State Child Care Assistance Policies: Virginia
December 2013

• **Income eligibility limit:** In 2013, Virginia had four different regional income limits for a family of three to qualify for child care assistance, ranging from $28,644 per year (147 percent of poverty, 39 percent of state median income) to $47,736 per year (244 percent of poverty, 65 percent of state median income). ¹

• **Waiting list:** Virginia had 10,444 children on a waiting list for child care assistance as of February 2013.

• **Parent copayments:** In 2013, a family of three with an income at 100 percent of poverty ($19,530 a year) receiving child care assistance in Virginia paid $162 per month, or 10 percent of its income, in copayments. A family of three with an income at 150 percent of poverty ($29,295 a year) receiving child care assistance paid $244 per month, or 10 percent of its income, in copayments.

• **Reimbursement rates:** In 2013, 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.

  - Virginia’s monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in Fairfax County was $1,018, which was $498 (33 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 $1,212, which was $533 (31 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.

• **Tiered reimbursement rates:** In 2013, Virginia did not pay higher reimbursement rates for higher-quality care.

• **Eligibility for parents searching for a job:** In 2013, Virginia did not allow parents to receive child care assistance while searching for a job.

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¹ The state has different income limits for different regions of the state. In February 2013, the state’s four separate regional income limits were $28,644, $30,552, $35,328, and $47,736. As of October 2013, the income limits were expected to increase to $29,304 (150 percent of poverty), $31,248 (160 percent of poverty), $36,132 (185 percent of poverty), and $48,828 (250 percent of poverty) to adjust for the 2013 federal poverty level.