

# Wisconsin Shares - Child Care Subsidy Program

Wisconsin's Child Care Subsidy program, sometimes called "W-2 Child Care", helps families pay for child care. If the parent is eligible, child care can be subsidized for children under the age of 13 (up to 19 if special needs).

## Eligibility Guidelines

### Qualifying activities:

**A parent, who is eligible for child care subsidy, must participate in one of the following activities:**

- Unsubsidized work
- attend high-school (if a teen parent under 20 years of age)
- participate in W-2 employment program
- participate in employment skills training and continue being in unsubsidized employment
- participate in Food Stamp Employment and Training work search or work experience programs.
- are a W-2 applicant participating in up-front job search, training, or orientation activities.

### Income Eligibility Requirement:

To be eligible, the family's gross monthly income must be equal to or less than the amount listed for the family size.

Family Size	Monthly Income
2	\$2,111
3	\$2,647
4	\$3,184
5	\$3,720
6	\$4,257
7	\$4,793

8	\$5,330
9	\$5,866
10 or more	\$6,403

### **Type of Child Care:**

If the parent is approved for child care financial assistance, the child must be under the age of 13 years (under 19 if special needs) and enrolled in a regulated care setting:

- A licensed child care center
- A licensed family child care home
- A certified family child care home
- A child care program run by a public school.

### **How to apply:**

For child care financial help, call 1-888-713-KIDS (5437), or your local Wisconsin Job Center, W-2 agency, or tribal agency. Applicants must call ahead for an appointment and a list of what is needed to establish eligibility.

### **Co-payment:**

The parent's share of the cost is determined on a sliding scale depending on the family income, family's size and number of children in subsidized care, and the type of child care service chosen.

- The co-payment can be as low as 2% of the family gross income
- The program is designed so that the family co-payment should not exceed 12% of the gross income, if the parent chooses a provider with prices within maximum reimbursement limits.

### **[Fact Sheet for Parents and Providers \(pdf\)](#)**

For more information about Child Care benefits, call 1-888-713-KIDS (5437)