

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Anishnaabek Community and Family Services
Child Care and Development Fund

Parent/Provider Newsletter

August 2023

CCDF 2023-2025 PLAN

The newest CCDF 2023-2025 Plan begins May 1, 2023. The CCDF 2023-2025 Plan will be available once it is approved for your review on the ACFS website. Follow this link <https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/direct-services/child-care-development-fund>.

BILLING SHEETS

Billing sheets are located in the front entrance of the ACFS offices at 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and the entrance way is open 24 hours and there is also a drop box in this area for your convenience. Providers living in or near Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan are strongly encouraged to pick up the billing sheets at the ACFS office. All billing questions can be referred to Angel Roo at apeer@saulttribe.net or by calling 906-632-5250.

PROVIDER BACKGROUND CHECKS

CCDF Final Rule 2014 requires persons receiving CCDF subsidies to care for Sault Tribe children between the ages of birth through 12 years must have completed a series of background checks prior to caring for children. Tribal Licensed Child Care Center employees must follow and adhere to Sault Tribe Human Resources background checks. Tribal Licensed-Exempt Relative Care Providers Tribal and County Criminal History, MDHHS Clearance, ICHAT, Tribal Clearance, name and address-based Sex Offender Registry check prior to caring for children. Tribal License-Exempt In-Aides must pass FBI fingerprints, Tribal and County Criminal History, MDHHS Clearance, ICHAT, Tribal Clearance, name and address-based Sex Offender Registry check prior to caring for children.

If something were to show up on any check, the applicant will have an opportunity to correct any errors and can reapply when the report has been corrected.

There are many crimes that may render an applicant ineligible for receiving CCDF funds for caring for children.

That list can be found here: <https://dhhs.michigan.gov/olmweb/ex/CrimeCodesExhibit/CrimeCodesExhibit.pdf>.
Tribal Court Codes can be found here:
<https://saulttribe.com/images/downloads/government/tribal%20code/CHAPTER%2071.pdf>.

CCDF GUIDELINES

Child in need of care must be a Sault Tribe member, aged birth through 12 years old, and reside in the 7 County Service Area. Child's parents must be working, going to school or in a job training program and meet income guidelines. Child Care providers must be licensed through the State of Michigan or the Tribe, be a certified Relative Care Provider or a Certified In-Home Aide.

A Certified Relative Care Provider can be a Grandparent, Great Grandparent, Aunt, Uncle or Sibling (not living in the household) of the children in need of care, must be at least 18 years of age, pass simple background checks, complete the required paperwork and follow the CCDF Program billing schedule.

A Certified In-Home Aide provider must be at least 18 years old, not living in the household, pass Federal Fingerprinting Background Checks, simple background checks, complete required paperwork, complete required training and CCDF Orientation. Certified In-Home Aide can only care for the children in the applicant's household and only the applicant's children.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Health and Safety are priorities when it comes to caring for children. The Tribal CCDF program provides necessary Health and Safety required items to CCDF Families and CCDF Providers. If you find you are in the need of Health and Safety required items such as Fire/Smoke detector (one for each level of the home/center), fire extinguisher, carbon monoxide detector, electrical outlet covers, drawer safety latches, first aid kit, etc. please contact ACFS Direct Assistance Program Director Megan Miller at 906-632-5250.

CONSUMER STATEMENT

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Anishnaabek Community and Family Services Child Care and Development Fund program offers Child Care Subsidy Assistance to parents with Sault Tribe member (or eligible to be) children living in the Sault Tribe 7 County Service area who are working, going to school, or in a qualified job training program. Eligible parents can choose high-quality child-care providers that include State Licensed Centers or Family/Group Homes, Tribal Licensed Centers or Family/Group Homes, Relative Care Providers or In-Home Aides. Relative Care Providers and In-Home Aides must complete requirements prior to providing care for your children.

Visit <https://www.michigan.gov/lara/bureau-list/cclb> to find State Licensed Centers and State Licensed Family/Group Child Care Homes in your area. Parents can also access health and safety reports and investigation reports about their State Licensed child care centers or homes on this website also. It is the responsibility and right of any parent seeking child care services to be aware of their child care provider's record.

Sault Tribe Licensed Centers and Homes can be found at <https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/direct-services/child-care-development-fund>

CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCREENINGS

Ages and Stages is a set of questionnaires about children's development. It has been used for more than 20 years to make sure children are developing well. A screening provides a quick look at how children are doing in important areas such as communication, physical ability, social skills, and problem-solving skills. Ages and Stages can help identify your child's strengths as well as any areas where your child may need support. I love this screening tool because it involves the parents/guardians, child and the care provider. The parent/guardian fills out the questionnaire while playing with their child and returns it to the care provider or CCDF Coordinator for results. Based on the results, the child's individualized lesson plan can be created and if an area of concern is identified then a referral can be made to an appropriate support agency.

Many Child Care Centers are already providing a child development screening. And it may be Ages and Stages, but for parents who are interested, I can provide copies of the following months in the ASQ-3: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 42, and 48. Keep in mind: your children all grow and development in differing rates. And it is okay 😊 I also have the Social Emotional questionnaires in the months: 2, 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 48, and 60. They are easy to score and if you see any area of concern, please contact me or your child's teacher or child care provider so we can give you some ideas of how to increase your child's opportunities to grow in those areas.

RESOURCES

WIC

https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_4910---,00.html

LICENSED CHILD CARE

https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_106253---,00.html

MEDICAID

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/>

SNAP

https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_5527_6691---,00.html

SAULT TRIBE EMPLOYMENT

<https://saulttribe.hirecentric.com/jobsearch/>

SAULT TRIBE

<https://saulttribe.com/>

ACFS

<https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs>

DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS

<https://agesandstages.com/>

GREAT START TO QUALITY

<https://www.greatstarttoquality.org/>

UPPER PENINSULA INFORMATION

WWW.mi211.org

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/>

Federal Emergency Protection Agency <https://www.fema.gov/>

Safe Kids Worldwide <https://www.safekids.org/>

American Red Cross Home Fire Safety <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/fire.html>

Occupational Safety and Health Administration <https://www.osha.gov/>

Ojibwe/English Language Dictionary-<https://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu/>

Sault Tribe Language and Culture- <https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/culture>

Ojibwe Specific Stories- <https://www.mpm.edu/content/wirp/ICW-141>

<https://tribalcollegejournal.org/nanaboozhoo-wiindigo-ojibwe-history-colonization-present/>