



Early Childhood Education

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
AT 8:30 A.M.**

CHASE CENTER

WWW.NCCCC.COM



Hearing from the Audience

Have you, your family, or your employees struggled to find reliable, affordable child care?

Access to Child Care and Cost Are Holding Back Economic Growth

13% of Delaware's children had a family member who quit, changed, or refused a job due to difficulty finding childcare

60% of parents said they would work more than they do now if they could afford/access child care

=

\$415M lost earnings, productivity, and tax revenue per year

Child Care Impacts Delaware's Workforce of Today and Tomorrow



Child Care Is Everyone's Business

Why Delaware Businesses Should Care About Early Childhood Education

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
PHILADELPHIA

Rodel
A DELAWARE EDUCATION
FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPANY

DELAWARE STATE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Delaware
Department of Education

DELAWARE INVESTMENT AGENDA

Delaware Business Roundtable



TIP
STRATEGIES

DELAWARE
BUSINESS
ROUNDTABLE

March 2024

Hearing from the Audience

**Do you or someone you know pay
more than \$10K year in child care
per child?**

Child Care Costs

Average cost of child care in Delaware:
\$10-15K per year **per child**

- 10% of married couple median income
- 22% of single parent income
- **Most expensive in NCCo**
- **Increasing at highest rate in NCCo**

"I stay home because we could not afford bills and child care."

 **230% in the last 30 years**

- 100% higher growth rate than all other items
- 25% higher than income growth

-Small Business Association

"The cost of child care makes it impossible to get ahead, let alone pay off debt, or do anything extra outside of daily living."

Access: Not Enough Child Care Capacity

- More centers are closing than opening
- 55% of closures have been in New Castle County

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND CAPACITY: TOTAL LICENSED PROVIDERS (NUMBER)



"My family can only find waiting lists for child care."

Child Care Capacity in Delaware

Licensed child care capacity
53,640

Estimated number of children age 0-9
109,075



Today's Panel



JULIE BIEBER

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS,
KINGSWOOD COMMUNITY
CENTER

Kingswood
Community Center



KIRSTEN OLSON

CEO, CHILDREN &
FAMILIES FIRST



MADELEINE BAYARD

SVP, RODEL FOUNDATION

Rodel

A GREAT EDUCATION
CHANGES EVERYTHING

Workforce of Today

13% of Delaware's children had a family member who quit, changed, or refused a job due to difficulty finding childcare

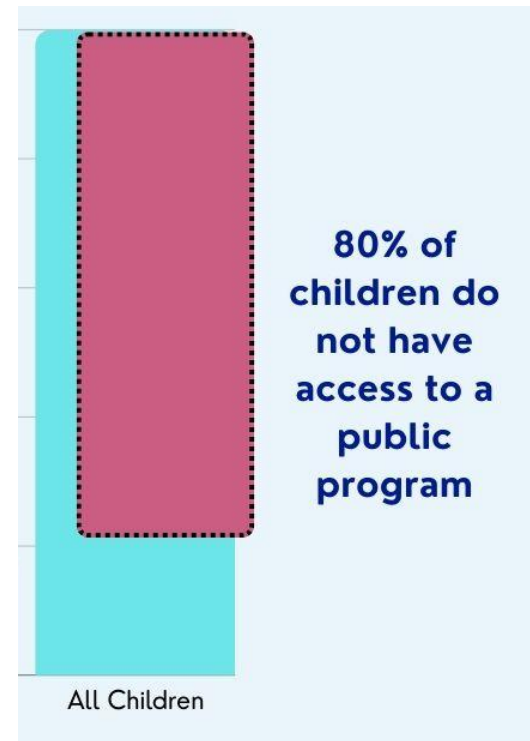
60% of parents said they would work more than they do now if they could afford/access child care

Who Qualifies for State Funded Care?

