CHILD CARE & EARLY LEARNING

STATE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE POLICIES: *NEVADA*

- *Income eligibility limit:* In 2015, a family of three in Nevada could qualify for child care assistance with an annual income up to $25,392 (126 percent of poverty, 46 percent of state median income).[1]

- *Waiting list:* Nevada had 908 children on a waiting list for child care assistance as of February 2015.

- *Parent copayments:* In 2015, a family of three with an income at 100 percent of poverty ($20,090 a year) receiving child care assistance in Nevada paid $50 per month, or 3 percent of its income, in copayments.[2]

- *Reimbursement rates:* In 2015, Nevada'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.
  - Nevada's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in Clark County was $498,[3] which was $271 (35 percent) below the 75th 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,[4] which was $260 (30 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.

- *Tiered reimbursement rates:* In 2015, Nevada paid higher reimbursement rates for higher-quality care.
  - The reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in Clark County at the highest quality tier was 12 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 75th percentile of current market rates.

- *Eligibility for parents searching for a job:* In 2015, Nevada allowed parents to qualify for or continue receiving child care assistance for up to 4 weeks while searching for a job.[5]

Source: Karen Schulman and Helen Blank, Building Blocks: State Child Care Assistance Policies 2015 (Washington, DC: National Women's Law Center, 2015). These data reflect policies as of February 2015, unless otherwise indicated.

1 For contracted slots (which are mostly used for before- and after-school programs) and wrap-around services (which are services provided before and after Head Start programs), the income limit was $43,764 (75 percent of the 2014 state median income) in 2015.

2 The state determines copayments based on the cost of care; this copayment was calculated assuming that the family was purchasing care at the state's maximum reimbursement rate for licensed non-accredited care for a four-year-old. Families receiving TANF and participating in work or work-related activities, certain families receiving child protective services, and certain foster parents are exempt from copayments. Also note that a family with an income at 150 percent of poverty may be eligible in some extraordinary circumstances, such as if the family has a child with disabilities, a child in protective services, or a dramatic change in circumstances. A family at 150 percent of poverty would also be eligible for a contracted slot or wrap-around services. The copayment for a family at this income level would have been $199 per month in 2015 (unless exempt from the copayment).

3 The state has higher rates for higher-quality care; this is the base (lowest) rate, which is the most common rate level.

4 This is the base (lowest) rate, which is the most common rate level.

5 The state increased the amount of time parents could receive child care assistance while searching for a job from 2 weeks to 4 weeks as of July 2014. Parents can receive child care assistance while searching for a job for up to 4 weeks in a 12-month calendar year. If child care assistance is provided for at least one day, the entire week is counted toward this limit. Child care assistance is only provided while a parent searches for a job for a child who is not attending full-day school.