

# Childcare Costs

## Key Numbers

- Center-based and family supported childcare has increased an average of 6% across all age groups since 2008.
- Family supported childcare costs about \$30 less per month than center-based childcare.
- As children get older, their childcare costs decline.

## Potential Earnings

- Look for entry level jobs where you can learn important and transferable skills.
- Service industry (servers) and sales jobs (cashiers) are abundant and often hire young people.
- Odd jobs around your neighborhood can supplement your income:
  - Babysitting
  - Mowing lawns
  - Tutoring
  - Etc.



## Tips for Budgeting

- Create a Budget
  - List all sources of income (salary, side jobs, etc.)
  - Break down monthly expenses into categories (housing, utilities, groceries, childcare, entertainment, etc.)
- Track Your Spending
  - Use budgeting apps or spreadsheets to monitor where your money goes.
  - Regularly review your spending habits and adjust your budget as needed.
- Prioritize Essential Expenses
  - Make sure to cover essential expenses first, including rent, utilities, and childcare costs.
  - Allocate funds for necessities before spending on non-essentials.
- Research Childcare Options
  - Compare costs of different childcare providers, such as daycare centers, in-home care, or family care.
  - Look for community programs or subsidies that can help lower childcare costs.

## Community Resources

- Mothers Helping Mothers Inc.
  - A leading community resource for teen mothers to help them gain independence.
- UCP BETA Teen Parent Connection Program
  - Offers education and support services to pregnant teens, young mothers, and their families.
- Orange County Public Schools Teen Parent Program
  - Provides educational programs tailored for pregnant students or student parents, with options to attend regular classes or specialized programs, like the BETA School.
- Healthy Start Coalition of Orange County
  - Offers virtual and telephonic services, including childbirth and parenting education, child development assessments, family planning, and infant safety instruction.
- Orange County Youth & Family Services Division
  - Provides a network of services, including family counseling programs, parent education programs, and family stabilization resources.