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| <p style="text-align: center;">Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHILD WITH SPECIAL CARE NEEDS</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Policy Area</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHILD CARE Fee Subsidy</p> |
| | <p style="text-align: center;">Policy Number</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CC-6.13</p> |

Preamble

A child with special care needs is described as a child who would benefit from a particular program for medical, emotional or social reasons. A child can also be classified with special care needs, if the parent(s) requires assistance in caring for the child, due to his/her own medical, emotional or social reasons.

The following definitions are recognized:

Under Section 1 of Ontario Regulation 262, a "handicapped child" means a child who has a physical or mental impairment that is likely to continue for a prolonged period of time and who as a result thereof is limited in activities pertaining to normal living as verified by objective psychological or medical findings and includes a child with a developmental disability."

Under Section 1 of O. Reg. 262, a "developmental disability" means a condition of mental impairment present or occurring during a person's formative years, that is associated with limitations in adaptive behaviour."

A child may require Child Care to address a social need, due to issues with the home or family environment. Social need includes situations where the need is directly related to the child, as well as situations where the child's need is the result of a greater family need.

Policy

The Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board (RRDSSAB) assists parents with Child Care costs for their child(ren) with special care needs, if eligible, regardless of whether the parent is employed or attending school.

The Children's Services Manager determines the appropriate amount of Child Care fee subsidy for a child with special care needs. The child's individual

needs and best interests, and the parent's circumstances are considered, in determining fee subsidy.

A qualified professional must forward a completed *Referral for Child with Special Care Needs* to the RRDSSAB to refer a child with special care needs, in order for the child to attend a Child Care Program, with the exclusion of the child of Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) clients.

Referrals relating to a social need will automatically qualify for three days of attendance per week, unless otherwise specified by the professional.

Referrals relating to a developmental disability must specify the disability and the recommended number of days of Child Care. The child will be placed in the Child Care Program's Special Needs Resourcing and will be identified within the Ontario Child Care Management System (OCCMS) for statistical purposes.

Procedure

1. The applicant completes an income test to determine his/her eligibility for fee subsidy. Before qualifying for fee subsidy, the applicant must provide a *Referral for Child with Special Care Needs* from a qualified professional, describing the child's special care needs and his/her recommendations for the child.
2. OW or ODSP applicants must provide verification of OW or ODSP benefits by submitting a copy of his/her current drug benefit card or cheque stub.
3. The child, once deemed eligible, may occupy the subsidized space until that space is required by a higher priority, as identified in *Policy CC-6.14 Priority Waiting List for Subsidized Spaces*.

ADOPTION & REVIEW GUIDELINES

Approved by Res. #118/01 on November 15, 2001

Reviewed/Revised by Administrative Approval: 8 April, 2004

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Administrative Approval: 30 Dec, 2010

Signature of D. Dittaro, CAO: Donna Dittaro

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REFERENCES:

POLICY AREA

POLICY NAME AND NUMBER

Child Care

CC-6.6 Persons with Disabilities

Child Care

CC-6.14 Priority Waiting List for Subsidized Spaces

