

Fair Start for Kids Act – Implementation Timeline



JULY 2021

- Expands approved activities and removes work requirements for student parents accessing Working Connections Child Care
- Increase rates to the 85th percentile for licensed centers and family home providers
- ECEAP slot rates increase by 10%
- Child Care Subsidy copays are waived July, August, and September

FALL 2021

- Child care stabilization grants
- Complex needs funds to support ECEAP

OCTOBER 2021

- Child Care Subsidy income eligibility to 60% state median income (SMI)
- Child Care Subsidy copay steps align with conversion to SMI

WINTER 2021

- Complex Needs Fund for child care

JANUARY 2022

- Expand community-based option for ECE initial certificate completion

SPRING 2022

- Early childhood equity grants



JULY 2022

- Dual language rate enhancement
- Infant care incentive
- Trauma-informed care supports
- ECEAP slot rate increase
- ECEAP eligibility increases to 35% SMI
- Develop community-based training for equivalent to ECE short certificate
- Continued expansion of community-based training for equivalent to ECE initial certificate

JULY 2023

- Child Care Subsidy 50%-60% SMI copay step increases to \$165

JULY 2025

- Child care subsidy income eligibility to 75% SMI

JULY 2026

- ECEAP eligibility increases to 50% SMI, when accompanied by additional qualifying factors
- Early ECEAP expansion

JULY 2030

- ECEAP eligibility increases to 50% SMI, allowing voluntary entitlement



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