



VICTORY: A FAIR START FOR KIDS!



The Fair Start for Kids Act will provide the largest ever investment in early learning in our state's history – it will make early learning, including child care, preschool, and programs for infants and toddlers, more affordable and accessible for families and more sustainable for providers. With ongoing funding through a capital gains tax, our early learning system will be better equipped to meet the tremendous need from families across the state.

What is included in the Fair Start for Kids Act?

Fair Start for Kids includes many policies that, collectively, will better serve our state's children and families, including:

- Making child care more affordable:** Expanding Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) assistance to serve more families.
- Reducing the financial burden of child care co-payments:** Lessening, or eliminating, WCCC co-payments for families with low incomes and capping co-payments for all families receiving WCCC at no more than 7% of family income. Smoothing the co-payment cliff so modest increases in income don't cause disproportionate increases in child care expenses.
- Inviting more children to participate in preschool:** Expanding the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) to provide comprehensive services to additional families in need.
- Providing urgently-needed relief for child care and preschool providers:** Making stabilization grants available to child care providers and offering assistance for healthcare premiums. Increasing payments to providers who serve children through WCCC and ECEAP to better reflect the true cost of high-quality early learning, including rate enhancements for: infant care, trauma-informed care, dual language instruction, complex needs, and more.
- Advancing racial equity in early learning through provider grants:** Making grants available to providers who are incorporating culturally and linguistically relevant practices into their early learning programs.

CHILD CARE ELIGIBILITY

RIGHT NOW	BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021	BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025	BEGINNING JULY 7, 2027
Child care assistance available to families with incomes at or below 200% of Federal Poverty Level. For a family of three that's \$43,440 For a family of four that's \$52,400	Child care assistance available to families with incomes at or below 60% of State Median Income. For a family of three that's \$51,804 For a family of four that's \$61,675	Child care assistance available to families with incomes at or below 75% of State Median Income. For a family of three that's \$64,755 For a family of four that's \$77,094	WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING Child care assistance available to families with incomes at or below 85% of State Median Income For a family of three that's \$73,389 For a family of four that's \$87,373



PRESCHOOL ELIGIBILITY

RIGHT NOW	BY 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR	BY 2030-31 SCHOOL YEAR
Preschool available to families earning less than or equal to 110% of the Federal Poverty Level For a family of three that's \$23,643 For a family of four that's \$28,325	Preschool available to some families earning less than or equal to 36% of State Median Income For a family of three that's \$31,082 For a family of four that's \$37,005	Preschool available to families earning less than or equal to 50% of State Median Income For a family of three that's \$43,170 For a family of four that's \$51,396