



How Families Can Add Themselves to the Child Care Scholarship Waitlist

Families create an account or will log into their existing account.

DSS Portals

Create an AccountLoginENES

Login

Email address/Username *

Password *

☐ Show Password

[Forgot Password](#)

Login

Create an Account

Creating an account will provide you with the below exclusive benefits:

☒ 1. Saving your applications and working on them later.

☒ 2. View the status of your applications.

☒ 3. Renew your benefits every year with only a few clicks.

☒ 4. Scan and submit documents online without having to mail them.

Child Care Scholarships

The Child Care Scholarships Program helps families afford child care so parents may work, go to school, or get job training. If you are working, in school, or in training and meet the income guidelines based on your family size, you may qualify for child care scholarships. [Income Guidelines - Child Care Scholarships - SC Child Care Services](#)

Child Care Scholarships Application Portal User Manual [View/Download UserGuide](#)

****Important Notice**** Effective 12/1/2025, the Child Care Scholarship Program will be placing a pause on accepting applications for Working Families (aka Strong Start) unless applicants fall within a protected category (such as TANF families, Special Needs, Homeless Families, Child Welfare and others). Applications submitted on or after 12/1/2025 will be denied. All applications that have been submitted prior to 12/1/2025 will be processed.

You may apply for Child Care scholarships by clicking on the green button below:

Apply for Child Care ScholarshipsAm I Eligible?

South Carolina Client Eligibility System - SCCES

SCCES is an online portal for South Carolinians to apply for food and cash assistance programs. This is a fast, easy, and secure way to apply for benefits-anytime and anywhere!

South Carolina is rolling out a new tool to help protect your SNAP benefits from fraud. Beginning **April 28th, 2026**, all out-of-state and online SC EBT transactions will be blocked by default.

You stay in control - SC EBT cardholders can update their transaction blocking preferences at any time.

LEARN MORE - about this new SNAP EBT fraud prevention tool by visiting the [DSS website](#).

Before you apply, complete a short eligibility form to see what benefits you might receive.

Am I Eligible?

You can apply right now for South Carolina food and cash assistance programs.

Apply for Benefits

Healthy Food SC



SNAP

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, serves as the foundation of America's national nutrition safety net by working to end hunger and improve the health of low-income households... [Learn More](#)

TANF

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), formerly known as Family Independence (FI) and Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), is a time-limited program that assists families with dependent children when families cannot provide for their basic needs... [Learn More](#)

Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)

The South Carolina Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) Program was established to provide income assistance to refugees who do not meet qualifications for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)... [Learn More](#)

Child Care Scholarships

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You may apply for Child Care scholarships by clicking on the green button below:

[View/Apply for Child Care Financial Assistance](#)

[Am I Eligible?](#)

Click on the View/Apply for Child
Care Financial Assistance
button

South Carolina Client Eligibility System - SCCES

SCCES is an online portal for South Carolinians to apply for food and cash assistance programs. This is a fast, easy, and secure way to apply for benefits-anytime and anywhere!

[View applications or Apply Now](#)

If you have an active SNAP/TANF case, you can receive real time notifications/updates about your case by clicking here to [Subscribe](#).

[Subscribe to a Case](#)

Healthy Food SCHealth



SC DSS will launch the [Healthy Food Program](#) to provide more nutritious foods and to improve nutrition while improving the lives of South Carolinians.

Beginning **November 1, 2024**, **energy drinks, soft drinks** will no longer be eligible for purchase with SNAP benefits.

For more information, please visit [Healthy Food SCHealth](#).

Diet or zero sugar soft drinks are still eligible for purchase with SNAP benefits.

Pathways Scholarship Program

PATHWAYS is an employment and training program that provides scholarships to SNAP clients who wish to further their education and to gain skills and certifications that can lead to employment.

In order to apply for scholarship, you must have an open SNAP case.

You can apply right now for the Pathways Scholarship Program.

[View applications or Apply Now](#)

Internship Program

DSS provides a work atmosphere that encourages active participation on the part of students in helping this organization fulfill its overall goal to ensure the safety and health, and well-being of children and adults, helping individuals achieve stability and strengthening families. We are committed to providing interesting and challenging work opportunities as well as a pleasant, helpful work environment. [Learn More](#)

[Apply for Internship](#)

D-SNAP

The Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) provides emergency food assistance for individuals and households receiving food assistance from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

[Pre-Register for D-SNAP](#)

Any application placed on the waitlist will show in the queue

Waitlist Queue

Reference Number	Applicant Name	Status	Waitlist Submitted Date Time	Number of Children	Waitlist Released Date	Action
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No records found

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Child Care Scholarships Application Queue

[Child Care Scholarships Application Portal User Manual](#) [View/Download UserGuide](#)

[Filter](#)

[Am I Eligible?](#)

Child Care Scholarships Applications

[+ Apply Now](#)

Reference #	Applicant Name	Applying For	Start Date	Status	Application Submit Date	Action
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No records found

[|<](#) [<](#) [1](#) [>](#) [>|](#) [25](#) [v](#)

Prior applications and applications pulled from the waitlist will show in this list.

Click on the Green Apply Now Button to Join the Waitlist

DSS Portals

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 /SCCCA/Application

Waitlist Queue

Reference Number	Applicant Name	Status	Waitlist Submitted Date Time	Number of Children	Waitlist Released Date	Action
No records found						

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Child Care Scholarships Application Queue

Child Care Scholarships Application Portal User Manual [View/Download UserGuide](#)

 Filter

Am I Eligible?

