

## State Child Care Assistance Policies: Oregon

- **Income eligibility limit:** In 2011, a family of three in Oregon could qualify for child care assistance with an annual income up to \$34,281 (185 percent of poverty, 57 percent of state median income).
- **Waiting list:** Oregon had no waiting list for child care assistance as of March 2011.<sup>1</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 \$129 per month, or 8 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 \$343 per month, or 15 percent of its income, in copayments.
- **Reimbursement rates:** In 2011, Oregon'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.
  - Oregon's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in Region A<sup>2</sup> was \$705, which was \$135 (16 percent) below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
  - Oregon's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a one-year-old in Region A was \$894, which was \$144 (14 percent) below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
- **Tiered reimbursement rates:** In 2011, Oregon did not pay higher reimbursement rates for higher-quality care.
- **Eligibility for parents searching for a job:** In 2011, Oregon allowed parents to continue receiving child care assistance while searching for a job only until the end of the month in which they lost their previous job.<sup>3</sup> Oregon did not allow parents to qualify for child care assistance while searching for a job.

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 A waiting list was implemented in October 2010, but in January 2011 the state began serving all families on the waiting list each month, and in March 2011 the state stopped placing families on the waiting list.

2 Region A includes the Ashland, Bend, Corvallis, Eugene, Monmouth, and Portland areas.

3 Parents receiving child care assistance could continue to receive it while searching for a job until the end of the month in which the case closed after being given a 10-day notice of closure. Depending on when a parent reported losing a job, this could be the end of the same month in which the job was lost or the following month.