Only those making up to \$60,000 qualify

Survival budget for family of 4 in Delaware: **\$103,000**

Families Served Federal Poverty Level %	Family of 4 Annual Income	% of State Median income (\$105,076)
Up to 200%	\$60,000	59%
Up to 250%	\$78,000	74%
Up to 300%	\$93,600	89%



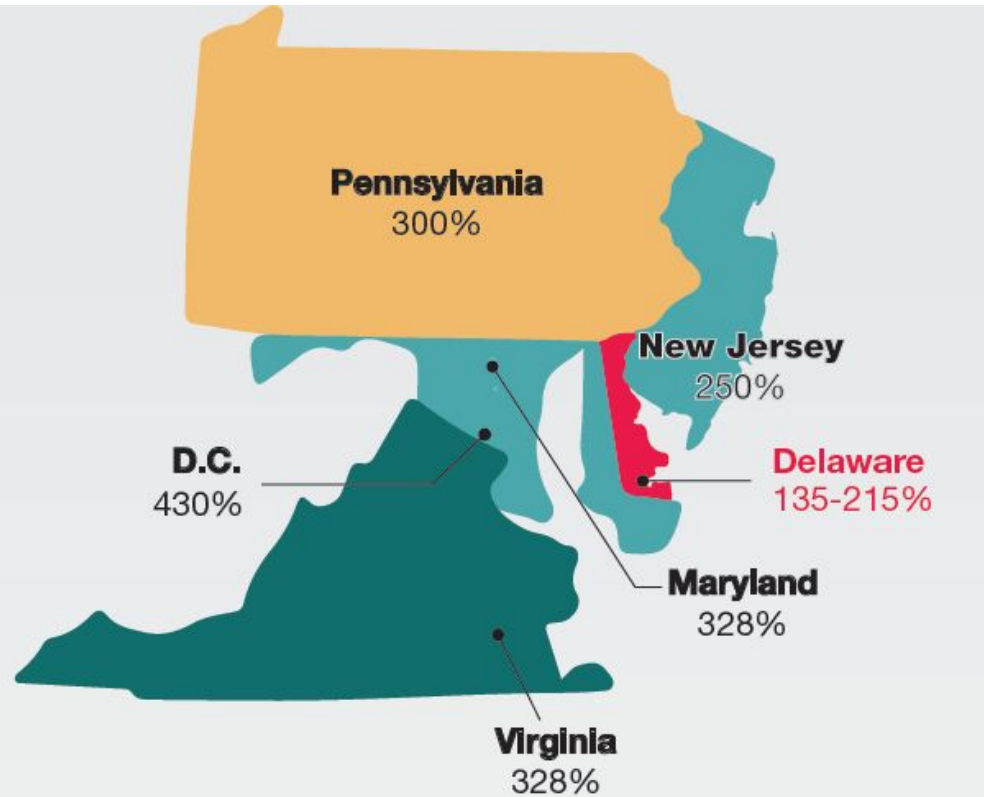
Delaware is Behind on Family Eligibility for Child Care

2024 Eligibility for Purchase of Care by State

Neighboring states provide child care to more families than Delaware

**Delaware Purchase of Care is at 215% and ECAP is at 135%.

These numbers reflect exit eligibility—the most you can make before you lose benefits. Entry requirements range from 135 – 200%.



