



1       4. "Eligible program" means an applicable childcare and early  
2 childhood education program that has applied to participate in the  
3 quality rating and improvement system and has been assigned a  
4 quality scale rating;

5       5. "Eligible staff member" means a person who is employed with,  
6 or who is a self-employed person providing childcare and early  
7 childhood education for, an eligible program for at least six (6)  
8 months of the taxable year. Eligible staff member does not include  
9 certificated teaching and administrative staff employed by programs  
10 established pursuant to applicable provisions of law;

11       6. "Employee" means a person to whom wages or other  
12 compensation is paid by an employer;

13       7. "Employer" means any sole proprietor or lawfully recognized  
14 business entity engaged in lawful business activity;

15       8. "Licensed childcare facility" means a person or entity  
16 lawfully authorized to provide childcare services within the state  
17 and which is enrolled in Oklahoma's Quality Rating and Improvement  
18 System (QRIS);

19       9. "Qualified childcare worker" means a person employed for at  
20 least eight (8) consecutive months during the calendar year  
21 corresponding to the income tax year for which the credit authorized  
22 by this section is claimed and who performs classroom services for a  
23 licensed childcare facility and who is enrolled in Oklahoma's  
24 Professional Development Ladder (PDL); and

1        10. "Quality scale rating" means the rating of an eligible  
2 program under which the rating is expressed in terms of stars.

3        B. For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, and  
4 ending not later than December 31, 2030, subject to the limitations  
5 prescribed by this subsection and subsection D of this section,  
6 there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed pursuant  
7 to Section 2355 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes, an amount  
8 equal to:

9            1. Thirty percent (30%) of the amount expended by an employer  
10 for assistance provided by the employer to an employee for the  
11 employee's direct expenses of childcare;

12            2. Thirty percent (30%) of the amount expended by an employer  
13 for the cost of operating or contracting to operate a childcare  
14 facility primarily used by dependents of the employees of such  
15 employer or group of employees in the area, excluding any payments  
16 made by the parent or guardian of such dependent such as tuition or  
17 fees; or

18            3. Thirty percent (30%) of the amount expended by an employer  
19 to contract with a childcare facility to reserving spots for its  
20 employees.

21        C. The total credit amount which may be claimed by an employer  
22 pursuant to the provisions of this section shall not exceed Thirty  
23 Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) for credits claimed pursuant to  
24 subsection B of this section for any taxable year.

1 D. The credits authorized pursuant to the provisions of this  
2 section shall not be used to reduce the income tax liability of the  
3 taxpayer to less than zero (0).

4 E. To the extent not used the credits authorized by this  
5 section may be carried over, in order, to each of the succeeding  
6 five (5) tax years.

7 F. The total amount of credits authorized to be used to reduce  
8 income tax liabilities pursuant to the provisions of this section  
9 shall not exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) each fiscal  
10 year.

11 G. The provisions of this section shall cease to have the force  
12 and effect of law on January 1, 2031.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective January 1, 2026.

14  
15 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated  
16 03/03/2025 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.