

House File 2514 - Reprinted

HOUSE FILE 2514
BY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 500)

(As Amended and Passed by the House February 23, 2026)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act making children of child care workers in this state
2 eligible for the state child care assistance program.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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

3 1. Notwithstanding any provision of section 237A.13 or
4 237A.14 to the contrary, a child shall be eligible for the
5 state child care assistance program established in section
6 237A.13 if a parent, guardian, or custodian of the child meets
7 all of the following requirements, as applicable:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 *e.* The total number of participating families.

26 *f.* The total number of participating children.

27 *g.* The average gross household income for participating
28 families.

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

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

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

35 (3) At or above two hundred percent but below two hundred

1 twenty percent of the federal poverty level.

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

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

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