

For example . . .

Michelle lives with her mother and has a 3-year-old son. She works 18 hours a week on the nightshift at a local video store making minimum wage earning \$503 a month. She is working towards an accounting certificate at a nearby community college. The state pays for her son to go to a child care center while she is in school and pays her mother to watch him at night. Michelle's monthly co-payment is \$21.67 for her son's child care. The Monetary Award Program (MAP) program helps her pay for the two classes she takes at college.

Renee, age 20, is a single mother with two children under age 4. She receives \$700 a month in child support and has recently decided to enter a GED program. The state will pay for her children to attend a day care center while she is in school. Her monthly co-payment will be \$30.33.

Maria and Mike have two children, ages 2 and 5. Maria works nights for 10 hours per week as a waitress in a coffee shop and attends Northern Illinois University during the day. She is working towards her bachelor's degree in computer science. She and her husband earn a combined income of \$22,750. They qualify for child care assistance during times when neither is available to care for the children and make a monthly co-payment of \$147.32.

You can also get help paying for child care if:

- 1.** You are working and your income is below the level in the table inside this brochure; OR
- 2.** You receive welfare benefits and are in an education, training or other work activity approved by your caseworker; OR
- 3.** You are a teen parent (under age 20) in high school or an alternative high school or GED program.

Call toll free 1-877-20-CHILD (1-877-202-4453) for information.



Need help paying for college?

MAP can help, whether you go to school full-time, half-time, or one or two classes at a time. The Monetary Award Program (MAP) is available to all undergraduate students in Illinois who meet financial need and general eligibility criteria. MAP grants don't need to be repaid and can be used to pay tuition and fees at approved Illinois educational institutions.

If you need to keep working while going to college or can only take one or two classes at a time, you can use MAP to enroll on a very part-time basis — as little as three credit hours at a time.

For more information on MAP, including a list of approved colleges and universities, visit www.collegezone.com or call the Illinois Student Assistance Commission at 1-800-899-ISAC.

Get help paying for child care

while you're in school or training

Women Employed's mission is to improve the economic status of women and remove barriers to economic equity. Women Employed promotes fair employment practices, helps increase access to training and education, and provides women with information and tools to plan their careers.

www.womenemployed.org

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Women Employed

Need help paying for child care while you go to school or to a job training program?

You may qualify for a state program that helps low-income parents in school pay for child care.



Low-income parents are eligible to receive child care assistance to attend any of the following educational or training activities*:

■ **Literacy, Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language (ESL), and GED preparation classes.** Parents can receive child care assistance for up to two years with no work requirement. (After two years, there is a 20 hours per week work requirement.)

■ **Vocational training.** Parents can receive child care assistance for up to two years with no work requirement. (After two years, there is a 20 hours per week work requirement.)

■ **2- and 4-year college degree.** Parents must work at least 10 hours per week to qualify for child care assistance. The work requirement may also be satisfied with 20 hours per week of unpaid work required by your education program, such as student teaching, internships, etc., or a combination of paid and unpaid work totaling 20 hours per week.

*TANF parents, teen parents, and other working parents: please refer to the back panel.

Your family's income must be less than the amount listed in the table below for your family size. You can also find an eligibility calculator at the Illinois Department of Human Services website, <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/ts/ChildCareDevelopment/CCD/eligcalc.asp>. Note: If you are claimed as a tax dependent, the income of the person claiming you is also counted.

Family Size	Monthly Income* (as of July 1, 2005)
2	\$2,051
3	\$2,533
4	\$3,016
5	\$3,498
6	\$3,981
7	\$4,071
8	\$4,162

*Monthly income guidelines are recalculated annually effective July 1 of each year.

How does it work?

■ Parents choose who will watch their child (licensed home, child care center, relative, friend, or neighbor).

■ Each family must make a co-payment based on family income, family size and the number of children in child care. The state reimburses the provider according to a rate schedule.

■ There is no minimum number of school hours that parents must attend.

■ Your child care assistance covers class hours, research, laboratory, library and transportation time, as well as any time you work.

■ The program provides child care assistance for children under age 13 and special needs children under age 20.

To participate in the child care program:

1. If you don't have a child care provider, contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R) or call toll free 1-877-20-CHILD (1-877-202-4453) to be connected with the local agency in your area. Ask to speak with a parent counselor who can help you decide what type of care is best for you and your child and give you a list of child care providers.
2. Once you have a child care provider, complete an application. To get an application, contact your local CCR&R by calling toll free 1-877-20-CHILD (1-877-202-4453). Your local child care center may also have applications.
3. Provide proof that you are or will be enrolled in an education or training program.
4. Provide proof of your family's total income.

Child care assistance is administered through the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS).

Need help paying for college?

Turn to the back of this brochure for more information.