Child Care Scholarships Applications

Reference #	Applicant Name	Applying For	Start Date	Status	Application Submit Date	Action
No records found						

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+ Apply Now

This Application is about the applicant (parent or guardian), their household members, income and children who need child care services. It should only take about 20 Minutes.

Before you start you may need following information to help you complete this process.

- Birth date
- Social Security Numbers
- Income

NOTE:

- If a spouse/significant other, or child's other parent lives with you they must be included on your application; included in your household along with employment, school, or training program documentation. If both parents reside in the same home, both parents must be included on the application and must apply as one household.
- Open SNAP case (spouse/significant other, or children; we will ask for employment, school, or training).

Please view the DSS Contact list page for any questions here [Click Here](#) .

Required Documents

If any of the Household Members relationship to the applicant is anything other than your biological child: Niece/Nephew,Grandchild, Cousin or Adoptive Child, the following is required

- Proof of Custody/Guardianship

If Employed, one of the following is required

- Pay Stubs

Note: The most recent pay stubs from the last 30 days should be submitted.

- Letter from Employer

Note: Letters of employment will be accepted only when a client has started a new job, has a documented commitment of employment to begin within 2 weeks or is returning to work after being on leave. If the letter of employment indicates that the client has been employed for over 60 days, pay stubs will be requested.

*Specific Return to work date(ie,from maternity leave).

Rate of Pay.

How often are you paid.

Average hours per week.

Note: Offer letters will be accepted only for applicants who are starting a new job. The offer letter must also be signed by the applicant.

If Self-Employed:

- A schedule C only if self-employed over one year.
- If newly Self-Employed and taxes have not been filed yet, the [Newly Self-Employed Verification form](#) must be completed, notarized, and submitted.

If in School, the documents are required

- Copy of the current school schedule
- The number of credits/hours, and start/end dates per course
- Proof of payments made toward tuition/Account Summary

If in Training, the following documents are required

- Copy of training schedule
- The number of credits/hours, and start/end dates per course
- Proof of payments made toward training/Account Summary On (required only if client is paying for the training)

If Disabled, the following documents are required

- Proof of disability income
- Letter from physician indicating verified disability and whether or not the applicant can work. [DSS Form 1247](#) is the preferred way to verify this information.

Review page and click on
Save & Continue

Save & Continue >

Getting Started
▼ Applicant
Personal Information
Demographic Information
> My Household
> Income Details
> Child Care Services
Document Upload
> Sign and Submit

Start Date:09/24/2026 Applying for: CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIPS
[Rights and Responsibilities](#)

Please complete all required fields (*) before continuing to next page

Personal Information

First Name *	M.I.	Last Name *	Gender *	Date of Birth *

Note: While the information is not required, missing SSN information may delay the application while information is being verified.

SSN:	CHIP Case No: (if applicable)

Has the family been homeless for one or more days during the month of the application? *	☐ Yes ☐ No
Are you currently receiving TANF benefits or have you received TANF in the past 12 months? *	☐ Yes ☐ No
Are you applying for a child with a verified special need or disability? *	☐ Yes ☐ No
Are you currently living in or participating with a criminal domestic violence shelter/program? *	☐ Yes ☐ No
Are you a grandparent or caretaker relative caring for your grandchildren, niece or nephew? *	☐ Yes ☐ No
Do you currently have an open protective service or family preservation case with DSS? *	☐ Yes ☐ No
Are you applying for child care for a foster child in custody? *	☐ Yes ☐ No

Contact Information

What County do you live in ? *

All of the highlighted sections are required and must be completed.

All highlighted sections are required.

Contact Information

What County do you live in ? *

Physical Address

Street Address*

Address Line 2

City*

State *

South Carolina

Zip *

Is this also your mailing address ? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Contact/Method of Communication

Home

(999)999-9999

Work

(999)999-9999

Telephone

(999)999-9999

Email Address*

Testportal@dss.sc.gov

< Previous

Save & Continue >

Once completed click Save & Continue

Select Yes or No to be added to the waitlist

Add to Waitlist

Name: Test Portal

SSN: _____

Email: Testportal@dss.sc.gov

CHIP Case No. (if applicable) _____

Phone Number: (999)999-9999

You are not eligible for a protected category, and the Child Care Scholarship is not accepting applications at this time.

However, you may add yourself to the waiting list.

Would you like to be added to the waiting list?*

☐

Yes

☐

No

Add to Waitlist



Name: Test Portal

Note: While the information is not required, missing SSN information may delay the application while information is being verified.

Email: Testportal@dss.sc.gov

CHIP Case No. (if applicable) _____

Phone Number: (999)999-9999

You are not eligible for a protected category, and the Child Care Scholarship is not accepting applications at this time.

However, you may add yourself to the waiting list.

Would you like to be added to the waiting list?*

☒

Yes

☐

No

How many children do you need child care for?*

Once Yes for Waitlist is selected, list the number of children you need services for

* Only up to two children 5 and younger will be eligible

Click here to be added to WaitList

Click here to join the wait list

Highlighted line shows the new waitlisted application in the waitlist queue.

Reminder: Staff do not have access to position on waitlist.

Portals

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st Queue

Reference Number	Applicant Name	Status	Waitlist Submitted Date Time	Number of Children	Waitlist Released Date	Action
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Care Scholarships Application Queue

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Care Scholarships Applications

+ Apply Now

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