

HOW CAN I APPLY?

Contact us!

- ☎ 919-212-9285
- 🖱 wake.gov/childcare
- ✉ childcaresubsidy@wake.gov
- 📍 Pick up an application at any Wake County Health and Human Services location



Health &
Human Services

wake.gov

WAKE COUNTY



Smart Start

wakesmartstart.org

For information on choosing or using quality child care, please contact:



NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

☎ 919-814-6300

🖱 ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov



☎ 1-855-327-5933

✉ info@childcareservices.org

🖱 childcareservices.org

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WAKE COUNTY CHILD CARE SUBSIDY

wake.gov/childcare • 919-212-9285



WHAT IS CHILD CARE SUBSIDY?

Using state and federal funds, North Carolina provides financial assistance for child care to many families through a locally administered state supervised program. Wake County also receives additional funds from Wake County Smart Start.

You are free to choose your own type of child care arrangement.

The amount paid for each child depends on:

- Family situation
- Income
- Cost of the child care provided
- Type of public funds from which payment is made

If Wake County Health and Human Services does not have enough funding for subsidized child care, the families can be placed on a waiting list until funding becomes available.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Wake County residents with children ages 0–12 years of age whose child is a US Citizen and meet one or more of the following criteria below may receive child care assistance.

- You are working or are attempting to find work through the Work First Family Assistance Program
- You are in school or in a job training program
- Your social worker refers you based on your child receiving child protective services or child welfare services.

WHO CAN CARE FOR MY CHILD?

Parents (or legal guardians) may choose any state approved provider that has a 3, 4 or 5 star license (home or center) or state approved religious sponsored providers.

FINANCIAL CRITERIA

Your income must be within the limit that is established by legislation for subsidized child care, unless the child is receiving foster care services, or child care is needed to support child welfare services or child protective services.

- The limit is 200% of the Federal Poverty Level income for the number of persons in the family for all children ages 0–5 and ALL special needs children.
- The limit is 133% of the Federal Poverty Level for all children ages 6–12 with no special needs.

Most families are required to pay a percentage of the child care fee based upon their countable monthly income. The percentage is based on income and depends on an approved care plan. Wake County determines the amount of the parent's fee and notifies the provider and parent. The parent is responsible for paying the fee directly to the facility/provider.

ARE YOU PREGNANT?

If you are pregnant, contact our office after your child is born.

If you already have a child care subsidy for another child, contact your case manager directly or the case manager on duty after your child is born at (919) 212-7000.

Most families, including those receiving Work First Family Assistance, are required to pay a percentage of their child care costs based upon their gross monthly income. The percentage is 10%, if applicable.

Visit wake.gov/childcare to see if your income qualifies.

