

WHAT IS THE COST OF CARE STUDY?

Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies is working with the Raising New York coalition to conduct a child care cost study. This study includes the development of a child care cost model to help understand what it costs to provide high-quality child care across New York State. The model will incorporate the impact of licensing and quality requirements as well as different program characteristics to understand variations in cost of care by program type and geographic location.

The cost study is important for informing future child care financing policy, including child care subsidy rate setting. It is also important for estimating the future funds needed to support a strong, diverse child care system for all children.

WHY SHOULD CHILD CARE PROVIDERS PARTICIPATE?

For this cost of care study to be successful, input is needed from the field. It is imperative that we collect data from those doing the work to help policymakers understand what it really costs to provide high-quality child care, and how far current resources go towards covering that cost.

WHAT INFORMATION WILL I BE ASKED TO SHARE?

The study will be guided by a small technical advisory workgroup to ensure that the study and model reflect the diversity of child care providers across the state. This workgroup is comprised of state leaders, child care advocates, and provider representatives.



To ensure that child care providers are adequately represented in the study, while minimizing burden on their time, the study will kick-off with several provider input sessions. Sessions will be scheduled in November and December 2022. These 1-hour, virtual, input sessions will provide an opportunity to share feedback on:

- the key costs associated with providing high-quality care
- the compensation needed to recruit and retain educators
- the barriers to providing quality child care
- solutions to address the current broken child care market.

These input sessions are intended for child care program directors, financial managers, and family child care provider/owners. To maintain confidentiality all information is being collected and analyzed by Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies. Only combined information summaries will be shared for the purpose of establishing the cost model.

WHO IS LEADING THIS STUDY?

The study is being conducted by Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies, which is led by Jeanna Capito and Simon Workman. Jeanna is a former child care provider with experience serving infants, toddlers, and older children including through private and nonprofit settings and Head Start and Early Head Start funded programs. Simon's career has focused on helping policymakers understand the need for increased public investments in child care and he is also the Board Chair of a nonprofit child care program serving low-income children and families. P5FS has experience working with states across the country to study the true cost of care and support better payment rates for child care providers.

MORE DETAILS

Visit www.prenatal5fiscal.org/newyorkstate for more information and to sign-up for a provider input session.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the study leads:

Simon Workman: simon@prenatal5fiscal.org
Jeanna Capito: jeanna@prenatal5fiscal.org