

Average Cost of Child Care Southwest and South Central Iowa

| Age Group | Weekly Full-time | | Hourly Full-time | | Hourly Part-time | |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------|------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| | Homes | Centers | Homes | Centers | Homes | Centers |
| Birth to 12 mo | \$103.61 | \$126.98 | \$2.30 | \$3.22 | \$2.35 | \$2.82 |
| 13 to 23 mo | \$101.73 | \$124.95 | \$2.30 | \$3.20 | \$2.33 | \$2.89 |
| 2 Year Olds | \$ 98.24 | \$110.66 | \$2.28 | \$2.86 | \$2.31 | \$2.73 |
| 3 Year Olds | \$ 96.53 | \$105.55 | \$2.28 | \$2.88 | \$2.30 | \$2.61 |
| 4 & 5 Year Olds | \$ 94.47 | \$104.21 | \$2.27 | \$2.86 | \$2.30 | \$2.74 |
| Before & After School | \$ 58.12 | \$ 58.11 | \$2.27 | \$2.68 | \$2.30 | \$2.69 |
| Full Time School-age | \$ 91.56 | \$ 96.04 | \$2.24 | \$2.72 | \$2.26 | \$2.84 |

Financial Assistance

W-10 Form

When enrolling your child, ask for your caregiver's Federal Employer Identification Number or Social Security number for tax purposes.

Child Care Assistance

Depending on your family's income and size, you may qualify for child care assistance. Some local communities have additional financial assistance in the form of scholarships or discounts. The Iowa Department of Human Services in your county can help determine whether you meet requirements. Call your local DHS office for information or go to www.DHS.state.ia.us and click on the financial support link.

Family Investment Program (FIP)

This program provides cash assistance to needy families with children, as they become self-supporting. The Family Investment Program offers training or education and provides incentives to work by allowing families to keep more of the money they earn. For information call 800-972-2017.

Tax Credits

For information and free tax preparation sites, call 800-TAX-1040 or go to www.irs.gov.

Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit is designed to offset some of the child and dependent care costs that families pay in order to work.

Child Tax Credit is designed to help families offset set some of the costs of raising children. Even families who owe little or no income tax can receive at least some of this credit as a refund if they have a minimal amount of earnings.

The Earned Income Tax Credit is a refundable tax credit for people who work but do not earn high incomes. If you are eligible, you will either get a refund or reduce your taxes.

Head Start

Head Start provides no cost services for preschoolers health, nutrition and family development. The range of services responds to each child and family's cultural, language, and linguistic heritage and experience. The Iowa Regional office phone number is 515-242-6024 or go to www.iowaheadstart.org.