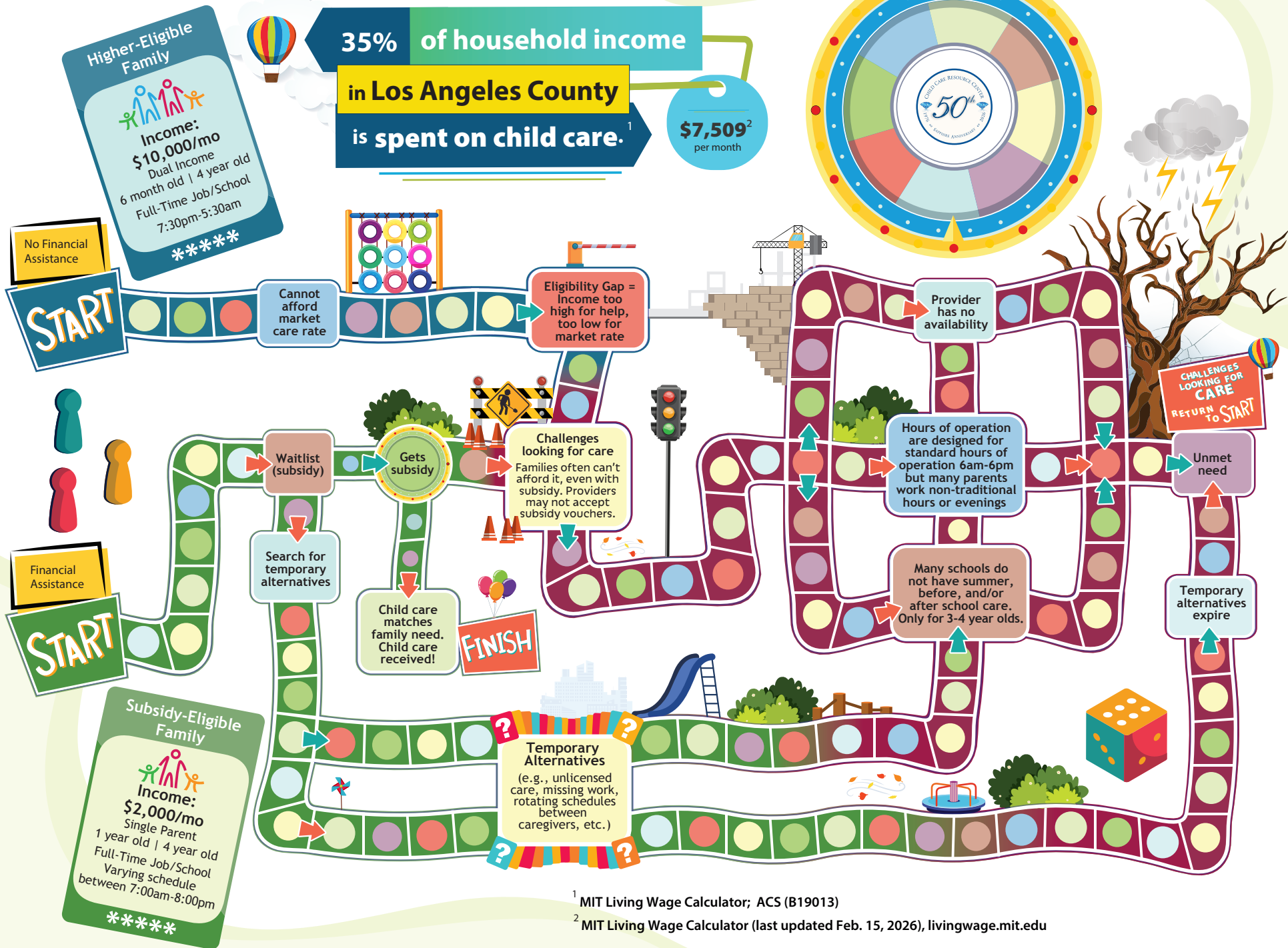


Families Can't Find Affordable Child Care



¹ MIT Living Wage Calculator; ACS (B19013)

² MIT Living Wage Calculator (last updated Feb. 15, 2026), livingwage.mit.edu

Families Can't Find Affordable Child Care

FY24-25

Now is the time to expand and strengthen the community-based child care system, so families can access the care that meets their unique needs.

The system provides licensed spaces for only
1 in 4 children
with working parents³

Child care costs more than in-state college tuition
Child Care (1 child): **\$13,191/year**
CSU Northridge : **\$6,084/year**
In-state

Child Care (2 children): **\$31,372/year** = 35% of their income

652,988 working caregivers of children under 5 in Los Angeles County.⁴

Los Angeles County	
County specific data	Median yearly income (before taxes) in Los Angeles County. ⁵
45,158 Available Licensed Home Spaces ⁶	39,432 Children are enrolled in Transitional Kindergarten (TK) ⁷
190,620 Available Licensed Center Spaces	TK expansion reduced the licensed child care workforce, shrinking available supply for infants, toddlers, and families who need non-traditional hours.

The current child care system is unable to meet demand.

CCRC Los Angeles	
Agency specific data representing a portion of Los Angeles County	Families on the waitlist at CCRC Los Angeles. Many are on the waitlist for years.
3,671 Providers available for referral	2,295 Licensed Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies
	8,271 License-Exempt Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies
	20,337 Subsidized Licensed Spaces Family Child Care Homes
	43,443 Subsidized Licensed Spaces Center-Based

Even when care is available, cost and other barriers can make it difficult for families to access care.

³ Child Care Aware of America

⁵ ACS 2024 B19013

⁴ ACS 2024 B23008

⁶ California Community Care Licensing Division (CCL)

⁷ California Department of Education (CDE)