



CHILD CARE & EARLY LEARNING

STATE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE POLICIES: KANSAS

- **Income eligibility limit:** In 2016, a family of three in Kansas could qualify for child care assistance with an annual income up to \$37,164 (184 percent of poverty, 58 percent of state median income).¹
- **Waiting list:** Kansas 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 Kansas paid \$58 per month, or 3 percent of its income, in copayments. A family of three with an income at 150 percent of poverty (\$30,240 a year) receiving child care assistance paid \$207 per month, or 8 percent of its income, in copayments.²
- **Reimbursement rates:** In 2016, Kansas'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.
 - Kansas's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old in Sedgwick County was \$526, which was \$94 (15 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
 - Kansas's monthly reimbursement rate for center care for a one-year-old in Sedgwick County was \$694, which was \$150 (18 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
- **Tiered reimbursement rates:** In 2016, Kansas did not pay higher reimbursement rates for higher-quality care.
- **Eligibility for parents searching for a job:** In February 2016, Kansas 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.³ 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 May 2016, the income limit was increased to \$37,296 (185 percent of poverty) to adjust for the 2016 federal poverty level.
2 Families receiving child care assistance for social service reasons, families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and parents participating in the Food Assistance Education and Training work program are exempt from copayments.
3 In February 2016, parents receiving child care assistance had to report the loss of a job within 10 days, and the caseworker had to provide 10 days' notice that the case would be closed; cases always closed the last day of the month. The state extended the amount of time parents receiving assistance can continue to receive it while searching for a job to 3 months as of July 2016.

