

ALERT: **STATE BUDGET SHORTFALL CUTS CHILD CARE ACCESS** **FOR THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES.** **PROVIDERS: ACT NOW.**

You may have heard about the recent changes to New Jersey's Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), which is administered by the Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development (DFD), and distributes subsidies to providers through their local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency.



Starting August 1, 2025, there are several key changes that will significantly impact both providers and families across New Jersey:

Co-Payment Increases:

- New co-payments will take effect for families starting August 1, 2025, at the time of redetermination.
- Most full-time co-pays will be around 6% of a family's income, although actual amounts will vary.
 - Families under 100% FPL will continue to have no co-pay.

No Changes for:

- Children from families receiving Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) cash assistance.
- Children involved in child protective services or post-adoption services.

Application Closure:

- DFD will pause new applications and additional child applications for CCAP **starting 11:59 PM on July 31, 2025.**
- Complete applications received before the deadline will be processed, and payments for all active cases will continue.
- The online portal (<https://mynjhelps.gov/home>) and state child care websites will be updated to reflect these changes (<https://www.childcarenj.gov/>).

THIS REDUCTION IN SERVICES IS A DIRECT RESULT OF INSUFFICIENT FUNDING IN THE STATE BUDGET.

The final New Jersey state budget did not include the additional \$30 million needed to fully fund the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) and continue accepting new families. While CCAP received an \$80 million increase, this fell \$30 million short of what was required to maintain open enrollment and serve additional children from existing families.

It is essential to note that this additional funding would have been allocated from the state budget, not federal sources.

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 business, your staff, and the families you serve. 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 your story.



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

📞 Call or email your State Assemblymembers and Senators today:

Tell them how these changes affect your program and the families in your care.

- *I'm [Your Name], director of [Center Name] in [Town], where we serve [X] children—[X]% on subsidy—and recent CCAP changes are creating hardship for working families, parents in school, and jeopardizing stable child care in New Jersey.*

Urge them to prioritize CCAP funding in any supplemental or future budget decisions.

🗣️ Encourage parents to speak up too. Volume and personal stories matter.

🔗 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 our sector needs. Thank you for all you do to support children and families across New Jersey.



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