

ACT NOW!

Governor's \$1.4 Billion Child Care Proposal

Urge Your Legislators to Support Significant Investment in Michigan's Child Care System Today!

Michigan can't get back to work unless we invest now in:

1. High-quality, affordable child care that meets the needs of Michigan families and children.

2. Child care businesses and teachers across the state, that are struggling to make ends meet.

The governor's proposal includes the following provisions for:

Michigan Families

- Increase eligibility for the child care subsidy to 200% of the federal poverty level (from 150%), thereby adding an estimated 150,000 more children to the eligibility rolls.
- Waive family child care co-pays through September 2022 to help families recovering from the pandemic with financial relief.
- Extend child care subsidies to parents enrolled in the Future for Frontliners and Michigan Reconnect education- and job-training programs.
- Maintain mental health supports provided by infant and early childhood mental health consultants for children enrolled in child care.
- Expand the Tri-Share Program approach to making child care affordable by sharing the cost among businesses, families and the state. (The program uses Labor and Economic Opportunity funding rather than federal dollars.)

Child Care Teachers

- Offer providers a temporary income stipend of \$500 (every three months) until September 2022).
- Provide sign-on bonuses for new child care staff to boost job market activity and competitiveness.
- Provide free education and training for child care professionals through an expanded TEACH teacher training program.

Child Care Businesses

- Increase child care subsidy rates for providers by 20% to move toward covering the true cost of care.
- Provide stimulus grants to child care providers based on their service model, population served, staff size, and rating, to help programs remain open or reopen.
- Base the child care subsidy rate on enrollment instead of attendance through September 2023 to help stabilize provider funding.
- Create a slot-based payment model for infant and toddler care in high-quality child care programs.
- Expand the child care innovation fund for research, development and community projects within the child care industry.
- Form family child care networks to support child care providers with technical and business assistance, professional development, program quality support, and connection to fellow providers.



Lawmakers in the House have already agreed with many of the Governor's provisions. NOW is the time to ACT!

Urge your Legislators to move swiftly to approve the Governor's plans and pass a supplemental bill that helps families access and pay for child care, while helping providers—*who have worked perilously throughout the pandemic*—stay in business and expand in order to meet public need.