

**Department of Defense (DoD) In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot
Parent User Agreement Form**

ELIGIBILITY: Single or Dual Active Duty or Single or Dual Guard or Reserve Members on Active Duty, Active Duty or Guard or Reserve Members on Active Duty with a full-time working spouse, Active Duty or Guard or Reserve Members on Active Duty with a spouse enrolled in a post-secondary institution on a full-time basis. Retirement, separation from your branch of service, or Guard and Reserve no longer on Active Duty immediately makes my family no longer eligible.

Note: For the purpose of this Pilot and IAW with DoDI 6060.02, *Child Development Programs (CDP)*, a spouse who is working 30 hours per week or 100 hours per month, or a spouse working less than 30 hours per week or 100 hours per month and enrolled in a postsecondary educational institution will be considered a full-time working spouse. In the event of a separation or divorce, whereby my child(ren) no longer reside with the Service Member, the non-military spouse is no longer eligible for Department of Defense (DoD) In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program.

Children, 2 weeks to 5 years of age, are eligible for the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program. School-age siblings, 6-12 years of age, may also be eligible for child care services with their qualifying, younger siblings. In signing this agreement, you acknowledge that you understand and agree to comply with the policies and procedures as outlined below in regard to all children and siblings.

FEE ASSISTANCE: The Department will provide full-time fee assistance, defined as a minimum of 30 hours to a maximum of 60 hours of child care weekly. Parents are responsible for fees in excess of 60 hours of care weekly and all fees over the monthly subsidy amount. Care is not limited to Monday through Friday or to a particular time of day. This flexibility will allow in-home providers to be used for rotating shifts and weekend care to meet the non-traditional schedules of military families. Non-traditional work schedules covered by this program will also include Service members or military family members working full-time from home.

Each statement requires the Military Sponsor and Spouse/Partner initials. A signature is required by both Military sponsor and Spouse/Partner (when applicable).

PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION: Please read carefully, check all boxes, sign and date in designated area, acknowledging that you understand and agree to follow all policies and procedures below. Please note that falsification, fraudulence, misrepresentation, or failure to comply with the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Parent User Agreement could result in suspension or cessation of DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance.

Family Name

Name of Child

Name of Child

Name of Child

Name of In-Home Child Care Provider

**Department of Defense (DoD) In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot
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I CERTIFY THAT:

_____ I am the parent or legal guardian of the child(ren) listed and I may be required to submit proof of such in order to participate in the Department of Defense (DoD) In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program.

_____ All information submitted in this agreement is true and correct. Any misrepresentation of this information may result in reclaiming any money paid for child care and may result in prosecution under applicable State and Federal laws. See 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

ELIGIBILITY:

_____ I understand that DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance is a pilot program available through Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and administered by Child Care Aware® of America (CCAoA). DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program is a separate standalone program and does not fall under any individual service branch. My continued participation in DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance is subject to the continuation of the pilot program.

_____ I understand that I must submit proof of my continued eligibility for this program when requested. I will notify CCAoA immediately upon any change to the eligibility criteria.

- My Certificates of Approval are issued based on eligibility when my family's application was processed, and any change in the above listed eligibility criteria immediately impacts my ability to use DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program.

_____ I understand that this information is being provided to support my request for DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program used to reduce the cost of child care, and the DoD and CCAoA officials may verify any information on this application at any time they deem necessary.

_____ I understand that I must complete my application and submit all required documents within five business days of accepting the offer of enrollment. I also understand that I must select an in-home provider and notify CCAoA within 30 days of accepting the offer of enrollment. I further understand the provider must complete the enrollment requirements within 90 days (5 business days to submit application and agreement, 45 days to complete training, and 90 days to receive completed background checks, all from when the application and agreement are received).

_____ I understand that I authorize my local agency monitor, CCAoA Staff, and the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance providers, to exchange information regarding my child as is necessary to secure and maintain DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance. This includes, but is not limited to, general medical information.

_____ I understand that the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program is not an entitlement.

_____ I understand that all program policies and guidelines are set forth by DoD, including but not limited to sponsor status, provider eligibility, schedule of care, number of hours of care, etc. CCAoA serves only as the program administrator. If I do not meet the minimum requirements set forth by DoD, then I am not eligible for the program.

_____ I understand a provider/family probation or disqualification from the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program may result due to significant non-compliance. Fee assistance will not be issued to providers who are disqualified. In order to continue with the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program, I must find a new eligible provider.

PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS:

_____ I understand that I am responsible for finding my own in-home child care provider. I understand CCAoA will not assist me in my child care provider search or provide referrals for potential providers.

_____ I understand that I may use the Expanded Child Care Service available through MilitaryOneSource to search for child care providers.

_____ I understand that my in-home child care provider must be at least 18 years of age, be a United States Citizen, hold a high school diploma or equivalent and be able to read, speak and write English. If my provider does not meet the eligibility requirements or is not qualified for the program, fee assistance will not be approved and provided. For more information on provider eligibility, please visit <http://usa.childcareaware.org/>.

_____ I understand that CCAoA is responsible for approving my in-home care provider and I am not eligible for fee assistance until the provider is approved regardless of whether my child was already receiving child care.

