



WESTERN PIEDMONT
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Western Piedmont Community College offers child care assistance through a North Carolina State Grant. The intention of this grant is to “assist student-parents with the financial responsibilities for child care expenses so they may stay enrolled and complete their educational goals.”

- ✓ Licensed Home Daycare
- ✓ Licensed After - School Programs
- ✓ Licensed Daycare Facilities

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WPCC Child Care Assistance Program Guidelines

Application Priority Deadline: July 30, 2026

Completed Applications will be reviewed beginning August 1st, 2026. Completed applications must include all student, facility, and child information, as well as signatures. Applicants who have applied for the WPCC Child Care Assistance Program will receive an email with the status of their application. If accepted into the Program, students will need to attend a meeting with the *Financial Aid Counselor/Child Care Program Coordinator* to complete the application process. Additional information will be needed.

The Child Care Assistance Program is a temporary funding source provided by the NC Child Care Grant and Western Piedmont Community College scholarship & grant funds. The Child Care Assistance Program assists student-parents with child care costs so they may complete their degree at Western Piedmont Community College.

Application Process

- Complete a 2026-27 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Be confirmed as a North Carolina resident by the NC Residency Determination Service (RDS).
- Enroll in a Title IV eligible program of study (Associate Degree, Basic Law Enforcement Certificate, Cosmetology Certificate, or Practical Nursing Diploma)
- Complete the 2026-27 Child Care Assistance Application and submit it along with the required documents.
Please note that incomplete applications will NOT be considered.

Required Documents

- Completed FAFSA at WPCC with verification or file complete.
- DSS Childcare Assistance Program Approval/Denial Letter.
- Birth Certificate for each child enrolled in the program.
- The facility portion of the Application is completed and signed by the facility's authorized representative. The parent fee should be the net amount after any other sources of assistance.

Notification

- Applicants will be notified of their eligibility status through their WPCC email.
- Eligible applicants will meet in person with the Child Care Assistance Coordinator to complete the process.
 - Review and sign the 2026-27 Child Care Assistance Guidelines.
 - Review and sign the 2026-27 Child Care Assistance Contract.
 - Review the schedule of attendance confirmation deadlines.
 - Obtain the payment schedule and invoice forms to give to their provider.
- Eligible applicants will obtain their provider's signature on the 2026-27 Child Care Assistance Guidelines and Contract, and will return the forms to the Financial Aid Office in Hildebrand Hall prior to any deadlines.

Additional Student Eligibility Requirements

- Student applicants must enroll in and maintain the following course loads. The courses must be in their eligible program of study.
 - The student applicant must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours for the fall and spring semesters
 - The student applicant must be enrolled in at least 1 course for the summer semester. (Summer Child Care is dependent on available funds.)
 - Meet and maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) or be in probation status after a successful SAP appeal.
 - The student applicant is responsible for obtaining and submitting monthly attendance and performance review from their instructors. **Missing attendance deadlines can result in termination from the program.**

Additional Information

- Children must be enrolled in a NC licensed child care facility (CCC), a NC licensed Center Located in a Residence (CLIR), a NC licensed Family Child Care Home (FCCH), a NC licensed public school's child care program, or a NC licensed after-school program.
- The parent-student is responsible for selecting the child care provider and signing any agreement regarding the care of their child/children.
- Please be aware that WPCC's role is limited to providing financial assistance on behalf of the parent-student enrolled at WPCC. It is the student's responsibility to find a facility willing to work with the WPCC Child Care Assistance program. A good resource is Childcare Connections of Burke County (828) 439-2328. You can also research facility ratings at the NCDHHS: <https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/childcaresearch>
- Assistance funds are paid directly to the child care facility; any balance beyond the child care assistance amount is the student's responsibility.
 - WPCC does NOT pay for times when the College is closed, during Holiday breaks, or breaks between semesters/terms when no classes are being held. **These dates are the sole responsibility of the parent-student.**
 - Application, registration, and activity fees are the responsibility of the parent-student.
- A new Child Care Assistance Application is required each academic year.
- Students may receive child care assistance for the completion of ONE eligible degree/certificate/diploma only; granting of continued assistance will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Our goal at WPCC is to assist students in obtaining the best possible educational experience. However, please be aware that, due to limited funding, this assistance may not cover the full provider fee and may be suspended, terminated, or reduced at any time.

Notify Financial Aid Immediately

- Parent-student's schedule changes, and enrollment changes. (Drop, withdrawal, or deleted classes)
- Any changes in child care monetary assistance from other agencies, such as DSS, WIOA, etc.
- Parent-students are required to provide WPCC with a two-week notice prior to changing child care facilities. Most child care facilities require a 30-day notice.

Acknowledgements

I have received a copy of the guidelines and reviewed them with the Child Care Coordinator. I have a full understanding of the process and agree to adhere to the guidelines as set forth. I further agree to submit all attendance and progress updates by the monthly due date. I understand failure to submit the attendance and progress reports will delay payment to the child care facility, and assistance can be terminated after two failures to submit attendance/progress reports in a timely manner.

Parent-Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Child Care Provider Signature: _____

Date: _____

WPCC CC Coordinator Signature: _____

Date: _____