



# Family Resource Simulator

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the purpose of the Family Resource Simulator?

A. The family resource simulator was created to inform policymakers, the public, and program administrators on how the different work supports interact with each other for individual families in the state of Kentucky.

Q. What is a cliff effect?

A. A cliff effect is where an increase in income leads to a loss in resources available to a family.

Q. Are ABAWD's included in the FRS?

A. ABAWD stands for Able-bodied Adults Without Dependents and they are included in the simulator.

Q. What Programs are included in the simulator?

A. CCAP, SNAP, KTAP, Medicaid, LIHEAP, Section 8 Housing Vouchers, Lifeline, WIC, Supplemental Security Income, National School Lunch, National School Breakfast, Free Summer Meals, EITC, Child Tax Credit, Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, Premium Tax Credit, Kentucky Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, Kentucky Family Size Tax Credit. A short description of each program can be found at the end of this document.

Q. What if I have more than 5 Children?

A. Unfortunately, the family resource simulator is currently limited to 5 children.

Q. What if there are more than 2 adults in the household?

A. The programs do not account for more than 2 adults in households. As programs adapt we hope to adapt the tool to the program's requirements.

Q. What is the effective date of the data in this tool?

A. Everything in this tool is up to date as of June 1st, 2022. As policies change we are able to update the tool.

Q. Is this available for my county?

A. Yes, all 120 counties are modeled in this tool.

Q. Where did you get the data used in this tool?

A. We utilized federal and state program guidelines as well as estimates of expenses conducted by federal and state government entities. Many of these programs interact with each other and we have done our best to correctly model the full picture of these programs.

Q. What are the 4 different types of Child Care Providers?

A. The 4 types of Child Care Providers are Licensed Child Care Centers Type I and Type II, Certified Family Child Care, and Registered Early Childhood Professional. Below are definitions for each and additional information can be found [here](#).

**Licensed Child Care Centers Type I and Type II** - A licensed type I child care facility is a facility that regularly provides child care services for four or more children in a non-residential setting; or 13 or more children in a residential setting. A licensed type II child care facility is the primary residence where child care is regularly provided for at least seven, but no more than 12 children, including no more than 12 children related to the licensee.

**Certified Family Child Care** - Care provided in a caregiver's own home for no more than six unrelated and no more than four related children at any time (total of 10 children).

**Registered Early Childhood Professional** - Typically a family member, friend or neighbor who cares for children in his or her own home or the child's home. A registered early childhood provider may not care for more than three children unrelated to the caregiver or more than six children if they are a sibling group.

# Program Information

**The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)** - provides support to help families pay for child care. The Division of Child Care is responsible for all child care provider support and The Division of Family Support helps clients apply for the program.

**The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** - formerly known as food stamps, helps low-income people buy food for healthy meals at participating stores. SNAP benefits increase household food buying power when added to the household's income.

**Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (KTAP)** - is the monetary assistance program established using federal funds from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant. KTAP provides financial and medical assistance to needy dependent children in Kentucky and the parents or relatives with whom the children live. KTAP also helps families find jobs or get training that leads to a job.

**Medicaid** - provides health care benefits for people with disabilities who meet the programs' financial requirements.

**Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** - is a federally-funded program to help eligible low-income households meet their home heating and/or cooling needs.

**Section 8 Housing Vouchers** - The housing choice voucher program is the federal government's major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. Since housing assistance is provided on behalf of the family or individual, participants are able to find their own housing, including single-family homes, townhouses and apartments.

**Lifeline** - The Lifeline program was designed to preserve and promote telephone services to qualified low-income households. The program provides a monthly discount on local service, which can be either LANDLINE or WIRELESS service. The combined federal and state discount in Kentucky is up to \$12.75 per month.

**WIC** - provides nutrition education and services, breastfeeding promotion and education, monthly food prescription of nutritious foods and access to health-care services. WIC saves lives and improves the health of nutritionally at-risk women, infants and children.

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** - provides monetary and medical benefits to adults and children who are blind or disabled and who have also met the non-disability income and resources requirements.

**The National School Lunch Program (NSLP)** - is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools as well as residential child care institutions. The program provides nutritionally balanced, low cost or no cost lunches to children each school day.

**The School Breakfast Program (SBP)** - provides nutritious meals to Kentucky students. Whether it is breakfast in the cafeteria, breakfast in the classroom, or grab and go, school breakfast is an important start in every student's day. Schools that participate in the School Breakfast Program received funding assistance similar to the National School Lunch Program. Schools providing the School Breakfast Program meet specific "meal pattern" requirements to ensure all meals are nutritionally sound.

**Free Summer Meals** - makes it possible for schools to feed children during the traditional summer vacation periods and for year round schools, long school vacation periods.

**Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** - a tax credit for low- and moderate-income working families.

**Child Tax Credit** - tax credit given to American taxpayers for each qualifying dependent child who is under the age of 17 at the end of the tax year.

**Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit** - a non-refundable tax credit offered to taxpayers who pay out-of-pocket expenses for childcare.

**Premium Tax Credit (PTC)** - a refundable credit that helps eligible individuals and families cover the premiums for their health insurance purchased through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

**Kentucky Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit** - a non-refundable tax credit offered to taxpayers who pay out-of-pocket expenses for childcare.

**Kentucky Family Size Tax Credit** - The family size tax credit is based on modified gross income and the size of the family.