

	MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM	ISSUED	REVISED	CHAPTER	SECTION
	Sponsoring Organizations of Homes POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL	12/90	6/12	9	9.2
CHAPTER Chapter 9. Tiering/Eligibility Guidance		SUBJECT Tier I Family Child Care Homes			

Tier I Family Child Care Homes

Sponsoring organizations (SOs) are responsible for determining the eligibility of tier I family child care home providers and must assure accurate verification. Since it is financially beneficial for a family child care home to receive tier I reimbursement rather than tier II reimbursement, MDHSS-CFNA will assess an overclaim against a SO if records indicate the SO has intentionally or negligently misclassified the family child care home. A SO must obtain appropriate documentation to verify tier I reimbursement, and must retain such documentation for as long as the current classification is in effect, plus three years after the end of the fiscal year to which they pertain. A SO must send written notification to a provider who qualifies for tier I rates. Such notification must include the effective dates and the basis for tier I eligibility, i.e., per school data, census data, household income or categorical eligibility.

A family child care home is classified as tier I by location of the home (area eligibility) or household income or categorical eligibility of the provider. Once a provider is classified as tier I, the provider will receive CACFP reimbursement at the tier I rate for all children in the provider's care. Household income for the individual children is not obtained and is not a factor for tier I classification.

When a provider is determined to be Tier I eligible by area eligibility (either school or census), in order to be able to claim her/his own child (ren), the provider must complete an Income Eligibility Form and qualify accordingly.

Area Eligibility-Location of Home

The location of the home can be identified as "eligible" through two different methods:

1. The family child care home is located in an area served by any public school in which at least 50 percent of the enrolled children are certified eligible for free and reduced-price school meals.; or
2. The family child care home is located in a geographic area, as determined by census data, in which at least 50 percent of the total number of children residing in that given area is eligible to receive free or reduced price school meals.

Provider Eligibility-Provider Household Income or Categorical Eligibility

The provider can be identified as "eligible" based on verification of either household income or categorical eligibility, provided that income levels meet the IEG. Categorical eligible programs includes the: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, Formerly Food Stamp Program) and the Temporary Assistance (formerly known as TANF).