



CHILD CARE & EARLY LEARNING

STATE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE POLICIES: *IDAHO*

- **Income eligibility limit:** In 2016, a family of three in Idaho could qualify for child care assistance with an annual income up to \$26,124 (130 percent of poverty, 50 percent of state median income).¹
- **Waiting list:** Idaho had no waiting list for child care assistance as of February 2016.
- **Parent copayments:** In 2016, a family of three with an income at 100 percent of poverty (\$20,160 a year) receiving child care assistance in Idaho paid \$50 per month, or 3 percent of its income, in copayments.²
- **Reimbursement rates:** In 2016, Idaho'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.³
 - Idaho's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in the Boise metropolitan area (Region IV)⁴ was \$492, which was \$181 (27 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
 - Idaho's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a one-year-old in the Boise metropolitan area (Region IV) was \$594, which was \$151 (20 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
- **Tiered reimbursement rates:** In 2016, Idaho did not pay higher reimbursement rates for higher-quality care.
- **Eligibility for parents searching for a job:** In February 2016, Idaho 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.⁵ The state did not allow parents to qualify for child care assistance while searching for a job.

Source: Karen Schulman and Helen Blank, *Red Light Green Light: State Child Care Assistance Policies 2016* (Washington, DC: National Women's Law Center, 2016). These data reflect policies as of February 2016, unless otherwise indicated.

1 As of October 2016, the income limit was increased to \$26,208 (130 percent of poverty) to adjust for the 2016 federal poverty level.

2 Foster children and families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) are exempt from copayments.

3 The rates shown here were in effect as of February 2016. The state increased reimbursement rates to the 65th percentile of 2015 market rates as of October 2016.

4 Region IV includes Ada, Boise, Elmore, and Valley Counties.

5 The state extended the amount of time parents receiving child care assistance can continue to receive it while searching for a job to 3 months as of October 2016.

