

Helping businesses secure affordable child care slots for employees

Through Partner Up!, businesses can reserve slots in regulated local child care programs. The business will contribute at least 25% of the true cost of care for each slot reserved, and Partner Up! will contribute the remaining amount. This lets workers receive accessible, high-quality child care at little-to-no out-of-pocket cost to them.



CHILD CARE THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

A local Business Child Care Advocate will help your child care program every step of the way.

Partner Up! could help pay for all of a families child care costs if their employer applies. If you have open slots in your child care program, Partner Up! can help match you with local employers with child care needs.

If your rates are lower than the Partner Up! payment amounts, your program will still receive the full Partner Up! payment for the slots reserved. If your rates are higher than the Partner Up! amounts, the parents using the slot will be responsible for paying that difference.

Partner Up! is currently funded through 2023.

Contact your local CCR&R if your program would like to accept children through Partner Up!
Business applications open Feb. 28 - April 4. Apply by March 14 for priority consideration.

projectgrowth.wi.gov

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, BENEFITTING PROVIDERS

- Child care programs can **also qualify** to reserve subsidized slots for their staff.
- Slots reserved through Partner Up! can help **stabilize your enrollment numbers**.
- Offering staff higher pay with funds received through Partner Up! can help your program **recruit and retain quality staff**.
- Your child care program can **use funds from Partner Up!** for staff compensation, purchasing quality child materials, professional development, and many other activities to benefit your program.
- Partnering with local businesses **strengthens your community** and your program's local involvement and name recognition.

When companies provide child care, employee absences decrease by up to 30% and job turnover declines by as much as 60%.¹

SUPPORTING FAMILIES & CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

The ongoing child care crisis means Wisconsin parents are struggling to find and afford child care, and child care providers are struggling to keep their doors open due to high turnover, low wages, and high costs of operation.

Partner Up! supports Wisconsin's workers, including child care providers, by helping working parents find and afford child care, and ensuring the care providers receive fair compensation.

83% of millennials say they would leave their job for one with more family-friendly benefits.¹

CONTACT

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Wisconsin Department of
Children and Families



Supporting Families
Together Association



¹ Leading the Way: A Guide for Business Engagement in Early Education, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, <https://www.uschamberfoundation.org>



PARTNER UP!

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If your family would benefit from participating in Partner Up! please share the attached information sheet with your employer and request them to contact **Child Care Resource & Referral** for more information!



AN ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT

- Participating **workers will receive child care at little-to-no cost** to them. Only if a provider's rates are higher than the Partner Up! payment amounts will the family be responsible for paying the difference out-of-pocket.
- Having reliable child care from a regulated program means **you can focus at work knowing your children are safe and in a high-quality environment.**
- It's likely **you can remain with your current child care provider** as long as their program is regulated and in good standing with WI DCF, and they agree to participate in Partner Up!
- Partner Up! will match your business with local regulated child care providers with open slots, so **you don't have to search for a child care provider.**

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Supporting Families Together Association

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83% of millennials say they would leave their job for one with more family-friendly benefits.¹

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

A local Business Child Care Advocate will help your business every step of the way, including with the application process, connecting with local providers, and ensuring your employees are satisfied with their child care.

If employees already use regulated child care programs, it's likely they could keep those providers. For employees who don't have existing child care, Partner Up! will match your business with regulated local child care providers.

Partner Up! is currently funded through 2023.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, BENEFITTING EMPLOYERS

- Employer-sponsored child care is a **powerful retention and hiring benefit** for your business that helps you **stay competitive** in a tight labor market.
- **Increase your applicant pool** to include parents who want to work but don't have child care.
- **Employee reliability and productivity increase** when parents have consistent child care and have peace of mind their children are in a high-quality environment.
- Potential **long-term cost savings** and quality improvement to your business by retaining employees.
- Partnering with local child care providers **strengthens your community** and your business's local involvement and name recognition.

When companies provide child care, employee absences decrease by up to 30% and job turnover declines by as much as 60%.¹

WHY CHILD CARE?

The ongoing child care crisis means Wisconsin parents are struggling to find and afford child care. U.S. businesses lose \$3 billion annually to employees missing work because of child care breakdowns.¹

Wisconsin relies on its workers. Connecting these professionals to quality and affordable child care is critical to keeping Wisconsin's economy thriving.

In a six-month period, nearly half of all parents are absent from work at least once due to child care issues, missing an average of 4.3 days.¹

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THE COST OF CARE

The cost of each slot reserved is based on the age of the child and whether the care will be part-time or full-time. These costs are not prorated to the exact hours spent in care.

The business can choose to pay 25%, 30%, 40%, or 50% of the cost of care for the slots reserved, and Partner Up! funds will contribute the remaining amount. These True Costs of Care were determined by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families.

Part-Time Care (1-20 hours/week)					
Age Group	Monthly True Cost of Part-Time Care	Amount paid by business per slot at contribution of...			
		25%	30%	40%	50%
0 & 1 years	\$1,200	\$300	\$360	\$480	\$600
2 years	\$925	\$231.25	\$277.50	\$370	\$462.50
3 years	\$725	\$181.25	\$217.50	\$290	\$362.50
4 & 5 years	\$675	\$168.75	\$202.50	\$270	\$337.50
6+ years	\$600	\$150	\$180	\$240	\$300

Full-Time Care (21+ hours/week)					
Age Group	Monthly True Cost of Full-Time Care	Amount paid by business per slot at contribution of...			
		25%	30%	40%	50%
0 & 1 years	\$1,800	\$450	\$540	\$720	\$900
2 years	\$1,400	\$350	\$420	\$560	\$700
3 years	\$1,100	\$275	\$330	\$440	\$550
4 & 5 years	\$1,000	\$250	\$300	\$400	\$500
6+ years	\$900	\$225	\$270	\$360	\$450

PARTNERING WITH CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

Each business can partner with a maximum number of local child care programs based on the number of slots they wish to reserve. Whenever possible, families will be able to keep their existing child care providers as long as the child care programs are regulated and in good standing with WI DCF, and agree to participate in Partner Up! For participating families that do not already have regulated child care, a Business Child Care Advocate will match participating businesses with local regulated child care programs with open slots.

Slots Secured	Maximum # of Providers
1-9 slots	3 providers
10-25 slots	6 providers
26-50 slots	10 providers
51-75 slots	15 providers
76-100 slots	20 providers
101+ slots	25 providers

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