



Childcare CAST Survey Responses

August 25, 2023

On August 21, 2023, at Park City's request, CAST circulated the following questions to their membership. Responses have been collected and provided below.

1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually?
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)?
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)?
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs?
5. Any other early childhood support programs?

Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager of Basalt, CO

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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? Yes, we provide about \$100 K for scholarships, teacher training and infrastructure improvements. In 2024 we will increase as we are helping to facilitate the build out of a core and shell that was a developer requirement associated with approvals for a new neighborhood. This is a 4000 sq ft building that a daycare provider will ultimately occupy. The Town will be the lease holder and will contribute \$25 K for the annual rent and likely some amount for the tenant finish. We are going to be working with Pitkin County to source an additional grant and believe they will also help with matching funds.
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? It comes from our general fund (sales and property), but no dedicated funding source in this fund. We do have an impact fee on new development that is a source of funds but this is less reliable and would only be used for one-time capital costs.
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? We have a committee that helps with determining eligibility.
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? Yes, there are income restrictions. Not AMI that I am aware of. Unfortunately the staff member who would be in the know on the income restrictions is out of the office this week.

Scott Robson, Town Manager of Telluride, CO

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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? Yes, a nonprofit named Strong Start/Bright Futures is funded by a .75 mill levy/\$ million/year to 1) aid in capacity building to increase the number of children that childcare providers can serve, 2) aid in recruitment, training and retention of early childhood professionals this includes subsidize child care teacher pay based on education, 3) financial assistance to families with the goal have having all families only pay 7% of their annual household income, and 4) support for improving quality of care and education programs, and facilities such as subsidizing capital improvements to childcare centers in San Miguel County. The Town of Telluride provides approximately \$75k

annually to nonprofit childcare centers that serve our area through a Community Assistance granting program

2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? Strong Starts/Bright Futures program is county wide and funded via property tax. Telluride's childcare funding is funded primarily by sales tax and real estate transfer tax
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? Primarily provider subsidies and scholarships for parents toward tuition
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? Yes, income restrictions for Strong Starts parent tuition subsidies. See Strong Starts for more qualification detail <https://www.strongstartstrongcommunity.org/>
5. Any other early childhood support programs? The Town of Telluride currently hosts 2 childcare centers on Town property, but does not operate those centers. However, in 2024 the Town will transition the staff and operation of 1 private operation on Town land to become Town employees and a Town operated and subsidized center. This will be Telluride's first municipally run childcare center.

Leslie Edwards, Finance Director, Town of Frisco, CO

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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? \$245,200 contribution to county-wide program starting in 2024 (\$100k in 2023)
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? We are choosing to fund this through excess nicotine tax funding to be used for health & wellness in the community.
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? scholarships based upon % of family income spent on childcare (paid to school)
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? The % formula effectively phases families out between 160% & 180% AMI, but it's not a ceiling based upon AMI
5. Any other early childhood support programs? We do consider grant requests by the early childcare center located in our municipality.

Ted Cherry, Granby Town Manager

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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? Yes, through a \$1 lease of a building the town owns and allows for a daycare to run out of that space.
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? There is no real financial impact to the town as the space is free of other uses. I would say this is general fund.
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? No true funding, just a lease
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? None
5. Any other early childhood support programs? None at this time.

Colin Laird, Carbondale Trustee

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- The answer is 'no' to all questions. However, we recently rezoned a childcare center's property in a way that would make it easier to expand and not require additional onsite parking.

Nathan Johnson, Town Manager

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- All the Towns and the County of Summit County, Colorado contribute to childcare. Here are links to our information:
 - <https://www.townofdillon.com/home/showdocument?id=22350&t=638224939005073886>
 - <https://www.townofdillon.com/home/showdocument?id=22352>
1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? Yes – Dillon is \$122,600/year
 2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? Nicotine Tax and General Sales Tax
 3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? See links above
 4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? Yes – Early Childhood Options (ECO) caps and tiers subsidies. Max family income is \$250,000. Higher subsidies for lower-income households.
 5. Any other early childhood support programs? Yes – Summit Pre-K is funded through Summit County, Colorado via a sales tax

Kyle Griffin, Revenue Compliance Auditor, Town of Breckenridge
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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? Yes. Since 2007 we have provided over \$10,000,000 through a Child Care Tuition Assistance program.
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? Funds are raised through marijuana and excise tax funds. An annual excise fund transfer has also been approved by town council to maintain long-term financing for this effort.
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? Child Care Tuition Assistance is a needs-based program that provides graduated levels of assistance for families, starting at the point where child care >8% of their annual family income.
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? A bit more information can be found in the tuition assistance guidelines.
5. Any other early childhood support programs? We are budgeting \$875,000 this year for design costs on a new childcare center located in the vicinity of a deed-restricted neighborhood with a high concentration of families, and \$4,500,000 is restricted for the build.

