

Provider Right and Responsibilities

Utah Admin Code R986-700-706 Child Care Assistance

(1) Providers assume the responsibility to collect payment for childcare services rendered. Neither the Department nor the state of Utah assumes responsibility for payment to providers.

(2) A provider may not charge clients receiving a CC subsidy a higher rate than their customers who do not receive a CC subsidy.

(3) Providers must keep accurate records of subsidized childcare payments, time and attendance. The Department has the right to investigate childcare providers and audit their records. Time and attendance records for all subsidized clients must be kept for at least one year. If a provider fails to cooperate with a Department investigation or audit, or fails to keep records for one year, the provider will no longer be an approved provider.

(4) If a provider accepts payment from funds provided by the Department for services that were not provided, the provider may be referred for criminal prosecution and will no longer be an approved provider.

(5) If an overpayment is established and it is determined that the provider was at fault in the creation of the overpayment, the provider is responsible for repayment of the overpayment.

(6) Records are kept by the Department for individuals who are not approved providers and against whom a referral or complaint is received.

Provider Disqualification

Utah Admin Code R986-700-718

1) A child care provider removing child care subsidy funds from a client's account by way of electronic benefit transfer (EBT), which includes the Horizon card and interactive voice response (IVR), can only remove those funds from a client's account that are authorized by the Department for that provider. All providers receiving payment for child care services through an EBT may learn the exact amount authorized for that provider for each client by accessing the Department's Provider Payment Authorization website. Providers who remove more funds than authorized will be required to reimburse the Department for the excess funds and will be disqualified from receipt of further CC subsidy funds as follows,

(a) if the provider has never removed unauthorized CC subsidy funds before, the Department will send a demand letter to the provider's last known address informing the provider of the unauthorized access and establishing an overpayment in the amount of the excess funds. If the provider repays the overpayment within six months, no further action will be taken on that overpayment,

(b) if the provider removes funds in excess of those authorized by the Department a second time, and the provider repaid the previous overpayment or is making a good faith effort to repay the overpayment, a second demand letter will be sent to the provider's last known address. The second letter will establish an overpayment in the amount of the excess funds removed and inform the provider that any further unauthorized access will result in disqualification. If the provider removes unauthorized funds and has not repaid the first overpayment, or is not making a good faith effort to repay the first overpayment to the Department, no second demand letter will be sent and the provider will be disqualified for a period of one year from the date the Department issues its letter, or in the case of an appeal, from the date the ALJ issues his or her determination. A good faith effort to repay the overpayment means the provider is repaying at least 10% of the overpayment due each month,

(c) if a child care provider removes unauthorized funds a third time, or a second time without repayment of the first overpayment as provided in paragraph (1)(b) of this subsection, the provider will be disqualified and is ineligible for receipt of further CC subsidy funds for a period of one year from the date the Department issues its letter, or in the case of an appeal, from the date the ALJ issues his or her determination,

(d) a CC provider previously disqualified for one year from receipt of CC subsidy funds due to unauthorized removal of funds in paragraph (1)(c) of this subsection, will be disqualified for a period of two years if the provider removes unauthorized funds again. Warning letters under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection will not be sent if a provider was previously disqualified for receipt of CC subsidy funds,

(e) a CC provider previously disqualified for a two-year period due to unauthorized removal of funds in paragraph (1)(d) of this subsection will be permanently disqualified if the provider removes unauthorized funds again. Warning letters under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection will not be sent if a provider was previously disqualified for receipt of CC subsidy funds.

(2) CC providers disqualified under subsection (1) of this section will be ineligible for receipt of quality grants awarded by the Department during the period of disqualification.

(3) A CC provider overpayment not paid in full within six months will be referred to collection and will be collected in the same manner as all public assistance overpayments. Payment of provider overpayments must be made to the Department and not to the client.

(4) A CC provider may appeal an overpayment or disqualification as provided for public assistance appeals in rule R986-100. Any appeal must be filed in writing within 30 days of the date of letter establishing the overpayment or disqualification. A provider who has been found ineligible may continue to receive CC subsidy funds pending appeal until a decision is issued by the ALJ. The disqualification period will take effect even if the provider files an appeal of the decision issued by the ALJ.

This code can be found on the State of Utah government website at: <http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r986/r986-700.htm>