperwork as part of the registration process.

Required Documentation

Details regarding information that must be included on each type of documentation are listed in *Figure 32*.

For FEMA to determine a disaster-caused need for Child Care Assistance, an applicant who had child care expenses pre-disaster must submit:

- Pre- and post-disaster gross household income documentation.
- Pre-disaster receipts, contract, or signed letter from the child care provider for child care expenses, if receipts or contract cannot be located.
- Post-disaster receipts or estimates for child care fees, registration, and/or health inventory fees.
- A post-disaster child care contract or agreement.
- A post-disaster child care provider's license, if the information cannot be located within a respective SLTT government's licensed provider database.
- Individualized Educational Plan (IEP), 504 plan,¹⁶⁶ or medical professional's statements, if applicable, to verify disability for children up to age 21 who need assistance with activities of daily living.



IEPs and 504 Plans

IEP: A document developed for each public-school child who needs special education. An IEP defines the individualized objectives of a child who has been determined to have a disability, as defined by Federal regulations. As long as a student qualifies for special education, the IEP is mandated to be regularly maintained and updated up to the point of high school graduation, or prior to the 21st birthday.

504 Plan: This type of plan falls under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. A 504 plan outlines how a child's specific needs are met with accommodations, modifications and other services. These measures "remove barriers" to learning.

- A signed, written statement from the applicant affirming:
 - The applicant is not receiving assistance for child care expenses from any other source; and
 - The expected length of time the applicant will have a disaster-caused need for Child Care Assistance.

An applicant who did not have child care expenses pre-disaster, and has incurred or will incur child care expenses as a result of the disaster, must submit:

- Post-disaster receipts or estimates for child care fees, registration, and/or health inventory fees.
- A post-disaster child care contract or agreement.
- A post-disaster child care provider's license, if the information cannot be located within a respective SLTT government's licensed provider database.
- IEP, 504 plan, or medical professional's statements, if applicable, to verify disability for children up to age 21 who need assistance with activities of daily living.
- A signed, written statement from the applicant affirming:
 - The applicant is not receiving assistance for child care expenses from any other source; and
 - The expected length of time the applicant will have a disaster-caused need for Child Care Assistance.

Figure 32: Child Care Assistance Documentation

Type of Documentation	Documentation Requirements
Pre-disaster child care expense receipts, contract, or signed letter from child care provider, if receipts or contract cannot be located.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The name of the child/ren receiving care. • Provider's name, address, and telephone number. • Time period covered and total child care expenses for that time period. • Signature of child care provider and applicant.
Proof of pre-disaster and current post-disaster income for the individual(s) responsible for child care expenses	<p>Examples include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent pay stubs. • W-2 forms or tax returns from most recent tax year. • Documentation of self-employment, if applicable. • Documentation of government assistance, including Social Security.
Verification of the child care provider's license	Applicant does not need to submit if the information can be located within a respective STT government's licensed provider database.
Individual Educational Program Plan, 504 plan, or medical professional's statement	Verifies a disability for children up to age 21 who require assistance with activities of daily living. If a child with a disability has not graduated from high school, they are eligible for education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) until age 21. A child eligible under IDEA will have an IEP that documents the educational services. Children who are not eligible for an IEP, but still need some educational support, may have a 504 plan.

Limitations and Exclusions

- FEMA limits Child Care Assistance to up to eight cumulative weeks per child or per household or the maximum amount of assistance established by the STT government, whichever is less.
- FEMA will only provide Child Care Assistance to one applicant on behalf of the child(ren).
- If a child is a member of multiple households, FEMA will only award assistance to the primary custodial parent/guardian responsible for child care costs after the disaster.
- FEMA will not provide assistance for any of the following:
 - Fees for extra-curricular activities and additional services (e.g., school photographs, field trips)
 - Fees not directly related to the day-to-day child care services provided to the eligible child (e.g., prepared lunches, snacks, facility-provided linens, etc.)
 - Fuel expenses related to transporting the child to and from the child care provider (e.g., school bus service)
 - Education services (e.g., after-school tutoring)
 - Medical care or services
 - Recreational camps or clubs (e.g., after-school clubs, overnight camps)

4. Assistance for Miscellaneous Items

FEMA provides financial assistance under the ONA provision of the IHP to individuals and households with certain disaster-caused miscellaneous expenses.¹⁶⁷ Eligible items must be purchased or rented after the incident to assist with the applicant's disaster recovery, such as gaining access to the property or assisting with cleaning efforts. Items damaged by the disaster that were owned prior to the disaster will be considered under Personal Property Assistance. STT governments, in consultation with FEMA, have identified standard miscellaneous line items. However, the STT government may elect not to include all these items as eligible for reimbursement:

- Carbon Monoxide Detector
- Chainsaw
- Dehumidifier
- Generator (see [Chapter 3, VI.B.4](#)) under this section's Limitations and Exclusions)
- Humidifier
- Smoke Detector
- Weather Radio

STT governments may request additional miscellaneous line items on the ONA Administrative Option Selection Form, during any non-disaster time period or within 72 hours of a major disaster declaration.¹⁶⁸