Corrie Burr; Housing Program Manager, Town of Breckenridge
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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? Yes, the Town of Breckenridge has supported a tuition assistance program since 2007 and Summit County has had the Summit County Pre-Kindergarten (SPK) program since funding was approved in 2018.
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? The Town program is funded through Town sales tax and the County program is funded through mill levy on properties.
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? Both programs utilize an online application and funding is awarded based on need. There is a sliding scale that provides more assistance to those that need it the most. The goal of both programs is to make quality child care affordable in Summit County to maintain our workforce.
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? There are income restrictions. When the program moved to a sliding scale last year, we increased the AMI to 180% AMI from 150% AMI. The program does look at the % the family spends on child care, so the higher AMIs usually need to have 2 kids in care to qualify for assistance. The programs look to keep child care

spending for 0-3 between 5% and 19%, so the highest a family would pay is 19% of their gross income. For the 4-5 year olds, the program goes up to 200% AMI as the goal is to get kids into quality care prior to Kindergarten.

5. Any other early childhood support programs? The Town of Breckenridge has had a program called Invest in Teachers that provided funds to the child care centers on an annual basis to help obtain and retain staff. The funds were required to be used for staff, but the exact avenue was decided by the center directors. Some of the uses over the years have been increased benefits and / or pay, higher education support and longevity bonuses. This had a budget of \$150,000 per year, but was phased out in 2023 as other funding for staff pay increased. A link to the Town of Breckenridge program can be found [HERE](#) and the County programs can be found [HERE](#).

Meg Franges, First Impressions Program Leader, Human Resources in Routt County
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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? Yes, collectively the city of Steamboat and Routt County support the Early Childhood Council. The Early Childhood Council then directly supports child care providers and families with various programs. The amount for fiscal year 2023 is \$112,000.
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? Combination of sales and property tax as well as TANF child care transfer
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? Early Childhood Council distributes funding. Main programs include tuition assistance for families, mini grants for quality improvement and professional development scholarships for early childhood teachers.
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? Families are eligible up to 400% FPL.
5. Any other early childhood support programs? In Routt County, the Early Childhood Council (First Impressions) is housed under the department of human services and carries out all state contracts for early childhood as well as Local Coordinating Organization for UPK.

Laura Kennedy, Director of Finance and Admin Services, Town of Silverthorne
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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? \$325K/year: the Town of Silverthorne has budgeted a \$300,000 contribution to the childcare tuition scholarship program administered by Summit County (see attached IGA). We also budgeted \$125K/year in operating subsidies.
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? The Town of Silverthorne does not have a dedicated revenue stream for childcare assistance. The Town of Silverthorne's primary revenue source to the General Fund is Sales Tax. \$125K is budgeted from the General Fund. The \$300K expense is budgeted in our Nicotine Tax fund which collects revenues from a \$4/pack nicotine tax on cigarettes and a 40% tax on vaping products.
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? The Town has provided direct assistance to the childcare center operator for operating subsidies (\$125K/year) The Town pays its tuition assistance contribution to Summit County which administers the program (\$300K/year)
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? This is handled at the County level. See attached IGA.

5. Any other early childhood support programs? Yes, the Town of Silverthorne has also granted \$50,000 in funds to a local non-profit (Theater Silco) for an after-school program known as "Vivo." Link to program details: https://thesilco.org/dual_language/
In addition, the Town of Silverthorne contributed the land and \$1.21 million to the construction of the new Wildflower Nature School childcare center schedule to open September 1, 2023.

