



## Breckenridge Tuition Assistance Eligibility Criteria

*Since 2007, the Town of Breckenridge has provided over \$7.3 million to the Tuition Assistance Program to support local families and workforce. Breckenridge recognized that without access to affordable, quality early childhood care and education, parents could not be part of the vital workforce and contribute to the community character the Town desired.*

— 2016 Child Care Needs Assessment & Tuition Assistance totals through 2018.

As part of a comprehensive vision to improve quality and accessibility, our town Child Care Centers began raising rates in 2007 to cover their true cost of care. With these increases in daily tuition, the Town of Breckenridge initiated a program to allocate funds to provide financial assistance to cost burdened families. The **Breckenridge Child Care Tuition Assistance Program** is a 'needs based' approach that can potentially provide tuition assistance when a family's child care expenditures exceed 13-16% of their income. Tuition Assistance is limited to working families who earn less than 150% of the local AMI (Area Median Income), live and/or work in Breckenridge, and attend one of the four non-profit Child Care Centers in Town. The amount of potential assistance is determined based on a variety of factors, including but not limited to: gross income, child care cost, parents' work schedule, the number of children in care, etc. The Assistance is paid directly to the participating Child Care Center on behalf of approved families.

To be eligible to apply your family must meet the following criteria and complete the proper Tuition Assistance Application. If you have questions about the criteria or your unique family situation you may contact Corrie Burr our program administrator at 970-547-3124 or via email to [corrieb@townofbreckenridge.com](mailto:corrieb@townofbreckenridge.com)

- Families of four members or less who earn an annual gross income of less than \$133,650 are eligible for assistance. For families of five they must earn less than \$144,450.00. Families of 6 must earn less than: \$155,100.00
- Families must live and/or work in the Upper Blue Basin area. Families that live in the Town of Breckenridge will be eligible for a higher level of tuition assistance than families who live outside Town limits.
- Both parents must be employed and at least one of them must work a minimum average of 30 hours per week annually. **However, in order to qualify for tuition assistance for full time child care (4 or 5 days per week) both parents MUST work a minimum of 30 hours on average per week.**
- If working in the Upper Blue Basin only (not living), at least one parent must be working a minimum average of 30 hours per week annually in the Upper Blue Basin.
- Self-employed applicants must maintain an average income that exceeds their business expenses and must show that his/her taxable gross income divided by the number of hours of care used for the employment activity equals at least the current Federal Minimum Wage.