

Child Care Cred Program

Akron-Canton Advocacy Alliance

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MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



CHILD CARE CRED PROGRAM

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AGENDA

- 1/**Child Care Background
- 2/** What is the Child Care Cred Program?
- 3/** Who is eligible for the grant?
- 4/** How to Apply
- 5/** Questions & Answers

AFFORDABLE CARE

Accessible, affordable child care is necessary to support the workforce to provide economic viability for children, families, and the State of Ohio.

In a recent survey:

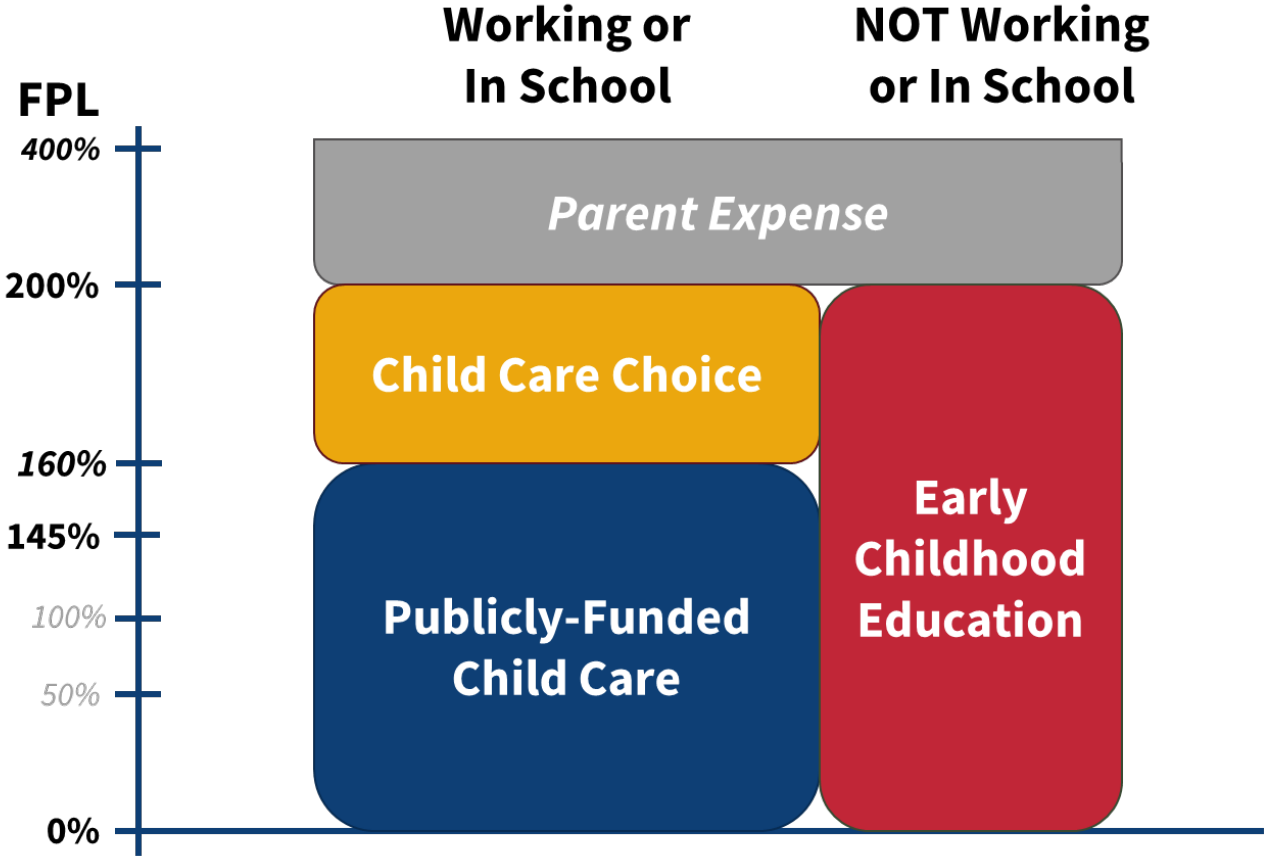
44% of parents say they have had to miss work, leave early, or lose focus because of challenges with child care.

49% of parents say they have cut back their work hours to care for their children.

61% of Ohio mothers with children five and younger who do not currently work full time say they would return to the workforce if they had access to high-quality, affordable child care.



Child Care cred supports working families not eligible for other programs



WORKFORCE – DECISION TO ENTER/REDUCE HOURS

START

SMITH FAMILY'S CURRENT SITUATION

- Two kids, Hallie and Jack
- Wife, Jennifer, is in school full-time
- Matt needs new employment to support the family.



Matt is offered 40 hours/week at \$21.50/hr.

The Smiths need child care, but would be \$73 over income for publicly funded child care.

Monthly Gross = \$3,698

Matt finds private-pay child care at \$9.62/hr. for both kids.

Monthly Cost: \$1,668
Take home: \$2,030 before taxes

Matt cannot afford private child care, housing, transportation, and food. So, he considers an offer for a different job at \$21/hr.

Monthly Cost: \$3,612
Matt is eligible for child care. Matt's copay is: \$316/month.
Take home: \$3,296

Matt decides to reduce to 30 hours/week instead of 40 at \$25/hr.

