How does child care assistance support my community?

WHITE EARTH NATION

White Earth Nation administers the Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program for tribal members in Mahnomen, Becker and Clearwater counties. Rates are based on the county where the provider is located. The rates for Becker County are used for illustration purposes. Child care assistance benefits employers by helping families afford child care so parents can work. Providing more access to high quality child care supports the current and future workforce by helping young learners prepare for success in school and life.

Increasing child care assistance rates helps providers and parents
Increasing child care assistance payments to current market rates helps child care providers in your area continue to provide an essential service, and recognizes their hard work. At the 75th percentile for a family using a provider in Becker County, maximum weekly family child care rates would go up $20 for toddlers; preschool weekly rates would stay the same. Child care center rates would increase $17 a week for toddlers and $18 for preschoolers. Here’s what some providers say about the below-market rates the state currently pays:

- “I just want to get paid what I charge everyone else.” (Licensed family child care provider)
- “Families are not able to pay the difference.” (Licensed child care center provider)
- “If I had to accept the rates the county pays I wouldn’t be in business at all.” (Licensed family child care provider)

Fully funding Basic Sliding Fee child care assistance eliminates waiting lists
Without legislation that funds the Basic Sliding Fee program on going, tribal nations may need to have a waiting list, especially by 2025.

Increasing reimbursement rates prevents losing federal funds
The federal benchmark for child care subsidy reimbursement rates is the 75th percentile of the most recent rate survey. This is the recommended percentile to help ensure equal access to child care.

---

1 County profiles numbers are based on where a family lives. For example, a family served by White Earth Nation who lives in Becker County would be included in the count for both the White Earth Nation profile and the Becker County profile.

Red Lake Nation administers the Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program for tribal members in Beltrami and Clearwater counties. Rates are based on the county where the provider is located. The rates for Beltrami County are used for illustration purposes. Child care assistance benefits employers by helping families afford child care so parents can work. Providing more access to high quality child care supports the current and future workforce by helping young learners prepare for success in school and life.

**Increasing child care assistance rates helps providers and parents**

Increasing child care assistance payments to current market rates helps child care providers in your area continue to provide an essential service, and recognizes their hard work. At the 75th percentile for a family using a provider in Beltrami County, maximum weekly family child care rates would go up $20 for toddlers and preschoolers. Child care center rates would increase $58 a week for toddlers and $62 for preschoolers. Here’s what some providers say about the below-market rates the state currently pays:

- “I just want to get paid what I charge everyone else.” (Licensed family child care provider)
- “Families are not able to pay the difference.” (Licensed child care center provider)
- “If I had to accept the rates the county pays I wouldn’t be in business at all.” (Licensed family child care provider)

**Fully funding Basic Sliding Fee child care assistance eliminates waiting lists**

Without legislation that funds the Basic Sliding Fee program on going, tribal nations may need to have a waiting list, especially by 2025.

**Increasing reimbursement rates prevents losing federal funds**

The federal benchmark for child care subsidy reimbursement rates is the 75th percentile of the most recent rate survey. This is the recommended percentile to help ensure equal access to child care.

---

1 County profiles numbers are based on where a family lives. For example, a family served by Red Lake Nation who lives in Beltrami County would be included in the count for both the Red Lake Nation profile and the Beltrami County profile.