

Campaign Funds For Childcare (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, 40 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

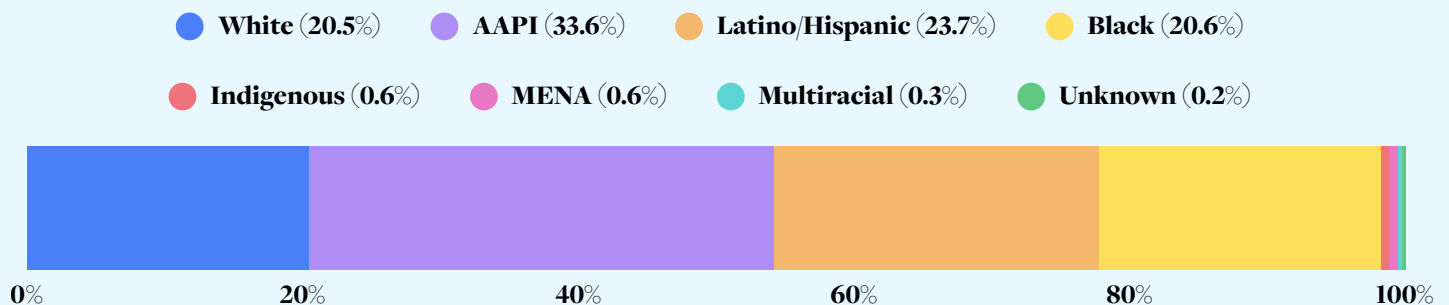
State & Local Usage from 2018-2025

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

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 40 states (and D.C.) listed below explicitly allow candidates to use Campaign Funds for Childcare (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 2018-2025*	Does CFCC apply to State and Local Candidates?
<i>40 total (and D.C)</i>	<i>(B) indicates bipartisan support</i>	<i>1993-2025</i>	<i>18 total</i>	<i>17 total</i>	<i>\$700,455.54**</i>	<i>38 total</i>
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 Records of Use Found	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
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