Eligible for Child Care
Monthly Gross = \$3,225
Matt's copay is: \$282/month
Take Home: \$2,943

GOALS

- 1** Increased employee attendance, productivity, and reduced turnover rates for businesses
- 2** Enhanced access to consistent, high-quality child care for working families
- 3** Increased financial stability and lower turnover rates for early care and education programs

CHILD CARE CRED PROGRAM

The Child Care Cred Program **helps working families afford child care** by **sharing the costs**. Families qualify if their household income is between 200% and 400% of the federal poverty level, based on how many people live in the home.

Employers **are not required** to participate in the Child Care Cred Program but may opt into the program as a recruitment and retention strategy by offering the child care cost sharing benefit for their employees.



CHILD CARE CRED | ELIGIBLE PARTNERS

- Employers
- Employees (income between 200% and 400% FPL)
- Child Care Programs

*Families who receive Child Care Choice Voucher Program (CCVP), Early Childhood Education Grant (ECE), or Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) subsidized early care and education **are not eligible** for the Child Care Cred Program.*

CHILD CARE CRED | ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS



Employees must live in Ohio and have a **household income between 200% and 400% of the federal poverty level**, based on family size. In addition, the **employee must be chosen by their employer to participate.**



Employers must be based in Ohio and **must select one or more employees** for the program.



Early Care and Education **programs must be a child care center, preschool, or school age child program**, licensed under chapter 5104 of the Ohio Revised Code or certified by a county department of job and family services under chapter 5104.12 of the Ohio Revised Code. Providers do not need to be enrolled in the "Step Up to Quality" program to qualify for the Child Care Cred Program.

CHILD CARE CRED | ELIGIBILITY

| Family Size | Household Monthly Income must be above (200% FPL) | Household Monthly Income must be below (400% FPL) |
|-------------|---|---|
| 2 | \$3,525.00 | \$7,050.00 |
| 3 | \$4,442.00 | \$8,884.00 |
| 4 | \$5,359.00 | \$10,717.00 |
| 5 | \$6,275.00 | \$12,550.00 |
| 6 | \$7,192.00 | \$12,550.00 |
| 7 | \$8,109.00 | \$16,217.00 |
| 8 | \$9,025.00 | \$18,050.00 |

CHILD CARE CRED | HOW TO APPLY



To participate in the Child Care Cred Program, **the employee, their employer, and child care program must submit a joint application** to DCY.



Application **must be emailed** to childcarecred@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov. DCY will review each application to determine if the applicants meet the eligibility requirements.



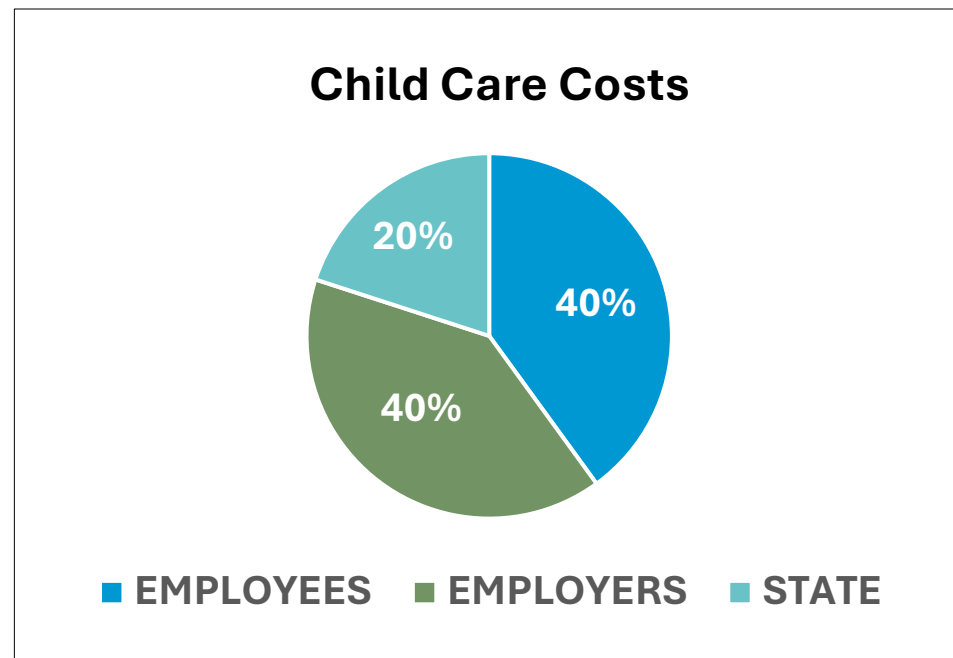
Once approved, eligibility **remains valid** as long as all involved (the employee, employer, and child care program) continue to **meet the program's conditions**.

CHILD CARE CRED | GOALS

1. Making child care more affordable by splitting the monthly child care costs between:
 - participating employees
 - employers
 - the state
2. Enables employers to attract and retain talent
3. Assists employees with child care costs
4. Sustains the business of child care programs

CHILD CARE CRED | COST SHARING COMMITMENT

The monthly **cost of child care is shared** among **employees, their employers**, and the **Ohio Department of Children and Youth**.



CHILD CARE CRED | DEADLINE

All applications should be submitted to
childcarecred@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov

by **May 1, 2026**

to be considered for funding.

The funding cycle ends June 30, 2026.

QUESTIONS?



Please direct any additional questions pertaining to the Child Care Cred Program to:
childcarecred@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov



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