



Issue #64
October, November, December 2025



850 State Hwy. 153, Ste F
Mosinee | WI 54455
(Across from Central WI Airport,
Baymen Professional Building)

715.841.9490
1.800.628.8534



www.childcaring.org
info@childcaring.org

Hours:
Monday-Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
Limited Office Coverage M-Th
Additional office hours available
by appointment.

Our Mission
Childcaring supports quality early
childhood education and care
by empowering a community of
individuals who care for and
nurture children.

The Resource Connection

WI Early Care and Education Biennial Budget Information - 2025-27

- The 2025-27 Biennial Budget invest \$330 million in child care, including:
- Direct payments to child care providers
 - Investments to make child care more affordable for families

- Family Affordability
- Over \$123 million to increase Wisconsin Shares subsidy rates
 - Currently, the maximum Wisconsin Shares rate is only enough to fully cover the price of 41% of slots statewide
 - With this increase, it will fully cover the cost of 75% of slots

- Direct Investments in Child Care Providers
- Child Care Bridge Payments
- \$110 million for direct payments to providers in the first year of the budget (July 2025-June 2026)
 - These Child Care Bridge Payments will ensure continued support as the Child Care Counts program has ended
 - The first payment was in August 2025

Get Kids Ready

2025 Wisconsin Act 15 provides an annual \$66 million investment to DCF beginning in SFY27 to fund "Get Kids Ready," a new community-based elementary school readiness initiative to support licensed or certified child care providers serving four-year-olds. The Get Kids Ready program will begin during the 2026-27 school year.

DCF will be working in the weeks and months ahead to implement the law as required. Additional information will be shared through the DCF Child Care Provider Listserv, Tuesday Talks, and their webpage.

- Enhanced Payments Pilot
- A 2-year pilot program to increase per-child payments to licensed providers caring for infants and toddlers with a Wisconsin Shares authorization
- For children 0-18 months old: \$200/month for full-time care
 - For children 18-30 months old: \$100/month for full-time care
 - To be eligible, providers will need to participate in increased ratios for children 18-30 months old
- The pilot funding for infants and toddlers with Wisconsin Shares authorizations associated with the ratio changes is not yet implemented. More information will be forthcoming.

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CONGRATULATIONS!

NEWLY REGULATED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS:

Erin Zinda, Sweet Peach Childcare
Certified Family Child Care, Plover

Teisha Humphrey, Humphrey's Home Daycare
Certified Family Child Care, Marshfield

Julianna Linke, Little Blossoms Daycare
Certified Family Child Care, Wausau

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Regulation Changes

Assistant Child Care Teachers

Sixteen-year-olds may serve as assistant teachers under the supervision of child care teachers in group child care programs. This change to statute is currently in effect and DCF 251 will be updated in the future to reflect the changes.

There are several related items that will still need to be implemented which we will share information as we have it.

Please note: How the biennial budget change to assistant teacher requirements applies to certified child care programs and day camps is still under review.

Group Child Care Ratios Pilot

Group programs may begin to implement new pilot ratios of 1:7 for children 18-30 months now, if they meet other applicable administrative rules (e.g., space requirements, equipment and furnishings, licensed capacity, etc.). Each program should review their space letters to determine if they can accommodate more children. Space letters are either on file at the center or can be accessed in the historical documents on the Child Care Provider Portal (CCPP).

- If programs want to increase their licensed capacity, submit a written/emailed request to your licensing specialist and follow standard procedures.
- If programs want to change room usage or switch rooms to accommodate more children, report it to your licensing specialist 20 working days prior, receive approval, and follow standard procedures.

The pilot funding for infants and toddlers with Wisconsin Shares authorizations associated with the ratio changes is not yet implemented. More information will be forthcoming.

The ratios for certified and licensed family child care programs remain the same.

Large Family Child Care

Family child care providers with sufficient staff and space will be able to serve up to 12 children.

DCF is not ready to implement changes to family child care licensed capacity at this time, and needs to consider other related rules. Providers must still operate within their current licensed capacity until new guidelines are developed. More information will be forthcoming.

Who do I contact with questions about these changes to child care regulations?

For licensed providers or public-school operated programs, contact your licensing specialist.

For certified providers, contact your local certifier.

Visit this webpage for the most up-to-date information:
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/biennialbudget/25-27>

Provider Support / Advocate Groups

Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette & Waushara County:
Contact Childcaring at 800-628-8534 if you're interested in developing an advocate group.

Portage County:

Mary Olson at 715-344-1985 or molson65@live.net
Portage County Leaders:
Becky Helf at 715-346-4370 or bhelf@uwsp.edu

Taylor County: Meet the 3rd Monday of month
Kelly Emmerich at 715-465-0993 or kcemmerich03@gmail.com

Wood County:

Marshfield Area Child Care Association
Deb Decker 715-898-2220 or marshfieldshiningstars@gmail.com



Childcaring staff updates:

We're excited to welcome **Jordyn Baumann** to Childcaring as our new Early Childhood Consultant and Trainer!

Jordyn grew up in Central Wisconsin and is now raising her family here, making her return to the community especially meaningful.

She graduated from St. Norbert College in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. While earning her degree, she gained hands-on experience working in the childcare center at the college and nanny for area families.

Jordyn went on to teach 4K and Kindergarten and she also brings the valuable perspective of being a stay-at-home mom, an experience that deepened her passion for early childhood education.

LENA GROW – for group centers and family child care providers.



LENA Grow is a professional development opportunity designed to help infant, toddler, and preschool educators create equitable, robust language environments. Since fall of 2022, 60 early childhood classrooms in central Wisconsin have participated in LENA Grow, helping to build the brains of over 500 children!

