TOTAL WELLBEING EXPO

Virtual Event: Child Care Financial Assistance Programs

Child Care Services Association
Founded in 1974

For 50 years, Child Care Services Association (CCSA) helps families, educates teachers, informs policy and supports children.
Our Vision

All children have equitable access to affordable, high quality early care and education to lay the foundation for successful life outcomes.
Our Mission

CCSA leads efforts to strengthen accessible and affordable quality early care and education by providing supports for families, communities and the workforce.
We Can Help!

Because there is nothing more important than making the right decision.
Accessing Services

Find Child Care Now

CCRC offers three, free and convenient ways to obtain referrals to child care programs in your area:

- **Search online** through Child Care Referral Central’s Online Referral system, available 24-7.
- **Call us** toll-free at **855-EARLY-ED (855-327-5933)** to speak with a child care referral counselor. Spanish-speaking counselors are available!
- **E-mail us** at referral@childcareservices.org to request that a child care referral counselor contact you.
What we do!

Give families the tools they need to be confident throughout the search process:

- Referral to programs
- Consumer Education
  - Child care options & types
  - Features of quality
  - Licensing & Regulations
  - Star-rating
  - Compliance Histories
  - Financial Assistance Information
- Tips for Choosing
- Complaint Reports
- Parent Education Packets

Serving over 2200 families and 2700 children annually

A checklist for choosing a quality child care program.

Research is now available that can help parents make a better child care choice for their children. When you visit a child care program, find out the answers to the questions below.

Use this checklist as a guide in comparing programs. If you can answer yes to most or all of these questions, then your child will have a greater chance of having a successful child care experience.

Child Care Center Checklist

- Do child care teachers have credentials and degrees in early childhood education or child development? [yes] [no]
- Are child care teachers who do not have credentials or degrees taking college courses to earn them? [yes] [no]
- Are there low child/teacher ratios so that children can receive lots of individual attention all day? [yes] [no]
- Is the child care center director an experienced child care administrator with formal education in early childhood education and child care administration? [yes] [no]
- Does the child care center have low turnover of teachers, less than 20% each year? [yes] [no]
- Does the center meet higher than minimal licensure standards by either having a 3 to 5-star rated license or a national accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children? [yes] [no]
Child Care Scholarship Program Overview

Provides supports for families, by assisting low-cost access to high quality child care for families living in Durham or Orange Counties or who are affiliated with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
CCSA’s Child Care Scholarship Team

Team Dynamics:

- **88** years of combined services in Early Education
- **Director**
  - 23 years in Early Education
- **Program Manager**
  - Bilingual and **15** years in Early Education
- **6** Scholarship and Family Specialist III
  - 5 Bilingual Staff and **50** years combined in Early Education

Key CCSA Core Values:

- Service oriented and customer focused
  - Work diligently to best meet the family’s needs
- Committed to excellence, equity, and data
  - Work to overcome the impact of multi-generational poverty and systemic racism.
CCSA’s Scholarship program is supported through funding from:

- Durham County-Build Babies ARPA
- Durham’s Partnership for Children – a Smart Start Initiative
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Ramsey Tremalgia Endowment Fund
- Town of Carrboro
- Town of Chapel Hill
- United Way of the Greater Triangle
- St. Thomas More Catholic Church
- Private Donations
Child Care Scholarship Program
Orange County

Eligibility Criteria:

- Children birth to 12 years old
- Full-Time Eligibility
  - Employed a minimum of 30 hours per week
  - Enrolled in school
  - Or combination of both
- UNC Affiliation
  - Student
  - Employee (not connected to hospital)
- Residency
  - Orange
  - Town of Carrboro/Chapel Hill
  - Any location for UNC Scholarship

Leading efforts to strengthen accessible and affordable quality early care and education by providing supports for families, communities and the workforce.
### Child Care Scholarship Program

#### Income Eligibility

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<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>Orange County Scholarships</th>
<th>UNC-CH Scholarships</th>
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<tr>
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</table>
Children Served:

- **47** children served
  - 46 Birth to 5 years
  - 1 School Age

- **5.0** Average star-rating of child care facilities used by children on scholarship

- **70%** of children lived in Carrboro or Chapel Hill

- **91%** of families receiving scholarship assistance because of employment or training needs
“This scholarship program really help me afford childcare for my children. I moved to North Carolina from Florida for a job opportunity and was shocked at how high childcare was here. I almost had to move back home because I could afford the childcare for 3 children. It wasn’t until I was introduced to this program and have been able to afford childcare and live happy here in North Carolina with my new employment. If it wasn’t for this scholarship program I would not be where I am today and I am very grateful for this program.”

— Recipient of CCSA’s Orange Regular Child Care Scholarship Services
July to December 2023
UNC Scholarship
Mid-Year Updates

Children Served:

- **43** children served
  - 41 Birth to 5 years
  - 2 School Age
- **4.9** Average star-rating of child care facilities used by children on scholarship
- Children lived in
  - Alamance
  - Chatham
  - Durham
  - Orange
  - Wake
Words from UNC Scholarship Families

“The worry about affording better child care has lifted, and the scholarship serves as a beacon of support, alleviating previous concerns. Additionally, it has opened doors for me to pursue educational and career goals, offering relief from immediate financial stress while supporting long-term prospects.”

“The financial relief from the scholarship enabled us to save for the future, focus on work and studies, and spend quality time with our son. This has allowed our son to attend a prestigious 5-star program.”
Learn more about CCSA at:

https://www.childcareservices.org/
Thank you for attending!