

Supporting Child Care Access for Customers of the Workforce System: New Resources for States

A lack of child care access can be a barrier to participation in education and training activities. At the 2018 NASWA Workforce Summit, members from Montana, Arkansas, Texas, and Utah showcased their state's efforts to connect child care resources with workforce development efforts. Based partly on some of these states' efforts and experiences, three new resources for states were developed by researchers at the Urban Institute. The resources provide insights into how states can better meet the child care needs of parents seeking education and training to gain skills and find jobs.

- **Framework for state action**

What are the leading state strategies to support access to child care for low-income parents seeking education and training? This [framework focuses on policies and practices](#) within and across Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). The resource provides concrete steps states can take and examples from around the country for supporting the need for child care for this population.

- **State data on child care policies supporting participation in education and training for low-income parents**

This [brief finds that while almost every state allows](#) for at least some education and training activities when determining CCDF eligibility, the majority of states have additional requirements for parents to have their education and training activities approved for child care subsidies.

- **State data on the proportion of families who are getting child care assistance to allow them to participate in education and training**

This [brief reports that states vary widely](#) on the extent to which they provide child care assistance to support education and training activities. For example, while 13 percent of all families receiving Child Care and Development fund subsidies get subsidies to support their education and training activities, this varies from less than 5 percent in Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Kansas, Nevada, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming to roughly 50 percent or more in Virginia and Tennessee.