



High costs and lack of proximity to quality childcare inhibit employment options and hours

55 percent of working parents in Shelby County have experienced employment challenges due to inadequate childcare. Obstacles accessing cost-effective childcare that provides quality early learning limits workforce development and employment opportunities.

Due to childcare issues, more than 1 in 3 working parents in Shelby County worked less hours, could not work more hours, turned down a job offer or promotion, or quit or were fired in the first half of 2022

Prevalence of employment challenges due to childcare experienced by working parents
Shelby County, First half of 2022

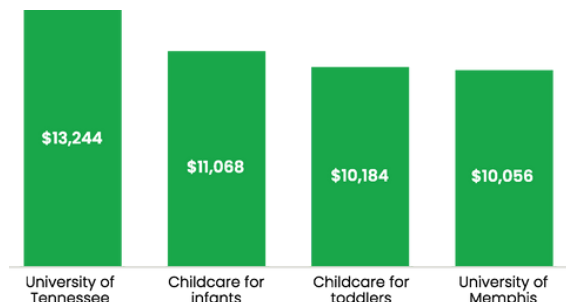


The most significant obstacles to securing childcare cited by working parents in Shelby County are **ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY, & QUALITY**



Annual childcare costs in Shelby County are **equivalent to tuition for state universities**

Comparison of annual cost of tuition for state colleges and local childcare
Center-based care (2022)



Over half of all working parents in Shelby County reported **challenges with employment** retention or career advancement due to inadequate childcare



TANF recipients in West Tennessee identified the lack of childcare as the **biggest obstacle to employment**



Less than 1 in 10 Shelby County parents are accessing government-funded **financial aid for childcare**



"We can't unlock Memphis' full economic potential until quality childcare becomes more accessible. The challenges working parents face in finding and affording quality childcare significantly impact their ability to earn a living and in turn also dampen business growth."

- Blair Taylor, President & CEO