- Short on-site coaching sessions you can use toward continuing education credit
- \$100 gift cards for teacher incentives
- More positive teacher-child interactions which boosts social skills and kindergarten readiness
- Increased teacher confidence and higher job satisfaction

THIS FALL - prioritizing Zip Codes: 54457, 54469, 54475, 54494, and 54495 – programs in other zip codes invited to connect about availability.

Funding provided by Legacy Foundation

Contact Childcaring for more information!



Training Opportunities

Scan this QR code or visit our website to view our online training calendar for the most up-to-date training opportunities.

Register Online for Childcaring Trainings

To register for individual trainings, visit **wiregistry.org**, click Search for Trainings and search by Course Title. Training information is sent to the email address listed in the Registry. You need to have a current and unique email address in your Registry profile. If you do not receive the information, check your spam/junk mail or contact Childcaring.

Caring With Confidence: Heartsaver First Aid / CPR / AED - In person

In partnership with Northcentral Technical College, this training includes adult, child, and infant. Successful completion includes American Heart Association certificate and WI Registry credit. Textbooks are required, and can be purchased at NTC's Campus store or online. Each course is \$61. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/ntc-heartsaver-cpr>

- Saturday, October 11, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Medford Campus
- Monday, October 13, 4:30 PM - 9:30 PM, Phillips Campus
- Saturday, October 25, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Wausau Campus
- Saturday, November 1, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Spencer Campus
- Saturday, November 8, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Wausau Campus
- Monday, December 8, 4:30 PM - 9:30 PM, Wausau Campus
- Saturday, December 13, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Antigo Campus

Skills and Strategies for the Child Care Teacher - Blended Model

This 50-hour training will prepare individuals to be successful in the role of a lead child care teacher in a child care setting and fulfills one of the introductory noncredit course requirements as specified in the Department of Children and Families (DCF) 251 Licensing Rules for Group Child Centers.

- October 6 – November 13, 2025

Required Face to Face sessions will be Virtual from 8:30 - 11:30 AM on the following Monday's: October 6, 13, 20, 27 and November 3

- Cost: \$150
- Register by 9/29: <https://tinyurl.com/3v5z94hs>

Fundamentals of Family Child Care (Revised 2024) - Blended

This course provides foundational knowledge and skills training for individuals as they begin, or consider, a career in caring for children in a home setting. Learners explore rules and regulations governing family child care businesses and programming. Practices and strategies will be explored to reflect the diverse needs of children and families in Wisconsin. This course fulfills introductory noncredit course requirements as specified in the Department of Children and Families (DCF) Chapters 202 and 250 for family child care.

- October 9 - November 13, 2025

Required Face to Face sessions will be Virtual from 12:30 - 2:30 PM on the following Thursday's: October 9, 16, 23, 30, and November 6, 2025

- Cost: \$150
- Register by 10/5: <https://tinyurl.com/38mkjnwkw>

Pyramid Model for Social Emotional Competence (8 part series) - In person

In collaboration with Marathon County Child Development Agency.

Training will be held on the following dates from 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Must attend all.

- October 10
- October 31
- November 7
- November 21
- December 12
- January 9
- January 19
- February 6

Barrington Head Start | 616 Grant St, Wausau (use parking lot on Franklin St).

- Cost: \$60
- Register by 10/5: <https://tinyurl.com/bd9kea4z>

Family Child Care Providers HAVE YOU HEARD OF WFFCA?

The Wisconsin Family Child Care Association is a statewide group of providers just like you, working together to learn, grow, and advocate for our profession.

- ★ Stay inspired with training and events
- ★ Connect with others who get it
- ★ Speak up and make an impact

Be part of something bigger—learn more or join at

www.wisconsinfamilychildcare.org

WI Family Child Care Providers "Teacher's Lounge" Facebook Page



"Reaching, connecting, and growing leaders in Family Child Care. A place for Family Child Care providers to connect, collaborate, and support each other and to share the joys and challenges of this amazing profession! This group is intended to provide a 'teacher's lounge' for providers, a diverse, non-judgmental environment for great conversation!"

BUSINESS INFORMATION FORM (BIF)

Check your email Inbox (or Spam/Junk folders) for an email from Childcaring with the unique link to update your BIF! Update your BIF before October 24, 2025 to be entered into a PRIZE drawing for a chance to win a \$50 gift card! If you have any questions or difficulty, give us a call: 715-841-9490.

Xav tau kev pab pes/txhais daim ntawv xovxwm
no thov hu tuaj rau
Kao Lai Xiong 715-841-9490
Hnub Monday-Friday 8:30 txog 4:30.

*Childcaring would like to wish you and
your family a happy holiday season!*

Vision

Every Child Is Prepared To Thrive



2025 Childcaring Board of Directors

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Childcaring is dedicated to providing quality child care information, and partnering with parents, care providers, business leaders, and community organizations to make quality care available to Central Wisconsin families.

- Serving as a resource to potential and existing, regulated child care providers

- Helping families locate child care to meet their needs

- Working cooperatively with community partners to increase the supply of quality, affordable care

UNITED WAY

Did you know that Childcaring is considered a Partner Agency by several United Way Agencies throughout our service area? We receive funding for different programs and services like Good Start Grants, technical assistance, provider retention, etc. from:

- Marshfield Area United Way
- Merrill Area United Way
- United Way of Langlade County
- United Way of Marathon County
- United Way of Portage County
- United Way of South Wood and Adams County
- United Way of Taylor County



United Way mobilizes communities to action so everyone can thrive. Each local United Way is governed by a board of local volunteers who convene partners to determine local needs, set priorities, and make local investment decisions. Please consider a donation to your local United Way.

For more information, visit: <https://www.unitedwaywi.org/page/local>



Partner Program