

# **WORKFORCESOLUTIONS**

## **G R E A T E R D A L L A S**

<b>Policy Number:</b> S0308	<b>RE:</b> Texas Administrative Code 809.20
<b>Date Issued:</b> 10-15-08	<b>Effective Date:</b> 10-15-08

### **PRIORITY GROUPS AND CONTINUITY OF CARE**

#### **Background**

According to Texas Administrative Code, Title 40 Part 20 Chapter 809, Boards shall ensure priority of care among the following three priority groups.

#### **Policy**

**(1) The first priority group is assured child care services and includes children of parents eligible for the following:**

- (A) Choices child care as referenced in §809.45;
- (B) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Applicant child care as referenced in §809.46;
- (C) FSE&T child care as referenced in §809.47; and
- (D) Transitional child care as referenced in §809.48.

**(2) The second priority group is served subject to the availability of funds and includes, in the order of priority:**

- (A) children who need to receive protective services child care as referenced in §809.49;
- (B) children of a qualified veteran or qualified spouse as defined in §801.23 of this title;
- (C) children of a foster youth as defined in §801.23 of this title;
- (D) children of teen parents as defined in §809.2; and
- (E) children with disabilities as defined in §809.2.

**(3) The third priority group includes:**

- (A) Children enrolled in Head Start who need "wrap around care" after the end of the regular Head Start day (3:00 p.m.) and in the summer
- (B) Children enrolled in Public School (pre-k – all) Dallas County Districts
- (C) Children of parents living in transitional housing victims of domestic violence
- (D) Children of parents living in public housing
- (E) Children being cared for by grandparents and meeting the requirements as outlined in § 809.2 (14).

<b>Policy Number:</b> S0308	<b>RE:</b> Texas Administrative Code 809.20
<b>Date Issued:</b> 10-15-08	<b>Effective Date:</b> 10-15-08

**Continuity of Child Care**

(a) Enrolled children, including children whose eligibility for Transitional child care has expired, shall receive child care as long as the family remains eligible for any available source of Commission-funded child care except as otherwise provided under subsection (b).

(b) Except as provided by §809.76(b) relating to child care during appeal, nothing in this policy shall be interpreted in a manner as to result in a child being removed from care, except when removal from care is required for child care to be provided to a child of parents eligible for the first priority group as provided in §809.43.

(c) In closed DFPS Child Protective Services cases (DFPS cases) where child care is no longer funded by DFPS, the following shall apply:

(1) Former DFPS Children Needing Protective Services Child Care. Regardless of whether the family meets the income eligibility requirements of the Board or is working or attending a job training or educational program, if DFPS determines on a case-by-case basis that the child continues to need protective services and child care is integral to that need, then the Board shall continue the child care by using other funds, including funds received through the Commission, for child care services for up to **six months after DFPS case is closed.**

(2) Former DFPS Children Not Needing Protective Services Child Care. If the family meets the income eligibility requirements of the Board and if DFPS does not state on a case-by-case basis that the child continues to need protective services or child care is not integral to that need, then the Board may provide care **subject to the availability of funds. To receive care under this paragraph, the parents must be working or attending job training or an educational program.**

(d) A Board shall ensure that no children of military parents in military deployment have a disruption of child care services or eligibility because of the military deployment.

(e) A Board shall ensure that a child who is required by a court-ordered custody or visitation arrangement to leave a provider's care is permitted to continue receiving child care by the same provider, or another provider if agreed to by the parent in advance of the leave, upon return from the court-ordered custody or visitation arrangement.

(f) A Board may encourage parents of other children to temporarily utilize the space the child under court-ordered custody or visitation arrangement has vacated until the child returns so he or she can return to the same provider.

(g) A Board shall ensure that parents who choose to accept temporary child care to fill a position opened because of court-ordered custody or visitation shall not lose their place on the waiting list.

(h) A Board shall ensure that parents who choose not to accept temporary child care to fill a position opened because of court-ordered custody or visitation shall not lose their place on the waiting list

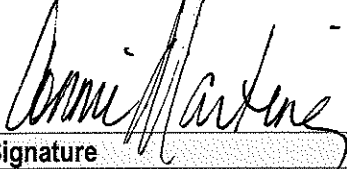

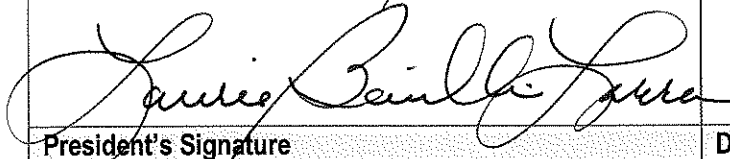
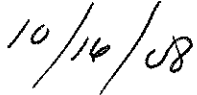
Policy Number: S0308	RE: Texas Administrative Code 809.20
Date Re-issued: 10-15-08	Effective Date: 10-15-08

**Action Required**

This policy should be distributed to all affected staff.

**Contact**

Inquiries regarding this policy should be directed to **Connie Martinez**, Vice President, Resource Development and Deployment at 214.290.1008.

Approved for Content:	
	
Signature	Date
	
President's Signature	Date