



Campaign Funds For Childcare Toolkit

Courtesy of
Vote Mama Foundation

About Vote Mama

We envision a society in which mothers can lead at every level—without choosing between their children and their livelihoods—and a country that sets the global standard for family-friendly policies.

Vote Mama Foundation makes it easier for everyday parents to run and serve by identifying the barriers that keep moms out of office, advancing nonpartisan reforms, and tracking parents' representation in government and the policies they champion once elected.



Vote Mama Foundation, a nonpartisan 501(c)(3), is tracking the usage and authorization of CFCC at the federal and state levels. If you don't see your state listed, but want to know if CFCC is allowed in your state, submit an Advisory Opinion request.

What is Campaign Funds for Child Care (CFCC)?

In 2018, the Federal Election Commission (FEC), in a unanimous and bipartisan vote, approved the use of Campaign Funds for Childcare, setting a precedent for all federal candidates across the country.

Since then, working under both Democratic and Republican leadership, 41 states and Washington, D.C., have authorized CFCC in some form, allowing state and local candidates to use their campaign funds to pay for childcare related to campaigning activities. These authorizations are a mix of legislative and administrative rule changes.

In states where CFCC is allowed, caregiving expenses can be used like any other allowable campaign expense as it relates to the duties of campaigning for public office.

Quick Facts

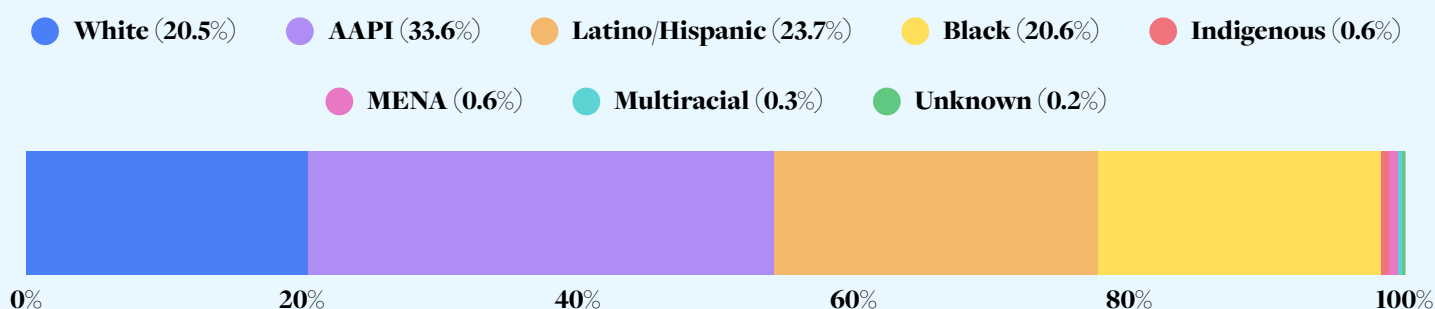
State & Local Usage from 2018-2025

- \$700,456+ spent
- >1,400% increase in spending from 2018-2025
- 148+ candidates in 25+ states
- 58% of candidates were women
- Of the top ten CFCC spenders:
 - 8 were people of color
 - 7 were women

If you are running for office in the following states, you can use campaign funds on childcare expenses:

Alaska	Kentucky	North Dakota
Alabama	Louisiana	Oklahoma
Arizona	Maryland	Oregon
Arkansas	Massachusetts	Pennsylvania
California	Michigan	Rhode Island
Colorado	Minnesota	South Dakota
Connecticut	Missouri	Tennessee
Delaware	Montana	Texas
District of Columbia	Nebraska	Utah
Georgia	New Hampshire	Vermont
Hawai'i	New Jersey	Virginia
Idaho	New Mexico	Washington
Illinois	New York	West Virginia
Kansas	North Carolina	Wisconsin

30% of CFCC users were candidates of color and accounted for 79% of all state and local CFCC spending.



State CFCC Overview:

Scope of Allowance

All of the 41 states (and D.C.) listed below explicitly allow candidates to use CFCC on expenses directly related to campaign activity. Additionally, some states allow funds to be used on broader dependent care, including elder care or care for an adult child with a disability, and/or official duties.

