

Invest in Child Care Scholarships

Smith County

Building Opportunity for the Whole Community

Early learning programs foster short-term and long-term opportunities for communities. They provide critical support for working families and ensuring healthy development of children, supporting the workforce of today and building the workforce of tomorrow. Working families across Texas need increased state investment to unlock the opportunities early learning programs can provide for them and their children.

Working Families Need State Investment

The Child Care Services program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission provides low-income working families with scholarships that enable them to go to work and secure high-quality child care for their children.

However, a growing need for child care scholarships is blocking opportunities for families and their children across the state. Investing in child care scholarships unlocks opportunities to expand the Texas workforce and helps builds self-sufficiency for low-income working families.



Statewide



County



Statewide



County

Policy Recommendations

- Support working families and Texas employers by investing state funding to provide more child care scholarships through the TWC's Child Care Services (CCS) program (**SB 1/HB 1**).
- Provide local workforce boards with flexibility to reimburse Texas Rising Star child care programs at the established rate for their board area (**SB 972/HB 2294**).
- Establish child care workers as a priority group for child care scholarships (**SB 462**).

For more information, contact:

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Texas Association for the
Education of Young Children