

State Child Care Assistance Policies: Wyoming

- **Income eligibility limit:** In 2011, a family of three in Wyoming could qualify for child care assistance with an annual income up to \$43,596 (235 percent of poverty, 66 percent of state median income).¹
- **Waiting list:** Wyoming had no waiting list for child care assistance as of February 2011.
- **Parent copayments:** In 2011, a family of three with an income at 100 percent of poverty (\$18,530 a year) receiving child care assistance had no copayment. A family of three with an income at 150 percent of poverty (\$27,795 a year) receiving child care assistance paid \$39 per month, or 2 percent of its income, in copayments.²
- **Reimbursement rates:** In 2011, Wyoming's reimbursement rates for child care providers serving families receiving child care assistance were below the federally recommended level—the 75th percentile of current market rates, which is the level designed to give families access to 75 percent of the providers in their community.
 - Wyoming's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old was \$542, which was \$84 (13 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
 - Wyoming's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a one-year-old was \$606, which was \$88 (13 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
- **Tiered reimbursement rates:** In 2011, Wyoming did not pay higher reimbursement rates for higher-quality care.
- **Eligibility for parents searching for a job:** In 2011, Wyoming did not allow parents to receive child care assistance while searching for a job.³

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 This income limit takes into account a standard deduction of \$200 per month (\$2,400 a year) for each working parent, assuming there is one working parent in the family. The stated income limit, in policy, was \$41,196 in February 2011. As of April 2011, the stated income limit was increased to \$41,688 (225 percent of poverty) to adjust for the 2011 federal poverty level.

2 These copayment amounts were calculated based on adjusted income, taking into account the standard income deduction.

3 From June 2009 through June 2010, the state used American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to allow parents to qualify or continue to receive child care assistance while searching for a job for up to 60 days.