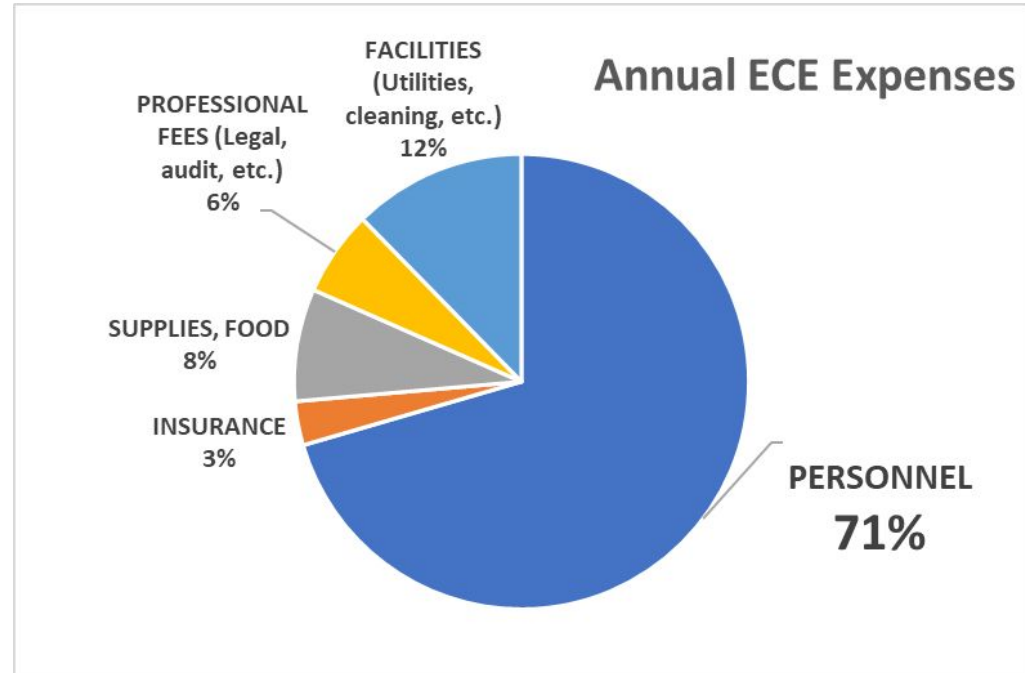


**Cost of Early Childhood Education for EDx Talk
September 26, 2024**

Kingswood Community Center Annual Early Childhood Education Expenses

Majority is Personnel; State Covers 68% of Expenses

Annual Early Childhood Education Expenses	
INCOME	ANNUAL
State Funding	1,130,554
Tuition (private pay)	10,000
EXPENSES	
PERSONNEL	1,164,737
INSURANCE	51,635
SUPPLIES, FOOD, EQUIPMENT	132,000
PROFESSIONAL FEES (Legal, audit, etc.)	100,200
FACILITIES (Utilities, cleaning, etc.)	203,626
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,652,198
NET PROFIT	-511,644
65 Children ages 1-5	
Costs are allocated as part of Kingswood Community Center	



Cost Per Class: Toddlers vs. Pre-K

Toddler Class of 8 Children

- Teacher making \$45,600/yr and Assistant Teacher making \$38,000 with full benefits
- **Cost per child: \$40,974**
- **State covers: \$16,232**

Pre-K Class of 15 Children

- Teacher making \$50,000/yr and Assistant Teacher making \$38,000 with full benefits
- **Cost per child: \$22,184**
- **State covers: \$20,580**



Early Childhood
& Brain
Development:
Why It Matters



Return on Investment

Every dollar invested in early childhood education yields **up to \$8.60 in return***



Savings include:

- Special Education services
- Remedial programs (particularly in literacy and math)
- Alternative secondary education programs (i.e., GED)
- Greater earning potential later in life
- Increased workforce participation
- Lower involvement with the criminal justice system



*White House Fact Sheet: “Invest in US: The White House Summit on Early Childhood Education,” December 10, 2014

Q & A

Next: What you can do

What Can Employers Do? *Within Your Company...*

1. **Understand options for your employees**
 - a. Connect them (especially lower wage workers) with social services
 - b. Offer flexible spending account to pay for child care pre-tax
 - c. Find out what your employees need: flexibility, financial support?
 - i. Ask why they may not be taking raises and promotions
2. **Help your employees find care** cffde.org/accesscare
3. **Offer back up care** for when families need it: cffde.org/jitc
4. **Partner with child care programs** to invest in their programs and hold openings for employees

uschamberfoundation.org/solutions/early-childhood-and-k-12-education/employer-roadmap

What Can Employers Do? *In the Community...*

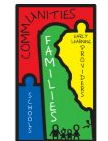


PARENTS AND FAMILIES: HELP IMPROVE CHILD CARE IN DELAWARE BY TAKING THIS SHORT SURVEY!

If you live in Delaware and have a child under the age of 12, please take this 5-10 minute confidential survey! The data collected will support advocacy efforts to improve child care options in Delaware. You must be 18 years or older to participate.



bit.ly/2024DEfamilysurvey



Responses will be summarized and made available on our website. No individual information will be shared.

- Take the survey: bit.ly/2024DEfamilysurvey
- Share this flyer at your worksite, with employees, and online bit.ly/3TwaubQ

What Can Employers Do? *With Policymakers...*

Find your legislators and candidates: legis.delaware.gov/FindMyLegislator

Tell them to prioritize child care!

- **This is a priority of the business community**

NCCo Chamber, State Chamber, Business Roundtable, and Kent Sussex Leadership Alliance

- **Child care impacts our current and future workforce**
- **We need their leadership to expand eligibility and access**

Sign up to stay engaged: firststateprek.com/get-involved

Follow us on social media facebook.com/FirstStatePreK

THANK YOU!

