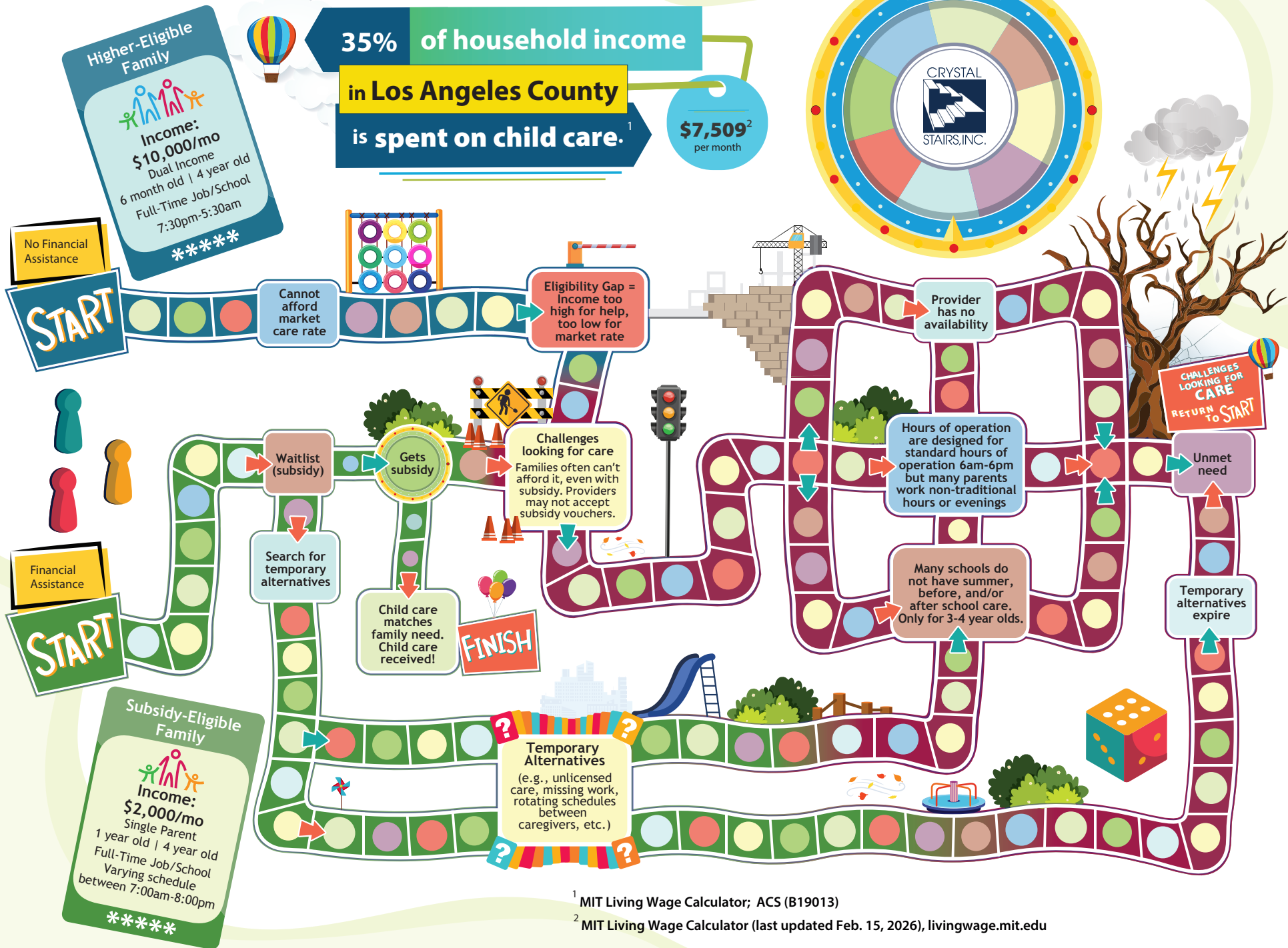


Families Can't Find Affordable Child Care



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**
West Los Angeles : **\$1,380/year**
College 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	\$90,112 Median yearly income (before taxes) in Los Angeles County. ⁵
45,158 Available Licensed Home Spaces ⁶ 190,620 Available Licensed Center Spaces	39,432 Children are enrolled in Transitional Kindergarten (TK) ⁷ 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.

Crystal Stairs Agency specific data representing a portion of Los Angeles County	3,956 Families on the waitlist at Crystal Stairs. Many are on the waitlist for years.
2,033 Providers available for referral	12,840 Subsidized Licensed Spaces Family Child Care Homes
1,967 Licensed Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies 9,780 License-Exempt Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies	21,626 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)