



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

Katie Hobbs
Governor

Angie Rodgers
Director

June 23, 2023

The Honorable David Livingston
Chairman, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Arizona State House of Representatives
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

The Honorable John Kavanagh
Vice-Chairman, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Arizona State Senate
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Representative Livingston and Senator Kavanagh:

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes § 46-803, the Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES) submits the semiannual report on Child Care Assistance Applications.

Between December 1, 2022, and May 31, 2023, ADES received 10,200 applications for child care assistance and denied one application due to the applicants failing to provide the necessary documentation to meet the criteria for citizenship or legal residency.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Ber, Director of Public Affairs, at (602) 542-4669 or Kber@azdes.gov.

Sincerely,

Angie Rodgers
Director

cc: Members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Sarah Brown, Director, Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting
Richard Stavneak, Director, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Holly Henley, Director, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Name of Document: Child Care Assistance Applications and Denials Report
Submitted by: Division of Child Care
Date: 06/15/2023

General nature of the document (essential information – issue/purpose/background)

Twice a year, based on statutory requirement, the Arizona Department of Economic Security (Department) is required to provide the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) information on the number of applications received for child care services and the number of applications denied due to the application not meeting citizenship/legal residency requirements as outlined in Arizona Revised Statutes § 46-803.

Key findings/decisions that need to be made (if any):

The Child Care and Development Block Grant Reauthorization Act of 2014 law and final rules (effective November 2016) requires lead agencies to ensure that eligible children are citizens and prohibits lead agencies from considering the parent's citizenship and legal residence status.

Beginning September 1, 2019, the Department utilizes the Employment Eligibility Verification laws for Arizona to satisfy the State citizenship and legal residence requirements for the parents applying for child care assistance.

Since the current child care eligibility process requires eligible work activities for most populations receiving child care, the Division of Child Care leverages the required documentation provided to employers to legally work as proof that the adults have satisfied the State requirement.

December 1, 2022 - May 30, 2023: 10,200 Approved, 1 Denied

June 1, 2022 - November 30, 2022: 10,038 Approved, 0 Denied

December 1, 2021 - May 30, 2022: 8,076 Approved, 0 Denied

June 1, 2021 - November 30, 2021: 11,576 Approved, 0 Denied

December 1, 2020 - May 30, 2021: 11,044 Approved, 0 Denied

Recommendations:

Due Date: 06/30/2023 **Submitter:** Lela Wendell

Due Date: 06/30/2023 **Requestor:** JLBC