



# HELP MORE DELAWARE FAMILIES ACCESS EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION!

## Delawareans United in Need for Child Care Supports

Families, child care providers, and local employers continue to struggle to make ends meet, despite some positive gains in recent years.

We thank Gov. Matt Meyer and the General Assembly for historic proposed investments in early care and education, including \$25 million for Purchase of Care and \$8 million for increased pre-K/ECAP. This year, let's **make the most of our opportunity and serve even more children and families** by investing more state dollars and allowing more families to access care.

Today, **fewer than 1 in 5 children are served in public programs.**

- Care is too expensive for many families, costing as much as a mortgage payment
- Employers face daily disruptions, a shrinking workforce, and business losses
- Child care providers want to offer more openings to families but cannot

We are grateful for the historic investments outlined in the **Governor's Recommended Budget for FY27: nearly \$33 million in state funding. But we must do more to reach our goals.**

## Joint Finance Committee: Invest Today

### Department of Education: Increase access to state-funded pre-K (ECAP)

1. Increase eligibility to serve families up to at least 300% of the Federal Poverty Level
2. Provide infrastructure funds to expand early care and education capacity through grants and by allowing public school capital funding to cover pre-K

### Department of Health and Social Services: Increase access to child care (Purchase of Care) for more families

1. Increase family eligibility based on income
2. Pay more for children with special needs
3. Increase provider rates to cover more of the cost per child
4. Make copayments more affordable, including making part-time rates half of the current rate

Take Action today: [bit.ly/fspktakeaction](https://bit.ly/fspktakeaction)  
 Contact your legislator: [legis.delaware.gov/FindMyLegislator](https://legis.delaware.gov/FindMyLegislator)

