



Care to Grow

CHILDCARE SUPPORT FOR WORKING FAMILIES

Struggling with childcare? **You're not alone.**

Finding affordable, reliable childcare can be one of the biggest challenges for working parents and caregivers. Whether it's daycare, afterschool care, or summer programs, the costs can pile up—and so can the stress.

Introducing the Care to Grow Initiative - **a solution that helps you and your family thrive.** Through a unique partnership between Shawnee Forward and local employers, eligible employees can receive **up to \$5,000 per year in childcare assistance.**

Your Employer

Care to Grow

$$\$1,000 + \$3,999 = \$4,999$$

Helps Cover Childcare Costs
from Daycare to Summer Camp

This support isn't just for infants or toddlers—it also covers afterschool care and summer childcare needs like camp programs.

If it helps you stay in the workforce, it counts.

Is your employer participating?

Ask them today: "Are we part of the Care to Grow program?"

Your question could unlock major support for your family.



Don't miss out. **You deserve support.** Your child deserves care. And your job deserves you—focused, empowered, and growing.

Ask your employer about Care to Grow today.

Support Starts Here

Whether you're looking for help finding care, financial assistance, or just need to understand how childcare benefits affect your bigger financial picture, these trusted resources can help you make informed decisions for your family.



Everyone's situation is different. The Care to Grow initiative is designed to add support, not create setbacks. These resources can help you decide if this opportunity aligns with your family's needs. And remember—you can always reach out to your employer or Shawnee Forward for help navigating your options.

Oklahoma Child Care Locator

<https://childcarefind.okdhs.org/>



Search licensed childcare options near you, from infant care to afterschool programs. Filter by location, hours, and quality ratings to find care that fits your schedule and needs.

Child Care Assistance Program

<https://oklahoma.gov/okdhs.html>



If you meet income guidelines, this state-run program can help cover a large portion of your childcare costs. Co-pays are based on your income—and some families may qualify for free care.

Oklahoma Child Care Resource & Referral Association

<https://www.oklahomachildcare.org/>



Need help navigating your childcare search? OCCRRA connects families with specialists who can walk you through options, answer questions, and support you every step of the way.

Head Start / Early Head Start

<https://headstart.gov/?redirect=eclkc>



Free, comprehensive early learning and care programs for children from birth to age 5. These programs support school readiness and offer health, nutrition, and family support services.

Oklahoma Universal Pre-K

Ask your local school district or visit <https://oklahoma.gov/education.html>



Free, public pre-kindergarten is available to eligible 4-year-olds across Oklahoma. Many programs are offered in elementary schools and some childcare centers, helping prepare your child for kindergarten success.

What's the Benefits Cliff?



The benefits cliff happens when a small increase in income leads to a sudden loss of public support—like childcare assistance, food benefits, or healthcare. It can leave families feeling like they're doing better on paper, but worse off financially. The CLIFF Dashboard is a free, easy tool that helps you see how changes in income might affect your support, **so you can plan with confidence.**

Shawnee
FORWARD

Care to Grow
shawneeforward.com/childcare
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