



Child Care Assistance

Child Care Waiting List

Who



Income eligible families- ex. a single mom with one child making less than \$35,000 a year.

Volume



There are over 5,000 children on the waiting list. DES updates their website weekly- (des.az.gov)

Solution



Sustainable state investment. Parents cannot work if they do not have child care.

Economic Impact



The estimated economic impact of child care challenges is \$4.7B.

Child Care Assistance- Federal

The Child Care & Development Block Grant (CCDBG) is the primary federal grant program that allows states to provide child care assistance to low-income working families with children.

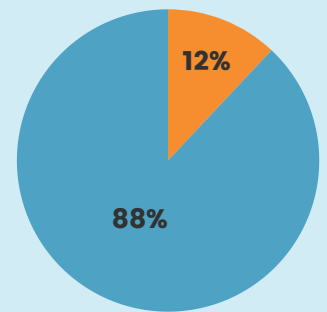


In Arizona, 31% of children age six and under are income-eligible for child care assistance based on federal rules on average each month.



However, 88% of income-eligible children are left with no access to child care assistance due to insufficient state funding.

● Eligible and receiving assistance
● Eligible and not receiving assistance



Child Care Assistance- State

Before the recession, Arizona allocated \$85 million in state General Fund dollars to child care assistance.

By 2011, state funding for child care was removed. First Things First stepped in to fulfill the state matching requirements or risk losing federal funding. A waiting list was implemented for child care assistance.

In 2024, Governor Hobbs and the Legislature appropriated \$12 million for child care, but that was less than the \$100 million needed due to the end of the pandemic era funding. As a result, a waiting list was reinstated in August 2024.

