

ALERT: CHANGES TO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE BEGIN AUGUST 1ST.

PARENTS: TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY'S ACCESS.

Because the New Jersey Legislature did not sufficiently fund the Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development (DFD), the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)—administered by your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R), also known as the child care subsidy program—will see significant changes starting **August 1, 2025**.

The final state budget did include an \$80 million increase for CCAP, but **fell \$30 million short** of the amount required to fully fund the program and maintain open enrollment. It's important to note that this unmet need would have been covered by **state—not federal—funds**.



As a result of the budget shortfall, DFD implemented several changes that will significantly impact families across New Jersey starting August 1, 2025:

• Higher Family Co-Pays:

- Most families will now pay around 6% of their income for full-time care.
- Families under 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) will still have no co-pay.

• No New Applications After July 31:

- No new families or additional children in current families can apply for child care assistance.
- This includes families already receiving help who want to add another child to the program.
- Only TANF, transitional TANF, adoption, and child protection cases can apply.

What This Means for Your Family:

- You may **no longer be able to apply** for child care assistance for an additional child after July 31, but your current child care assistance will not be interrupted.
- If your income has changed at the time of redetermination or your family is growing, this could affect your ability to afford care.
- These changes could also lead to **longer waitlists and reduced access** to child care for **all** families, regardless of income.

WHY YOUR VOICE STILL MATTERS:

We understand that these changes are disappointing. While the budget has been finalized, legislators **need to hear how this decision impacts your ability to continue to work or attend school and provide for your family**. Sharing your stories and your frustration can still drive change and elevate the issue for future funding opportunities. Scan or click on the QRcode to tell us about your experience.



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

📞 Call or email your State Assemblymembers and Senators today:

Tell them how these changes affect your family.

- *Hi, my name is [Your Name], and I'm a parent from [Town]. The recent changes to the CCAP program are affecting my family in the following ways [List the problems]. I am asking you to prioritize CCAP funding in any supplemental or future budget decisions.*

🔗 Find your legislators here: <https://acnj.org/find-your-elected-officials/>



We remain committed to working alongside you and will continue to advocate for the resources your family needs to not only survive but thrive.



Follow us on social media @acnjforkids or visit acnj.org



ADVOCATES
for CHILDREN OF NEW JERSEY