

Specialized Child Care Services Include

CIS Specialized Child Care Services are a continuum of available supports for particular populations of children and families. CIS Specialized Child Care Services are intended to increase access to and enhance success in high quality child development programs for children.

The particular populations identified for these services include:

- Children with open cases with the Family Services Division (FSD) of the Department for Children and Families (DCF);
- Children with special physical, behavioral, or developmental needs;
- Families experiencing significant, short term stress.

Services provided by the CIS Child Care Coordinator may include:

1. Ensuring access to quality child development programs by:
 - a. supporting the regional supply of specialized child care providers
 - b. providing expertise on the CIS teams and to child- and family-serving providers/organizations regarding regulated child care
 - c. serving as the primary service coordinator for CIS families whose primary service need is child care
 - d. assisting families in navigating the Child Care Financial Assistance Program
 - e. assisting FSD social workers in identifying a specialized child care provider
 - f. processing enrollment in the Bright Futures Information System (BFIS)
2. Ensuring access to transportation services by:
 - a. assisting families eligible for transportation support
 - b. processing transportation enrollment in BFIS
 - c. coordinating with CDD approved transportation providers
3. Supporting Specialized Child Care providers by:
 - a. assisting high quality child care providers in becoming Specialized Child Care Providers;
 - b. assisting child care providers in assessing, adjusting their environments or program activities/curriculum, and/or accessing resources to support the successful enrollment and healthy development of children;
 - c. assisting child care providers in accessing local resources and statewide systems for professional development and continuous quality improvement.