State	Approval Method	Year Approved	Broader Dependent Care?	Covers Official Duties?	Total Spent 2018-2026*	Does CFCC apply to State and Local Candidates?
41 total (and D.C.)	(B) indicates bipartisan support	1993-2026	18 total	18 total	\$702,695.54**	39 total
Alabama	Ethics Ruling	2018	No	No	No Accessible Data	Yes
Alaska	Ethics Ruling	2025	Yes	No	\$250	Yes
Arizona	Attorney General Opinion	2024	Yes	No	\$4,753.37	Yes
Arkansas	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2021	No	No	\$1,486	Yes
California	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2019	No	Yes	\$50,694.06	Yes
Colorado	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2019	Yes	No	\$14,742.88	Yes
Connecticut	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2021	No	No	No Accessible Data	Yes
Delaware	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2021	No	No	No Records of Use Found	Yes
District of Columbia	Ethics Ruling	2024	No	No	No Records of Use Found	Local Only
Georgia	Ethics Ruling	2023	Yes	Yes	\$305.58	Yes
Hawaii	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2024	Yes	No	\$165	Yes
Idaho	Secretary of State Opinion	2024	Yes	No	No Accessible Data	Yes
Illinois	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2021	Yes	Yes	\$488,176.55	Yes
Kansas	Ethics Ruling	2018	No	Yes	No Accessible Data	Yes
Kentucky	Ethics Ruling	2018	Yes	No	\$594.23	Yes
Louisiana	Ethics Ruling	2019	No	No	\$585	Yes
Maryland	Ethics Ruling	2019	No	No	\$522.50	Yes***
Massachusetts	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2024	Yes	No	\$4,599.68	Yes
Michigan	Secretary of State Opinion	2024	Yes	Yes	No Accessible Data	Yes
Minnesota	Legislation [Ⓜ]	1993	No	No	\$10,201.27	Yes
Missouri	Legislation	2026	No	Yes	\$2,240	Yes
Montana	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2021	No	No	No Accessible Data	Yes
Nebraska	Ethics Ruling	1994	No	No	\$1,727	Yes
New Hampshire	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2019	No	No	\$270	Yes
New Jersey	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2020	No	Yes	\$830	Yes
New Mexico	Ethics Ruling	2022	No	Yes	No Accessible Data	State Only
New York	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2019	No	Yes	No Accessible Data	Yes
North Carolina	Ethics Ruling	2020	Yes	Yes	\$26,068	Yes
North Dakota	Ethics Ruling	2025	Yes	Yes	No Accessible Data	Yes
Oklahoma	Ethics Ruling	2024	Yes	Yes	\$3,263.78	Yes
Oregon	Ethics Ruling	2020	No	Yes	\$706	Yes
Pennsylvania	Ethics Ruling	2024	No	No	No Accessible Data	Yes
Rhode Island	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2021	No	Yes	No Records of Use Found	Yes
South Dakota	Attorney General Opinion	2026	No	Yes	No Accessible Data	Yes
Tennessee	Ethics Ruling	2023	Yes	Yes	No Records of Use Found	Yes
Texas	Ethics Ruling	2018	No	No	\$29,175.89	Yes
Utah	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2019	No	Yes	No Accessible Data	Yes
Vermont	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2021	Yes	No	\$496	Yes
Virginia	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2021	Yes	Yes	No Accessible Data	Yes
Washington	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2022	Yes	No	\$47,919.97	Yes
West Virginia	Legislation [Ⓜ]	2021	Yes	No	No Accessible Data	Yes
Wisconsin	Ethics Ruling	2018	No	No	\$10,122.78	Yes

*Due to data limitations, California's spending only includes data from 2018-2022, and Hawaii's spending does not include data from the second half of 2025.

**While not officially approved in Missouri and South Carolina, we found evidence of CFCC spending that totaled \$2,800

***Does not apply to municipalities

How to Use CFCC

How to Report Expenditures:

In states where CFCC is allowed, candidates may use their campaign funds on any campaign related childcare expense while running for office.

Caregiving expenses can be used like any other allowable campaign expense as it relates to the duties of campaigning for public office.

If you use your campaign funds on childcare, let us know!

Examples of Use:

Examples include hiring a babysitter to attend a fundraising event, covering the cost of childcare during campaign activities, or paying for daycare services while conducting door-to-door voter outreach.

Some examples of how candidates have listed childcare on their federal, state and local campaign finance reports include:

- “childcare”
- “child care”
- “daycare”
- “day care”
- “babysit”
- “baby sit”
- “babysitting”
- “baby sitting”
- “babysitter”
- “baby sitter”
- “dependent care”

Please consult a campaign finance attorney before making any allowable expense related to your campaign.

Vendor Agreement Form:

On the next page is a “Vendor Agreement” form that can be used to track CFCC usage during your campaign. We recommend using this form for each time childcare is used as a campaign expense.



VENDOR AGREEMENT

Event/Campaign Activity:

Description: _____

Date(s) of Event: _____

Location: _____

VENDOR INFORMATION

Vendor Name: _____

Company Name (If Applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

SERVICES RENDERED

Description of Services (Insert Caregiving Services): _____

Total Number of Hours: _____

Hourly Rate: _____

Total Amount Due: _____

PAYMENT DETAILS

Payment Method:

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Electronic
Payment ☐ Credit ☐ Debit

Paid on (Date): _____

Paid By: _____

Check/Electronic Payment Reference #: _____

SIGNATURES

By signing below, both parties affirm their agreement with the services rendered, the payment amount, and the completion date as outlined above.

Vendor Printed Name: _____

Vendor Signature: _____

Date: _____

Campaign Representative Printed Name: _____

Campaign Representative Signature: _____

Date: _____