Do you need child care assistance to maintain employment or pursue post-secondary education?

You may be eligible for Smart Steps Child Care Payment Assistance if you meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be employed no less than 30 hours per week, or be enrolled and attending a post-secondary education program full time or a combination of employment and post-secondary education
- Must have a child between ages six (6) weeks through five (5) years old
- Household gross income must be below the 85th percentile of the State Median Income (SMI) for Tennessee. Please refer to the chart for Household Income Limits below.

Eligibility for assistance is based on program requirements and availability of funding.

Household Income Limits for Smart Steps

Household Size	Maximum Gross Monthly Income
2	$3,526
3	$4,356
4	$5,186
5	$6,016
6	$6,845
7	$7,001
8	$7,156

The Smart Steps Application can be found online at:
https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/for-families/child-care-services.html

Once complete, turn the application in to the nearest Tennessee Department of Human Services Child Care Office, found online at:
https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/humanservices/for-families/child-care-services/child-care-assistance-office-locator.html

Find a child care center near you at:
https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/for-families/child-care-services/find-child-care.html