Carlie Speedlin Bangs, Childcare Housing Manager, Town of Estes Park
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I was recently hired for the role of Childcare and Housing Manager for the Town of Estes Park. My position was created because our community voted to support childcare and housing through an increased lodging tax. This fund will provide approximately 5,000,000 a year for those needs (split 12% childcare and 88% housing). Our local housing authority will receive the housing funds and I will be working with smaller local nonprofits and providers to implement programs for childcare. We have an RFP out right now for a Childcare Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan that will provide a lot of insight as we move forward.

1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? Larimer County supports childcare through a number of funding mechanisms including tuition assistance, provider grants, and professional development. The Town of Estes Park has approximately \$750,000 to support childcare through tuition assistance, capital improvements, rent support, loans, grants, provider bonuses, etc.
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? Lodging Tax
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? 100k for childcare tuition assistance (implemented by our local Family Resource Center), 250k to address workforce challenges, 200k facilities and capital, 75k to support out-of-school programming
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? Tuition assistance is distributed through EVICS Family Resource Center "temporary assistance at more than 85% SMI resulting 15-17% of income towards childcare. This is determined and "manually adjusted" in house for those families who could have a myriad of factors like 3 children in childcare to being just over the 14% income threshold" Additional assistance programs through the Town may be implemented in the future.
5. Any other early childhood support programs? Not funded by town.

Here is the [website](#) that may provide more information, as well as the [2023 Funding Plan](#) that proposed use of funds for our first year with the 6E funds.

Jenny Wood, Assistant County Manager, Summit County, CO
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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually?
Yes, the state of Colorado, the county and the towns within the county all financially support childcare. We have several different funding streams for childcare, some are at the state, federal and county level see below.
 - 1)Head start \$497,135 in 2022/Early Head Start \$369,218 in 2022
 - 2)Right Start \$1,200,000 in property tax
 - 3)Summit first steps and Summit Pre-k
 1. All towns in Summit County contribute to this fund, including the county.
 2. Estimated funding amount for 23/24 \$ 1,226,000
 - 4) Universal pre-k
 1. State funded program, just rolled out- unsure of funding amount.
 - 5) Colorado Childcare assistance program

2. State funded program
3. Funding from state department of human services to the county department of human services.
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? Nicotine tax revenue; Property tax/Mill levy of .500; Federal funding
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? Tuition credits and subsidies; Early Childhood Options – Nonprofit partnership
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? There are income and other restrictions listed below for the first steps program subsidized by the county and town.
 1. Financial eligibility
 1. Summit first steps household income must be at or below 180% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Household assets do not exceed \$225k, excluding primary residence, college funds and retirement funds.
 2. Summit Pre-K , Tuition credits are administered on a sliding scale basis, with the credit amount being inversely related to the family income, and the sliding fee may be determined by the involved parties(towns, childcare center).
5. Any other early childhood support programs? None other than the above-mentioned programs.

Molly DesBaillets, Executive Director, First 5 Mono County

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1. Does your city/county financially support childcare? If yes, how much annually? Yes, the County provided \$50,000 to each childcare provider participating in the Local Childcare Quality System (which also offers stipends from \$500-\$4,000 for completion of requirements--funded by various CDE & CDSS funding streams). A local school district offers preschool using CDBG federal funds drawn down by the County administered by First 5 Mono (\$70K per year), The County Office of Education draws down California State Preschool funds for 4 classrooms at this time, unknown amount, and has a First 5 Mono completed application to serve food through the California Child and Adult Food Program through CADSS.
2. What are the funding sources (sales tax, property tax, impact fees, etc.)? County General funds were allocated at a Board meeting, CDE (CSPP, CSPP BG), CDSS (QCC BG), F5 CA (IMPACT), and CDBG.
3. How is the funding distributed (provider subsidies, scholarships, etc.)? Individual and site level stipends via First 5. Operations funding for preschools (CSPP & CDBG)
4. Are there Income restrictions for scholarships? Targeted AMIs? NO, given the data that preschool teachers and early educators earn very low wages, an average of \$17 in the region.
5. Any other early childhood support programs? Mono County, MCDSS, and CADPH, and F5 Mono invest in a universal evidence-based Parents as Teachers home visiting program. MCBehavioral Health invests in playgroups that Mono County offers throughout the County. First 5 also works to coordinate services for early childhood locally and regionally and works regionally to support training for quality childcare and reduce redundancies.