




Best Starts for Kids Child Care Subsidy prioritizes families who are not served by existing public subsidies and for whom child care is unaffordable. This includes families living just above the income eligibility threshold for existing public subsidies, as well as families who are below the income cut-off but ineligible for or not well served by these programs.

Income-Based Requirements for Best Starts for Kids Subsidy

-  A family's household, pre-tax income must be at or below 85% SMI.
-  If you believe it is possible that the reauthorization calculation of your family's pre-tax income could fall at or close to 60% SMI, we highly encourage you to obtain a WCCC denial letter. We suggest that all families estimating their gross income at 65% or less of the SMI should submit a WCCC denial letter.
-  These income calculations are based on gross, or pre-tax income including all sources of income before any deductions, such as wages, salaries, tips, unemployment benefits, child support, and any other income sources.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Best Starts Child Care Subsidy Program, families must meet the following criteria:

- Reside in King County
- Have one or more children age 12 or under
- Have a gross household income that falls below 85% of the State Median Income (SMI) (see table below)
- Choose a licensed child care provider
- Be ineligible for WCCC subsidy or not well served by existing programs

Residency Documents

List A - choose ONE document to submit -	OR	List B - choose TWO documents to submit -
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mortgage statement or current lease • Any utility bill (gas, water/garbage, electricity, internet) • Homeowner's or renter's insurance statement • Washington State Address Confidentiality Program card (no date required) • Housing Affidavit/Attestation Statement in the application <small>This will include the link to the third-party verification form of homelessness</small> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington State Identification Card • Washington State Driver License • Bank statement • Credit card statement, cell phone bill, or other bill • Paystub from employer • Consulate card from any country • Rent receipt

WCCC income limits are for gross income, meaning pre-tax income. Gross income includes all sources of income before any deductions, such as wages, salaries, tips, unemployment benefits, child support, and any other income sources.

Income Sources

- Employment income - W-2 / 1099
- Self-employment income, capital gains income, dividend income (from stocks), interest income, royalty income
- Disability insurance- SSI/SSDI
- Student financial aid
- TANF or other cash benefits (such as unemployment insurance)
- Rental income
- Received Child Support
- Jobs paid in cash
- Other income

To Note:

Families are initially responsible for determining if their income falls at or below the limits listed for WCCC and Best Starts Subsidy below. After the reauthorization application is submitted, our team will review the provided income documentation to make the final determination of total gross income.

WCCC Gross Income Limits Table:

Family Size	- 60% SMI - Monthly Income Limit
2	\$4,094
3	\$5,057
4	\$6,020
5	\$6,984
6	\$7,947
7	\$8,128
8	\$8,308
9	\$8,489
10	\$8,669

If your income falls at or below these amounts, you **MUST** submit a Working Connections denial letter or waiver to continue receiving the Best Starts Subsidy.

Best Starts for Kids Subsidy Gross Income Limits Table:

Family Size	- 85% SMI - Monthly Income Limit	- 85% SMI - Annual Income Limit
2	\$5,799	\$69,588
3	\$7,164	\$85,968
4	\$8,529	\$102,348
5	\$9,894	\$118,728
6	\$11,258	\$135,096
7	\$11,514	\$138,168
8	\$11,770	\$141,240
9	\$12,026	\$144,312
10	\$12,282	\$147,384

Need Assistance?

Families are encouraged to reach out to the Family Access and Support (FAS) Team for support throughout the reauthorization process.

- support@bskchildcare.org
- (206) 208 - 6865

For more information, please visit our website!
Best Starts for Kids Child Care Subsidy
<https://www.brightspark.org/bskchildcare/reauthorization-hub>

