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State of Wisconsin  
Governor Scott Walker

TO: **Income Maintenance Supervisors**  
**Income Maintenance Lead Workers**  
**Income Maintenance Staff**  
**Training Staff**  
**Child Care Coordinators**

FROM: Kath McGurk, Director  
Bureau of Early Learning and Policy  
Division of Early Care and Education  
Department of Children and Families

**DECE/BELP OPERATIONS MEMO**

No: 17-15

DATE: 03/17/2017 Amended 05/23

Child Care

**SUBJECT: 2017 Wisconsin Shares Copayment Adjustments (Amended)**

**CROSS REFERENCE:** Ops Memo [17-09](#)

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** April ~~April~~ June 1, 2017

**PURPOSE:** This memo introduces a change to the copayment schedule for Wisconsin Shares Child Care assistance based upon the 2017 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) changes that were published in Operations Memo [17-09](#).

**BACKGROUND:** The Federal Poverty Level (FPL) is adjusted annually based on changes to the Consumer Price Index and this change affects the copayments for Wisconsin Shares Child Care assistance. There is no change to the formula that is used to calculate the copayment. The new rates for copayments have been established based on the change to the FPL.

**POLICY:**

**Wisconsin Shares Copayment**

A link to the 2017 copayment schedule is located on the Wisconsin Shares web page at <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/wishares/eligibility>.

<b>Excerpt from Wisconsin Shares Copayment Schedule</b> Effective June 1, 2017																																															
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Monthly Copayment</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Base</th> <th>Per Child</th> </tr> </thead> </table>		Monthly Copayment		Base	Per Child																																									
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70% FPL	\$0	\$26	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>The <u>Base</u> Copayment amount is adjusted based on the monthly child care hours for the family.</th> <th>From Monthly Hours</th> <th>To Monthly Hours</th> <th>% Copay</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td>20</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>21</td> <td>40</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>41</td> <td>80</td> <td>50*</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>81</td> <td>999</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	The <u>Base</u> Copayment amount is adjusted based on the monthly child care hours for the family.	From Monthly Hours	To Monthly Hours	% Copay		0	20	10		21	40	25		41	80	50*		81	999	100																								
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85% FPL	\$25	\$31	<p>*If all authorizations on the case are 20 hours or less, the Base Copayment cannot exceed 50%.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>The <u>Per Child</u> Copayment amount is further adjusted based on the monthly hours for the individual child.</th> <th>From Monthly Hours</th> <th>To Monthly Hours</th> <th>% Copay</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td>15</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>16</td> <td>30</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>31</td> <td>45</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>46</td> <td>60</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>61</td> <td>75</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>76</td> <td>90</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>91</td> <td>105</td> <td>70</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>106</td> <td>120</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>121</td> <td>135</td> <td>90</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>136</td> <td>999</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	The <u>Per Child</u> Copayment amount is further adjusted based on the monthly hours for the individual child.	From Monthly Hours	To Monthly Hours	% Copay		0	15	10		16	30	20		31	45	30		46	60	40		61	75	50		76	90	60		91	105	70		106	120	80		121	135	90		136	999	100
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135% FPL	\$163	\$49																																													
140% FPL	\$172	\$51																																													
145% FPL	\$179	\$53	<p><b>For example:</b> A one-parent family at 100 percent FPL with two children in care for 45 hours per week would have a base copay of \$68 and a total per-child copay of \$74.</p> <p><b>Base Copay:</b> \$68                      45 Hours/Week x 2 Children &gt; 81 Monthly Hours                      100 % Copay = \$68</p> <p><b>Per Child Copay:</b> \$37                      45 Hours/Week &gt; 136 Monthly Hours                      100 % Copay = \$37 ( x 2 Children)  <b>Total Per Child Copay:</b> \$74</p> <p>\$68 + \$74 = \$142  <b>Total Monthly Copay:</b> \$142</p>																																												
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195% FPL	\$253	\$71																																													
200% FPL	\$260	\$73																																													

**Wisconsin Shares Copayment Changes to Existing Authorizations**

All Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy cases with an existing authorization will go through a benefit recalculation on the weekend of ~~March 18~~ **May 26, 2017**, that will automatically update the copayment calculation. Updated Authorization Notices will be mailed to **affected** families on ~~March 20~~ **June 1, 2017**. The new copayment schedule will be effective ~~April~~ **June 1, 2017**.

**New Wisconsin Shares Authorizations**

In previous years, workers could not create new authorizations that spanned the Copayment Change effective date. This year, it is no longer a concern since the EBT CSAW system calculates the subsidy amount for each month of the authorization individually. Authorizations in EBT CSAW will automatically calculate the subsidy amount correctly according to which copayment schedule was effective during the authorization month.

**CONTACTS:**

For Wisconsin Shares Child Care policy questions outside of Milwaukee County contact your Bureau of Regional Operations (BRO), Child Care Coordinators at <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/regionaloperations/pdf/bro-contacts.pdf>.

For Child Care CARES/CWW, CSAW and CCPI Processing Questions statewide and policy questions in Milwaukee County contact the Child Care Subsidy and Technical Assistance line at: [childcare@wisconsin.gov](mailto:childcare@wisconsin.gov) or (608) 422-7200.

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