Mississippi Self-Verification Guide: Detecting Possible Misuse of Benefits and Services in Your Name (Parents & Caregivers)

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Mississippi Self-Verification Guide

Detecting Possible Misuse of Benefits and Services in Your Name (Parents, Caregivers, and Guardians)

Prepared by: Tocsin Data

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Purpose: This document provides a Mississippi-specific, legally safe pathway for parents, caregivers, and guardians to verify whether public benefits or services were billed, paid, or claimed using their own identity or that of a dependent, and outlines official steps to take when discrepancies are identified.

Introduction

Social media and news reporting sometimes describe situations where services appear to have been billed, reimbursed, or publicly funded in a person's name—or a child's name—without the individual's knowledge or consent. In Mississippi, there is **no single public "name search" clearinghouse** that aggregates every program's payments or claims.

Records are maintained by administering agencies under state and federal confidentiality rules. The practical solution is **self-verification**: review official records you are entitled to as a parent/guardian, then use official complaint and fraud channels if you find a discrepancy.

Section 1 — Licensed Child Care Verification (Mississippi Department of Health)

Mississippi child care licensing and facility oversight is handled by the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH).

1.1 Official child care licensing overview

MSDH — Child Care Licensure:
https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,83.html **[1]**

1.2 Official licensed facility lookup (public)

MSDH — Child Care Facility Search:
https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,83,255.html **[2]**

Section 2 — Child Care Payment Program (Subsidy) (Mississippi DHS)

Mississippi child care subsidy is administered through the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS), typically referred to as the Child Care Payment Program (CCPP).

2.1 Official CCPP family information

MDHS — Child Care Payment Program:
https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/early-childhood-care-development/child-care-payment-program/ **[3]**

2.2 Apply / account portal (as referenced by MDHS)

MDHS commonly directs applicants through its online services/portals; use the program page above as the authoritative entry point. **[3]**

2.3 What parents/guardians should review

- **Eligibility and authorization notices** (approved provider, dates, and any copayment).
- **Provider identity and licensure** using the MSDH facility search (Section 1.2). **[2]**
- **Dates of care/attendance** compared to what you believe occurred.

Section 3 — Health Coverage Claims (Mississippi Medicaid)

Health services billed under Mississippi Medicaid generate formal claims records. These records are the primary method for verifying whether services were billed in your name or your child's name.

3.1 Mississippi Division of Medicaid (member resources)

Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM) main site:
https://medicaid.ms.gov/ **[4]**

3.2 Reporting Medicaid fraud (official)

Mississippi DOM — Program Integrity / Report Fraud:
https://medicaid.ms.gov/program-integrity/ **[5]**

Section 4 — Public Records Requests (Mississippi Public Records Act)

Mississippi public records access is governed by the Mississippi Public Records Act. Records involving minors and health/benefit cases may be exempt; however, parents/guardians can request records they are legally entitled to receive and request an explanation of any exemptions applied.

4.1 Mississippi Attorney General — Open Government / Public Records (official)

Mississippi AG — Public Records guidance:
https://attorneygenerallynnfitch.com/category/open-government/ **[6]**

4.2 Statute reference (Mississippi Code)

Mississippi Public Records Act (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-61-1 et seq.) is typically referenced through official code sources; use the AG guidance above as the official starting point. **[6]**

Section 5 — Reporting Suspected Fraud (Mississippi Official Channels)

Preserve documentation first (letters, notices, provider names/addresses, dates, screenshots, attendance records). Then use official reporting channels.

5.1 Mississippi DOM — Report fraud/program integrity

Mississippi DOM Program Integrity (reporting and enforcement references): https://medicaid.ms.gov/program-integrity/ **[5]**

5.2 Mississippi DHS — Inspector General

MDHS Office of Inspector General: https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/about-us/office-of-inspector-general/ **[7]**

Section 6 — Public "Red Flag" Patterns (For Awareness Only)

The following markers do not prove misconduct, but they can help families know when to verify records or request clarification:

- **Date mismatch:** claims/payments on days the child was not in care or not receiving the service.
- **Provider mismatch:** provider listed that the family never used.
- **Duration mismatch:** billing continues after termination/withdrawal.
- **Authorization mismatch:** billed hours exceed authorized hours.
- **Identity mismatch:** communications/records referencing a child/dependent you do not recognize.

Appendix A — Official Mississippi Resources

1. **MSDH Child Care Licensure:** https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,83.html **[1]**
2. **MSDH Child Care Facility Search:** https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,83,255.html **[2]**
3. **MDHS Child Care Payment Program:**
   https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/early-childhood-care-development/child-care-payment-program/ **[3]**
4. **Mississippi Division of Medicaid:** https://medicaid.ms.gov/ **[4]**
5. **Mississippi DOM Program Integrity:** https://medicaid.ms.gov/program-integrity/ **[5]**
6. **Mississippi AG — Open Government/Public Records:**
   https://attorneygenerallynnfitch.com/category/open-government/ **[6]**
7. **MDHS Office of Inspector General:**
   https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/about-us/office-of-inspector-general/ **[7]**

Appendix B — Selected Legal and Policy References (Short Excerpts)

B.1 Mississippi Public Records Act (overview guidance)

The Mississippi Attorney General provides open government/public records guidance and related references for public access and exemptions. **[6]**

B.2 Federal CCDF confidentiality (45 CFR Part 98)

Federal CCDF rules include confidentiality requirements for personally identifiable information. eCFR reference: https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-A/subchapter-A/part-98/subpart-B/section-98.15 **[8]**

Short excerpt (confidentiality clause as commonly cited): "policies to govern the use and disclosure of confidential and personally identifiable information …" **[9]**

References (Citation List)

1. [1] Mississippi State Department of Health. "Child Care Licensure." https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,83.html
2. [2] Mississippi State Department of Health. "Child Care Facility Search." https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,83,255.html
3. [3] Mississippi Department of Human Services. "Child Care Payment Program." https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/early-childhood-care-development/child-care-payment-program/
4. [4] Mississippi Division of Medicaid. "Mississippi Medicaid." https://medicaid.ms.gov/
5. [5] Mississippi Division of Medicaid. "Program Integrity." https://medicaid.ms.gov/program-integrity/
6. [6] Mississippi Attorney General. "Open Government (Public Records guidance)." https://attorneygenerallynnfitch.com/category/open-government/
7. [7] Mississippi Department of Human Services. "Office of Inspector General." https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/about-us/office-of-inspector-general/
8. [8] eCFR. "45 CFR § 98.15 — Assurances and certifications." https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-A/subchapter-A/part-98/subpart-B/section-98.15
9. [9] Legal Information Institute (Cornell Law School). "45 CFR § 98.15." https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/45/98.15

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This document is provided for general informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice, medical advice, or professional compliance guidance. Tocsin Data does not make allegations about any specific person or provider in this document. Verification results depend on program rules, record accuracy, and case-specific facts. If you believe you have identified a billing error, misuse, or fraud, you should contact the relevant agency and/or qualified counsel. In an emergency or if a child is in immediate danger, contact local emergency services.

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