Childcare in Utah is a unique consideration for thousands of families. In 2017, there were 152,479 children needing care, and 41,144 state available in childcare programs. 30% of Utah’s parents have had to leave work or cut back on hours because of unmet childcare needs. Wages range from $8,641 to $5,656 for workers under age 18 who work.

Childcare costs are unaffordable for many Utah families. Many families don’t qualify for subsidies and can pay 30% of their income on childcare, especially those with more than one child in care. Though Utah mothers work at lower rates than US mothers, our large family size makes childcare a critical issue.

Student parents also need childcare to finish their degrees. Childcare is available at many Utah colleges, but demand far exceeds supply. Each of these childcare facilities has a waiting list. Though many caregiver positions are entry-level, they are the challenges of their own. On average, childcare workers make $22,290. This is 37.5% less than the average Utahn.

Various stakeholders can work together to improve childcare in Utah. Student parents also need childcare to finish their degrees. Childcare is available at many Utah colleges, but demand far exceeds supply. Each of these childcare facilities has a waiting list.


**WHAT CAN WE DO?**

- **WHAT UTAHNS NEED TO KNOW**

  - **Infant care**
  - **College Tuition**

- **Childcare Providers**

  - Childcare providers in Utah are mostly women, and they face challenges of their own. A high percentage of caregivers are grandmothers. On average, childcare workers make $22,290. This is 37.5% less than the average Utahn.

- **What We Can Do**

  - Parents can negotiate flexible schedules.
  - Businesses can provide/subsidize childcare.
  - Policy makers can prioritize family-friendly legislation.
  - Government must continue to fund and innovate.

- **Education of Informal Caregivers**

  - Utah has the largest family size in the nation.
  - CHILDCARE: WHAT UTAHNS NEED TO KNOW

- **Utahns & Leadership Project**

  - CHILDCARE PROVIDERS

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- **LARGEST % UNDER 18 of the total population**

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