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Oregon Department of Human Services
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

MM/DD/YYYY

Client name
Client address
City, state, ZIP

Dear parent or guardian of **FIRST_NAME**,

The Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) is pleased to announce the start of the new Children's Extraordinary Needs program. It serves minor children with very high medical or behavioral needs. We expect to have federal approval to begin the program July 1. Senate Bill 91 directed ODDS to create this program. The Legislature funded the program for \$3 million per year.

ODDS wants to use this funding to help as many families as possible. Within this budget, the program can support 155 children at a time.

Your child may be eligible for this program. Based on their most recent Oregon Needs Assessment (ONA), they are in service group 5m or 5b. This means they have been assessed with the highest medical or behavioral needs.

Each enrolled child will have up to 20 hours per week of paid parent care. If a child has more than one parent caregiver, they can split the hours between the caregivers. Parents and guardians must be eligible to work in the United States to provide paid care.

Program selection process

There are about 1,500 children who may be eligible for the program. Selection for the program will be random. To choose who receives the 155 slots, each of the 1,500 children who may be eligible will be assigned a random number. This number will be their place on the list.

If your child is one of the first 155 on the list, ODDS will send you a letter the week of May 20 to let you know. The letter will include:

- Program information
- Instructions to enroll or opt out
- Frequently asked questions
- A comparison of a parent versus a paid parent caregiver
- The training timeline, and
- Deadlines.

ODDS will also tell your child's services coordinator and they will contact you. You will have about two months to decide if you want to enroll in the program. If you decline or don't respond, your child's spot will go to the next person on the waitlist.

If your child is not selected, ODDS will send you a letter the week of May 28. This letter will explain:

- Your child's place on the waitlist, and
- How the waitlist works.

The order of the waitlist will not change. As slots become available, ODDS will contact the parents or guardians of the first child on the waitlist. After the program launches, any family or child can ask to join the waitlist. They will be added to the end of the waitlist.

Resources and questions

If you have questions, please contact your child's services coordinator. You can also email cenprogram@odhs.oregon.gov.

To learn more about the program, visit the Children Extraordinary Needs program's web page: <https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/idd/Pages/sb-91-implementation.aspx>.



You can also scan this code on your mobile device to get to the web page.

ODDS looks forward to working with parents who take on this new role.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dana Hittle", written in a cursive style.

Dana Hittle
Interim Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille, or a format you prefer free of charge. Contact the Oregon Office of Developmental Disabilities Services at 503-945-5811 or email dd.directorsoffice@odhsoha.oregon.gov. We accept all relay calls.

For more information about relay service providers, visit oregonrelay.com or fcc.gov/encyclopedia/trs-providers.