_____ I understand that CCAoA will perform background checks on my in-home child care provider.

_____ I understand that CCAoA will confirm the CPR and first aid certification of my in-home child care provider. CCAoA will also provide access to DoD orientation training that includes, but is not limited to, child abuse prevention, identification and reporting, emergency health and safety procedures, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) prevention, child safety and fire prevention, health and sanitation procedures, applicable policy and procedures, and other training as outlined by DoD. The training content will be provided from a DoD sponsored platform.

_____ I understand a provider screened and trained by another entity may not meet the DoD requirements and therefore will need to meet the eligibility requirements for the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program.

_____ I understand provider interviews and reference checks are highly encouraged.

_____ I understand the provider may not be a family member (which includes a spouse, grandparent, aunt, uncle, older sibling, etc.)

_____ I understand the provider is my employee and therefore I am responsible for all income taxes and Social Security, Medicare taxes and other employer requirements, such as federal and state minimum wage requirements.

FEE ASSISTANCE:

_____ I understand that all family income of the sponsor and spouse must be reported. Any changes to the income or employment status of the sponsor or spouse must be reported to CCAoA immediately.

_____ I understand that I must disclose Total Family Income (TFI) to determine my fee calculations. Total Family Income per DoD Instruction 6060.02, defines TFI to include all earned income, including wages salaries, tips, long-term disability benefits, voluntary salary deferrals, Basic Allowance for Housing Reserve Component/Transit (BAH RC/T) subsistence allowances, in-kind quarters; and subsistence received by a Military Service member, DoD civilian employee, and if applicable, his or her spouse; and anything else of value, even if not taxable, received for services. BAH RC/T and subsistence allowances include the Basic Allowance for Quarters and the Basic Allowance for Subsistence received by military and civilian personnel, when provided (with respect to grade and status), and the value of meals and lodging furnished in-kind to military personnel residing on military bases. TFI calculations must also include quarters' subsistence and other allowances appropriate for the rank and status of military or civilian personnel, whether received in cash or in-kind. Rather than use the BAH listed on an LES, installations must use the non-locality BAH RC/T for all members, regardless of whether they live in government housing or off of the installation. Dual military

couples living in government quarters must include BAH RC/T of the senior member only. In locations where Service members receive less than the BAH RC/T allowance, use the local BAH rate. Programs should not include alimony and child support received by the custodial parent, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits received on behalf of the dependent child, reimbursements for educational expenses or health and wellness benefits, Cost of Living Allowance (COLA), temporary duty allowances, or reenlistment bonuses.

_____ I understand that all child care rates reported to CCAoA for fee assistance calculation purposes must include any offered discounts and/or promotions. These discounts must be reported and applied up front at the time of processing. The rates are for child care services only and may not include services such as housekeeping or other such duties required by the family.

_____ I understand that CCAoA will only make fee assistance payments directly to the in-home care child care provider and not to me.

_____ I understand that fee assistance will not be provided until the provider is deemed eligible and fully qualified (Background Checks are favorably completed and adjudicated, Initial provider training is completed and application for the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance is completed, approved and processed by CCAoA).

_____ I understand that fee assistance will not be provided while the provider is being screened or trained.

_____ I understand that the amount of fee assistance provided per child is based on the fee a family would pay for on-installation care (based on TFI), the in-home child care provider's monthly rate, and the maximum monthly amount of fee assistance per child based on TFI. For more information, [\(https://www.childcareaware.org/fee-assistancerespite/dod-families/dod-fee-assistance/\)](https://www.childcareaware.org/fee-assistancerespite/dod-families/dod-fee-assistance/).

_____ I understand that I am responsible for any remaining child care fees after fee assistance has been issued. CCAoA will NOT pay beyond the fee assistance rate. Payment arrangements for the remaining fees will be made directly to my provider and not to CCAoA.

_____ I understand that if I continue to use care after my child(ren) are no longer eligible for this program, I am responsible for the full payment to my provider for services, as I will no longer receive fee assistance.

_____ I understand that fee assistance will not be backdated regardless of whether my child was already in care and the in-home care provider was employed by me.

POLICIES:

_____ I understand that I must notify CCAoA at least fifteen (15) calendar days before ending the in-home provider child care services. In cases of emergency, I will notify CCAoA immediately (1-800-424-2246).

_____ I understand I am required to report any instance of suspected child abuse, neglect or maltreatment to CCAoA, the appropriate authorities and child protective services.

_____ I understand CCAoA and/or CCAoA local subcontracted partners will make quarterly home visits to provide program oversight and ensure program compliance for the DoD In-Home Care Provider Fee Assistance Pilot Program, and I must provide access to the home. In-home provider standards used during the visit will be provided, which include, but are not limited to: covering of electrical outlets, cleaning supplies kept out of reach of children, medications kept out of reach of children, medication logs (if applicable), and firearms, if any, out of reach of children and not in view.

_____ I understand that if I have a child with special needs, I understand I am responsible for training the provider on the specific medical requirements (e.g., medication administration) and any other specific accommodations necessary to care for my child.

