

Fair Market Rates

The average weekly cost of care is listed below by county, effective September 30, 2011. There are programs that may charge this amount. There are also programs that may charge more and programs that may charge less. Be sure to be aware of whether or not meals and snacks are included in the cost of care. Be sure to inquire about late fee policies, sibling discounts, sliding fee scales, employer supports and pre paid discounts. Be sure to inquire about absence policies and if payment may be required under certain conditions when your child is not in attendance. Answers to these questions can greatly affect the yearly cost of care.

Average Weekly Cost of Care in Ulster County

Age Group	Day Care Center	Group Family	Family Day Care	Legally Exempt
Infant	\$250.00	\$225.00	\$200.00	\$130.00
Toddler	\$230.00	\$204.00	\$199.00	\$129.00
Preschool	\$212.00	\$200.00	\$190.00	\$124.00
School-Age	\$206.00	\$200.00	\$188.00	\$122.00

Assistance may be available to help working parents pay for child care costs. This funding comes from the State of New York to each individual county. Each county has its own program regarding this assistance. For more information refer to each county below, with guidelines effective as of June 1, 2011:

Ulster County Income Guidelines – You may be eligible if your income falls below these guidelines:

Family Size	Gross Annual Income
2	\$29,420.00
3	\$37,060.00
4	\$44,700.00
5	\$52,340.00
6	\$59,980.00
7	\$67,620.00

Contact the Ulster County Department of Social Services Day Care Unit at 845-334-5000 or visit www.co.ulster.ny.us/resources. The following page contains information regarding the tax benefits of care.

For Columbia County Assistance:

INCOME STANDARDS EFFECTIVE 6/1/2011

POVERTY LEVEL

FAMILY SIZE	INCOME STANDARDS	INCOME LEVEL FOR ELIGIBILITY
1	10,890.00	21,780.00
2	14,710.00	29,420.00
3	18,530.00	37,060.00
4	22,350.00	44,700.00
5	26,170.00	52,340.00
6	29,990.00	59,980.00
7	33,810.00	67,620.00
8	37,630.00	75,260.00

FOR FAMILIES WITH MORE THAN 8 PERSONS, ADD 3820 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON.

The phone # is 518-822-0087. No website. Hours of operation 8am-4pm. The Day Care

Unit is located at Columbia County Department of Social Services 25 Railroad Avenue.

Hudson, NY 12534.

Tax benefits for parents may include the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit.

If you paid someone to care for a child or a dependent so you could work, you may be able to reduce your tax by claiming the credit for child and dependent care expenses on your federal income tax return, according to the IRS. This credit is available to people who, in order to work or to look for work, have to pay for child care services for dependents under age 13. The credit is also available if you paid for care of a spouse or a dependent of any age who is physically or mentally incapable of self-care.

The credit is a percentage, based on your adjusted gross income, of the amount of work-related child and dependent care expenses you paid to a care provider. The credit can range from 20 to 35 percent of your qualifying expenses, depending upon your income. For more information visit the website:

www.irs.gov.

Earned Income Tax Credit

The Federal and State Earned Income Tax Credits are refundable tax benefits for working people with low or moderate incomes. They have several important purposes: to reduce the tax burden on these workers, to supplement wages, and to make work more attractive than welfare. Workers who qualify for the EITC and file Federal and State tax returns can get back some or all of the income tax that was withheld during the year. They may also get extra cash back from the IRS and from New York State if

their EITC is higher than the taxes they owe. For more information, contact the IRS toll free at 1-800-829-1040 or call New York State Taxpayer Information at 1-800-225-5829.

LR 9-11