



Child Care

What We Got & What Comes Next?



What We Got

We are excited that the legislature has passed A.7661 (Hevesi)/S.6655-A (Brisport), which decouples child care subsidy assistance from parents' hours of work and for the **S.9029 (Ramos) / A 10209-A (Lunsford) — 24-Month Eligibility Option** (this passed the Senate and is moving in the Assembly)

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

A7661/S6655-A

The legislation will afford low-income families steady, consistent access to child care even if parents' work schedules vary; provide more financial stability to child care providers serving New York families; and will end the outdated rule allowing families access to child care assistance only during the exact hours when parents are working or in training.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

A7661/S6655-A

Tying child care access to parents' exact hours of work makes it difficult for many working parents, including parents in a growing gig economy with fluctuating schedules, to access child care assistance. Even for families able to access care, the rule disrupts the stability and consistency young children need to learn and thrive.

For child care providers (who are predominantly Black & brown women) This legislation addresses tremendous challenges to child care providers who currently must scramble with little notice to ensure they have sufficient staff coverage and supports to care for children whose child care schedules shift a long with their parents' work schedules.

Is The Work Over?

A7661/S6655-A

No. This bill now moves to the Governor's desk to be signed into law. We must stay engaged to make sure the Governor signs.

24-Month Eligibility Option

What Does This Mean?

S.9029 / A 10209-A

This proposal would permit counties to authorize families to receive child care assistance for up to 24 months without having to reapply for authorization in that period of time. The unfortunate reality is that few families experience frequent or significant increases in family income that would change their eligibility for child care assistance. This proposal provides a longer time when families can have access to child care assistance with stability. The work continues as the governor will need to sign this bill into law to take effect.

Why Is This Important?

S.9029 / A 10209-A

This bill will lessen the burden on families to get reauthorized for child care assistance, while also lessening the administrative burden on counties to process applications often. The certification of child care assistance over the period of 24 months will provide stability for children in child care programs and allow for maximizing the benefits from it. At the same time, families will be able to focus on stable employment or study.

WHAT NEXT?

1. **S. 8962 (Brisport) / (Cruz) — Removing barriers to access to child care assistance for immigrant and other families !!**
2. **Eliminating minimum earnings and minimum hours of work requirements for child care subsidies** – At present, families can be denied eligibility for child care subsidies because they earn too little, or have had their work hours cut back, disproportionately harming some families who need child care the most, particularly those where the parents work unpredictable hours. This bill would eliminate these requirements, leading to more equitable access to child care, and more stability for children.