

**House File 342 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 342

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**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to state child care assistance for children of  
2 certain child care personnel.

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

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1 Section 1. Section 237A.13, subsection 8, Code 2025, is  
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. e. Persons deemed to be eligible for benefits  
4 under the state child care assistance program in accordance with  
5 section 237A.13A.

6 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **237A.13A State child care assistance**  
7 **— child care personnel.**

8 1. Notwithstanding section 237A.13, subsections 1 and 2, a  
9 child shall be eligible for the state child care assistance  
10 program under section 237A.13 if a parent, guardian, or custodian  
11 meets the following requirements:

12 a. The parent, guardian, or custodian is employed at a child  
13 care facility, a child care home registered with the department,  
14 or an unregistered child care home with an agreement with the  
15 department to accept reimbursements from the state child care  
16 assistance program.

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

22 c. If the parent, guardian, or custodian is employed at  
23 a child care home or a child development home, the parent,  
24 guardian, or custodian does not provide child care to the parent,  
25 guardian, or custodian's own child. A co-provider at a child  
26 development home may qualify for state child care assistance if  
27 such person meets all requirements set by this section and by the  
28 department by rule.

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

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

35 2. A director, co-director, or other administrative staff

1 member of a child care facility may qualify for state child care  
2 assistance pursuant to subsection 1 if such person is regularly  
3 counted in the minimum child-to-staff ratio established by the  
4 department by rule.

5 3. A person participating in the state child care assistance  
6 program pursuant to eligibility established under this section  
7 shall make copayments based on the person's household income for  
8 services received from the program.

9 4. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A  
10 to implement and administer this section.

11 EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 This bill relates to state child care assistance (CCA) for  
15 children of child care employees.

16 The bill makes a child eligible for CCA if the child is in  
17 a family with a parent, guardian, or custodian who is employed  
18 at a child care facility, a child care home registered with the  
19 department of health and human services (HHS), or an unregistered  
20 child care home with an agreement with HHS to accept CCA  
21 reimbursements; works an average minimum of 32 hours per week  
22 during the month in a position with a primary duty of providing  
23 child care directly to children, and is regularly counted in the  
24 minimum child-to-staff ratio established by HHS by rule; does  
25 not provide child care to the parent, guardian, or custodian's  
26 own child if the parent, guardian, or custodian is employed  
27 at a child care home or a child development home, though a  
28 co-provider at a child development home may qualify for CCA if  
29 the co-provider meets all requirements set in Code and by rule;  
30 is not a substitute or an assistant at a child development home;  
31 and has a need for child care based on HHS's assessment.

32 The bill provides that a director, co-director, or other  
33 administrative staff of a child care facility may qualify for CCA  
34 as a child care employee if such person is regularly counted in  
35 the minimum child-to-staff ratio established by HHS by rule.

1 The bill requires a person who participates in CCA under the  
2 bill to make copayments for services received from the program.

3 The bill directs HHS to adopt rules to implement and  
4 administer the bill.

5 The bill prohibits HHS from applying waiting list requirements  
6 for CCA on persons deemed eligible for CCA under the bill.

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