



CHILD CARE & EARLY LEARNING

STATE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE POLICIES: **VIRGINIA**

- **Income eligibility limit:** In 2015, Virginia had four different regional income limits for a family of three to qualify for child care assistance, ranging from \$29,295 per year (146 percent of poverty, 38 percent of state median income) to \$48,828 per year (243 percent of poverty, 64 percent of state median income).¹
- **Waiting list:** Virginia had 5,811 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 Virginia paid \$100 per month, or 6 percent of its income, in copayments. A family of three with an income at 150 percent of poverty (\$30,135 a year) receiving child care assistance paid \$201 per month, or 8 percent of its income, in copayments.
- **Reimbursement rates:** In 2015, Virginia'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.²
 - Virginia's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in Fairfax County was \$1,147, which was \$445 (11 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
 - Virginia's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a one-year-old in Fairfax County was \$1,364, which was \$117 (8 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
- **Tiered reimbursement rates:** In 2015, Virginia did not pay higher reimbursement rates for higher-quality care.
- **Eligibility for parents searching for a job:** In 2015, Virginia did not allow parents to receive child care assistance while searching for a job.³

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 The state has different income limits for different regions of the state. In 2015, the state's four separate regional income limits were \$29,295, \$31,248, \$36,132, and \$48,828.

2 The reimbursement rates shown here reflect that the state increased rates for licensed and regulated providers as of September 2014.

3 Parents cannot receive child care assistance while searching for a job, but families must be provided at least 10 days' advance notice before their case is closed.

