Ohio

Credit Name: Child Care and Dependent Care Credit

Type of Provision: Nonrefundable Tax Credit

Calculation: A percentage, based on Ohio Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), of the federal Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit received;¹ if the family’s federal AGI is less than $20,000, then the credit is calculated without regard to whether the family received the federal credit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Ohio AGI²</th>
<th>Percentage of Federal Credit</th>
<th>Maximum Value: 1 Child/Dependent*</th>
<th>Maximum Value: 2+ Children/Dependents*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $20,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>$1,050</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000 - $39,999</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>$240</td>
<td>$480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40,000 and over</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Calculations assume that the Ohio AGI is the same as the federal AGI.

Maximum Value:
- One Child/Dependent: $1,050
- Two or More Children/Dependents: $2,100

Income Limit: $40,000

¹ This means that the state credit is based on the nonrefundable federal credit after it has been reduced by federal tax liability. Because low- and moderate-income families have lower tax liability, they may not receive the full value of their federal credit (or any credit at all). As a result, the value of their state credit may be limited.

² "Household AGI" refers to the AGI of the tax filing unit, regardless of whether the unit is a married couple or a single tax filer.
Family Illustrations:

A woman who has an income of $30,000, is raising an infant on her own, and pays $7,467 in child care expenses could receive a maximum credit of $203, depending on her tax liability.³

A married couple with both parents employed full-time in low-wage jobs (paying $11.50/hour) that has an income of $47,840, has an infant and a four-year-old, and pays $13,810 in child care expenses, would not be eligible for this credit.

³ Because this credit is based on the nonrefundable federal credit received at this income level, the family’s federal tax liability impacts the amount of the federal credit the family is eligible to receive, as described above. In addition, because this state credit is nonrefundable, the state credit amount cannot exceed the family’s state tax liability. For example, if the mother in the first illustration had sufficient federal tax liability to be eligible for the full federal credit but has a state tax liability of $50, then she could only receive a state credit of $50.

While there are numerous options to improve this provision, impactful changes would include:

• Making the credit refundable so that low-income families with little or no state income tax liability can take full advantage of the credit.

• Allowing families with incomes above $20,000 to claim the state credit regardless of whether the family had enough federal tax liability to receive the full amount of the federal credit (or to receive the credit at all). This will give more low-income families access to this tax credit, and potentially increase the credit amount.

• For families with incomes of $20,000 or over, increasing the percentage of the federal credit used to calculate the state credit to increase the maximum value of the credit and provide more help to families.

• Lifting the income cap to give more middle-class families access to this tax credit.