# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS – WHEN APPLYING FOR CHILD-CARE PAYMENT PROGRAM



#### Disclaimer:

As of April 1, 2025, the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS) Child Care Payment Program (CCPP) has implemented a wait list for new applications. However, if your family qualifies under a priority group (such as children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, TANF recipients, or other designated categories), your application will be processed without delay and will not be subject to the wait list.



Angela, 27, is a single mom in Hattiesburg working full-time at minimum wage. After being approved for CCPP, she chose a licensed provider near her job. But the provider told her she still owes \$50/week, which confused her

# Angela has the right to:

- Receive clear info about any extra charges.
- Choose a provider that accepts CCPP and fits her budget.
- Change providers at any time if cost or quality isn't right.
- File a complaint if she thinks a provider is violating CCPP rules.



Luis, 22, is a single dad attending community college full-time and working part-time. He has a 2-year-old son and no close family nearby to help with childcare. He applied for CCPP and listed his school and work schedules. A few weeks later, he received a letter saying he was denied because his work hours were "not enough."

Luis was confused, he thought being a student counted too.

## **Luis's Rights:**

- Student parents can qualify for CCPP if they're enrolled in an approved education or training program.
- The right to submit documentation to support your eligibility, such as a class schedule or enrollment letter.
- The right to appeal a denial if you think it was made in error.
- Request clarification from MDHS if you don't understand the reason for denial.



Danielle, a single mom of two in Gulfport, was using CCPP while working at a hotel. When she was unexpectedly laid off, she feared she'd lose her childcare and wouldn't be able to look for work. Her provider warned her she might lose her CCPP spot, but Danielle contacted MDHS to find out her options.

## Danielle's has the right to:

- A 90-day job search period where you can continue receiving CCPP assistance.
- Danielle must report job changes, but that does not mean immediate disqualification.
- Receive written notice before your case is closed or changed.
- Request a hearing if your assistance is ended unfairly.