

## State Child Care Assistance Policies: Nevada

- **Income eligibility limit:** In 2011, a family of three in Nevada could qualify for child care assistance with an annual income up to \$43,248 (233 percent of poverty, 72 percent of state median income).<sup>1</sup>
- **Waiting list:** Nevada had 1,749 children on a waiting list for child care assistance as of February 2011.<sup>2</sup>
- **Parent copayments:** In 2011, a family of three with an income at 100 percent of poverty (\$18,530 a year) receiving child care assistance paid \$50 per month, or 3 percent of its income, in copayments. A family of three with an income at 150 percent of poverty (\$27,795 a year) receiving child care assistance paid \$199 per month, or 9 percent of its income, in copayments.<sup>3</sup>
- **Reimbursement rates:** In 2011, Nevada's reimbursement rates for child care providers serving families receiving child care assistance were below the federally recommended level—the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of current market rates, which is the level designed to give families access to 75 percent of the providers in their community.
  - Nevada's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in Clark County was \$498,<sup>4</sup> which was \$251 (34 percent) below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
  - Nevada's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a one-year-old in Clark County was \$606,<sup>5</sup> which was \$238 (28 percent) below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
- **Tiered reimbursement rates:** In 2011, Nevada paid higher reimbursement rates for higher-quality care.<sup>6</sup>
  - The reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in Clark County at the highest quality tier was 15 percent higher than the rate at the lowest quality tier.
  - The reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in Clark County at the highest quality tier was still below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of current market rates.
- **Eligibility for parents searching for a job:** In 2011, Nevada allowed parents to qualify for or continue receiving child care assistance while searching for a job for up to 2 weeks in a 12-month calendar year.

Source: Karen Schulman and Helen Blank, *State Child Care Assistance Policies 2011: Reduced Support for Families in Challenging Times* (Washington, DC: National Women's Law Center, 2011). These data reflect policies as of February 2011, unless otherwise indicated.

- 1 As of October 2011, the income limit was expected to increase to \$44,880 (75 percent of state median income) to adjust for the updated state median income estimate.
- 2 Families with incomes below 130 percent of poverty are not placed on the waiting list.
- 3 The state determines copayments based on the cost of care; these copayments were calculated assuming that the family was purchasing care at the state's maximum reimbursement rate for licensed, non-accredited center care for a four-year-old.
- 4 The state has higher rates for higher-quality care; this is the base (lowest) rate, which is the most common rate level.
- 5 This is the base (lowest) rate, which is the most common rate level.
- 6 The state has established four levels in its tiered reimbursement system, but only two are currently in effect. The first level is for all licensed centers and family child care homes. The fourth level is for all accredited centers and family child care homes, which receive a reimbursement rate that is 15 percent above the rate for licensed care. The second and third levels, which will pay 5 percent and 10 percent, respectively, above the rate for licensed care, have not been implemented yet.