



CHILD CARE & EARLY LEARNING

## STATE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE POLICIES: *NEVADA*

- **Income eligibility limit:** In 2016, a family of three in Nevada could qualify for child care assistance with an annual income up to \$26,124 (130 percent of poverty, 47 percent of state median income).<sup>1</sup>
- **Waiting list:** Nevada had 30 children on a 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 Nevada paid \$50 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 \$149 per month, or 6 percent of its income, in copayments.<sup>2</sup>
- **Reimbursement rates:** In 2016, 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,<sup>3</sup> 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,<sup>4</sup> which was \$260 (30 percent) below the 75th percentile of current market rates for this type of care.
- **Tiered reimbursement rates:** In 2016, 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 February 2016, Nevada allowed parents to qualify for or continue receiving child care assistance for up to 4 weeks while searching for a job.<sup>5</sup>

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 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 to qualify for assistance was \$47,448 (85 percent of the 2016 state median income) in 2016. Also note that in 2016, families already receiving assistance (through either certificates or contracts) could continue doing so until their income reached \$47,448.
- 2 The state determines copayments based on the cost of care; these copayments were calculated assuming that the family was purchasing care at the state's maximum base reimbursement rate for center care for a four-year-old. Families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and participating in work or work-related activities, families receiving protective services, foster families, homeless families, and families receiving wrap-around services (services provided before and after Head Start programs) are exempt from copayments.
- 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 In February 2016, parents could receive child care assistance while searching for a job for up to 4 weeks in a 12-month calendar year. If child care assistance was provided for at least one day, the entire week was counted toward this limit. Child care assistance was only provided while a parent searched for a job for a child who was not attending full-day school. The state began allowing parents to continue to receive child care assistance while searching for a job until the end of their 12-month eligibility period as of March 2016.

