

STATE OF IOWA
KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

April 09, 2026

The Honorable Paul Pate
Secretary of State of Iowa
State Capitol
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I hereby transmit:

House File 2514, an Act making children of child care workers in this state eligible for the state child care assistance program.

The above House File is hereby approved on this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Reynolds".

Kim Reynolds
Governor of Iowa

cc: Secretary of the Senate
Clerk of the House



House File 2514

AN ACT

MAKING CHILDREN OF CHILD CARE WORKERS IN THIS STATE ELIGIBLE FOR
THE STATE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 237A.13A State child care
assistance — child care workforce.

1. Notwithstanding any provision of section 237A.13 or
237A.14 to the contrary, a child shall be eligible for the
state child care assistance program established in section
237A.13 if a parent, guardian, or custodian of the child meets
all of the following requirements, as applicable:

a. The parent, guardian, or custodian is employed at a child
care facility or child care home located in this state, and the
child care facility or child care home has an agreement with
the department to accept reimbursement from the state child
care assistance program.

b. The parent, guardian, or custodian works in a child
care facility or child care home located in this state an
average minimum of thirty-two hours per week during the month
in a position with a primary duty of providing child care
directly to children, and is regularly counted in the minimum
child-to-staff ratio established by the department by rule.

c. (1) If the parent, guardian, or custodian is employed
at a child care home or a child development home, the parent,
guardian, or custodian does not provide child care to the
parent's, guardian's, or custodian's own child.

(2) Notwithstanding subparagraph (1), a co-provider at a child development home may qualify for state child care assistance if the co-provider meets all requirements specified in this section and by the department by rule.

d. The parent, guardian, or custodian is not a substitute or an assistant at a child care home or a child development home.

e. Based on the department's evaluation of the parent's, guardian's, or custodian's application for state child care assistance, the department has determined the parent, guardian, or custodian has a need for child care.

f. The parent, guardian, or custodian is not the owner of the child care facility or child care home where the parent's, guardian's, or custodian's child is enrolled.

2. A director, co-director, or other administrative staff member of a child care facility may qualify for state child care assistance under subsection 1 if such individual is regularly counted in the minimum child-to-staff ratio established by the department by rule.

3. A parent, guardian, or custodian of a child participating in the state child care assistance program pursuant to eligibility established under this section shall make copayments as specified by the department by rule.

4. No later than December 1 of each year, the department shall submit a report to the general assembly relating to participation in the state child care assistance program under this section. The report must include all of the following:

a. The dollar amount of state moneys spent to reimburse child care providers during the immediately preceding fiscal year.

b. The dollar amount of federal moneys spent to reimburse child care providers during the immediately preceding fiscal year.

c. The dollar amount of state moneys spent on administrative costs during the immediately preceding fiscal year.

d. The dollar amount of federal moneys spent on administrative costs during the immediately preceding fiscal year.

e. The total number of participating families.

f. The total number of participating children.

g. The average gross household income for participating families.

h. The number of participating families for each of the following levels of gross household income:

(1) Above one hundred sixty percent but below one hundred eighty percent of the federal poverty level.


(2) At or above one hundred eighty percent but below two hundred percent of the federal poverty level.

(3) At or above two hundred percent but below two hundred twenty percent of the federal poverty level.

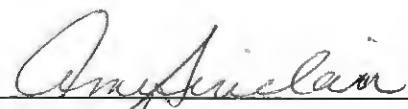
(4) At or above two hundred twenty percent but below two hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level.

(5) At or above two hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level.

5. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to administer this section.

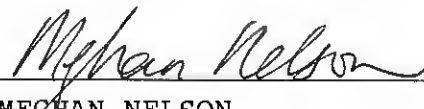


PAT GRASSLEY
Speaker of the House



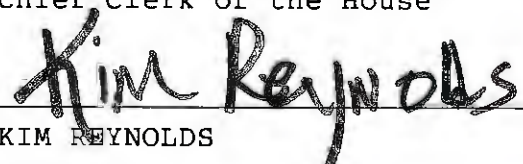
AMY SINCLAIR
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 2514, Ninety-first General Assembly.



MEGHAN NELSON
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved April 9th, 2026



KIM REYNOLDS
Governor