_____ I understand that I will not request in-home child care to any un-authorized child(ren) (e.g., family friends, neighbors, etc.).

_____ I understand that I will not ask or allow my provider to bring his/her own child(ren), pet, etc., to in-home child care.

_____ I understand that should I choose to schedule overnight in-home child care, I will discuss provider sleeping arrangements, such as:

- If there is a child monitor available in the sleeping area.
- Where the provider will sleep.
- At what point the provider should go to sleep (e.g., after the children have been asleep for thirty (30) minutes or longer).

_____ I understand that I may not ask the provider to cook, clean or perform other household tasks that are not related to the direct care and supervision of the child(ren) in in-home child care.

_____ I will notify CCAoA immediately in the case of serious injuries, accidents or incidents including, but not limited to, those requiring hospital attention.

_____ I will complete and return to CCAoA all required forms prior to the provision of the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program.

_____ I will complete and keep copies of the following forms in a family notebook in my home and accessible to the provider during the provision of DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance:

- *“Authorization for Medication Administration”* if medication is necessary or required.
 - All medication must be prescription and in the original container with my child’s name clearly labeled.
 - I will complete and sign prior to any medication being dispersed.
 - *“Medication Statement”* if no medication is required.
 - I will list the children for whom no medication will be authorized.
- *“Emergency Contact and Release Information;”* must list at least one emergency contact
- *“Consent for Emergency Medical Treatment”* per child.

_____ I will ensure my provider has contact information for me in the event of an emergency.

_____ I understand that in the event that I allow my provider to transport my children that I am responsible for verifying proper licensing and insurance of my provider.

_____ I understand that with my permission, the provider can take my child(ren) to public venues such as parks, libraries, etc.

_____ I will review, ensure accuracy of, sign and date the attendance sheets for my provider.

_____ I will not sign a blank or incomplete attendance sheet for my provider(s).

_____ I will not sign an attendance sheet in advance of the provision of in-home child care or before the last day of in-home child care is provided for that month.

_____ I will contact Child Care Aware® of America immediately if I have issues.

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS:

_____ I recognize and understand COVID-19 is a highly contagious and dangerous disease, and that contact with the virus that causes COVID-19 may result in significant personal injury or death. I am fully aware that the provision of child care carries with it certain inherent risks related to transmission of communicable diseases (“Inherent Risks”) that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid such risks. By my signature below, I hereby voluntarily accept and assume all risk of loss, personal injury, sickness, death, damage, and expense for myself and my minor children arising from such Inherent Risks.

_____ I will only schedule and receive child care in accordance with current applicable federal, state, local and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines concerning COVID-19.

_____ I will not schedule or receive child care if I or a member of my family have tested positive for COVID-19, until we have completed the necessary recovery directives and been cleared by a doctor.

_____ I will not schedule or receive child care if I or a member of my family have symptoms of COVID-19, highlighted by the CDC (see CDC's updated "Symptoms of Coronavirus"), until we have completed the quarantine period currently recommended by the CDC or received a diagnosis from a doctor that the symptoms I or a member of my family have are not COVID-19 related following testing for COVID-19.

_____ I will not schedule or receive child care if I or a member of my family have recently come in contact with someone who is known to have tested positive for COVID-19 until we have completed the quarantine period currently recommended by the CDC.

_____ I will work with my provider to determine appropriate precautions to take based on the needs of my care and in accordance with current CDC guidelines (including, but not limited to, wearing gloves, healthy hygiene practices, disinfectant uses, self and child monitoring symptoms, etc.).

_____ I understand that my provider is required to wear a face mask or covering (see CDC's "How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings") during child care appointments in accordance with current CDC guidelines concerning COVID-19.

INDEMNIFICATION CLAUSE:

_____ I shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend CCAoA (including its officers, directors, employees, sub licenses, customers, agents), CCAoA's subcontractor partners who monitor the DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program, my in-home child care providers, the United States Department of Defense, the Non-appropriated Fund Instrumentality (NAFI) of the United States Government (including its agents, representatives, employees, outlets, and customers) and the United States Government from and against any and all claimed or established liability, losses, damages, expenses, demands, suits, and judgments (as well as attorney's fees) from claims for damages, bodily injury, illness, or death arising out of any acts or omissions (including those related to COVID-19) by myself or my family, including but not limited to claims by or on behalf of In-Home Child Care providers, arising from services rendered or for facilities provided with the operation of DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Program.

_____ I have read all of the above and understand its content. By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand these DoD In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot Parent User Agreement Policies and Procedures, and Release and Waiver of Liability, and I represent and warrant I agree to comply with them. I understand that any falsification, fraudulence, misrepresentation, or failure to comply with any of the terms of this Agreement will result in penalties that may include, but are not limited to: immediate termination of my fee assistance and of my participation in the DoD In-Home Provider Fee Assistance Pilot Program, that I may be required to re-pay any money paid on my behalf, and/or prosecution in the court of law. I further acknowledge that I have received a copy of this Agreement.

Print Sponsor's Name

Signature Sponsor

Date

Print Spouse's/Partner Name

Signature Spouse/Partner

Date