

**Question asked by regions:**

For Family Support Child Care cases, there are situations when it is going to be an “automatic acceptance” – As I understand it, homelessness, refugees in first year, refugees first applying to FAP (are there others?)

In these situations of automatic acceptance, are we requiring all the same documentation of CIS forms and FS Supplemental? It seems like if it’s an automatic yes, as we can identify stressors to be homelessness or refugee issues, that it would be an additional hardship to ask the family to do that (and not efficient for the worker.)

Is it perhaps enough to ensure that the referral, intake and authorizations are in place with an FS supplemental that just states “family automatically accepted due to homelessness”, vs. completing the form through the meeting with family?

**Answer:**

Refugee status is the only so-called "automatic acceptance" for Family Support FAP that we have. Refugee's do not need to fill out the full CCFSFAP documentation. A CIS-01 Referral page and basic information to document their refugee status is all that would be needed for them to be awarded Family Support FAP for 12 months.

For all other applicants we would need the full CCFSFAP guidance to be followed. "Homelessness" is not easily defined. A family may consider themselves 'homeless' because they do not have their own home, but they may be living with relatives and that housing arrangement is stable and adequate. OR they may be living in their car, or with relatives who consistently threaten to throw them out, or they could be 'couch surfing'. The CIS paperwork can help service providers identify the family's need sufficient to determine if they are truly homeless and if they are getting the appropriate supports necessary to stabilize their housing. Only in this way can we successfully ensure that the risk factors the family presents are supported and that the family has a plan for working toward mitigation of these factors during the time they are receiving FAP.