

Testimony
Human Services Committee
Representative Chuck Damschen, Chairman
August 28, 2014

Chairman Damschen, and members of the Human Services Committee, I am Carol Cartledge, Director of Economic Assistance Policy Division of the Department of Human Services (DHS). I am here today to provide you an update regarding increasing eligibility for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) from 50% to 85% of state median income.

The increase to 85% of state median income affected families not eligible for the TANF programs. This change means a family of three can now have a gross income up to \$4,915 per month to qualify. Previously the limit was \$3,074 per month. In addition, on July 1, 2013, the family co-payments were reduced from 3% to 7% of gross family monthly income to 1% to 6% of gross family monthly income. DHS is estimating to spend all CCAP grants appropriated in the 2013-2015 biennium and therefore did not further reduce co-payments on July 1, 2014, as authorized in 2013 HB 1422.

See the Child Care Assistance caseload chart on [Attachment A](#).

The average monthly CCAP payment per child per month from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, was \$331.32.

DHS is in the process of developing a survey to collect information from child care providers to understand how the additional CCAP funding was used in their operations.

This concludes my testimony, and I would be happy to answer any questions.