



Guide

# Thrive Amid Financial Challenges in 2025: A Procare Guide to Maximizing Grants, Funding and Subsidies

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# Introduction

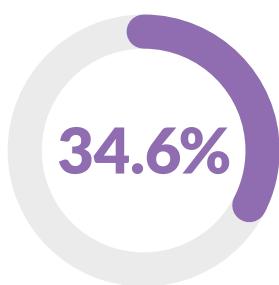
The child care industry continues to face significant financial hurdles, ranging from rising overhead costs to reductions in financial aid and subsidies. For many providers, these challenges threaten the stability of their programs. But there is hope! By effectively leveraging grants, funding opportunities and subsidies, child care providers can sustain their operations while delivering high-quality care and even expanding their services. With the right resources, like those offered by **Procare Solutions**, you can thrive even in challenging financial conditions.

This guide will walk you through how to identify, apply for and optimize funding solutions while using Procare's advanced features to streamline financial management and planning.



# The Scope of the Financial Challenge

Financial stressors remain a top issue for child care providers in 2025:



of centers have limited access to **public funding** (grants, subsidies).



of centers are struggling with **hiring** and **retaining** staff.

Limited access and the **expiration of government funding** is leading to potential closures of child care programs, affecting millions of children and resulting in economic losses.

Providers have trouble navigating various **grant application processes**, lacking the capacity or know-how to compete for targeted funding.

Access to **subsidies and external funding** varies widely depending on state-specific policies and family eligibility.

Child care organizations face significant funding gaps. The need for billions more in funding to improve wages and service quality remains unmet. ([Forbes](#), February 2024)

Child care continues to be **unaffordable** for many families, with costs consuming a large portion of family income. This issue is exacerbated by high operational costs and stringent regulations. ([First Five Years Fund](#), Nov 2024)

The industry is experiencing **staffing shortages** due to low wages and challenging working conditions. Although staffing levels have improved, they have not kept pace with the rising demand for services. ([Ankura](#), May 2024)



Despite these hurdles, there is a wealth of funding opportunities – including grants, subsidies and private funding – that providers can tap into. The key lies in understanding how to align your program's unique needs with the right solutions.

# Maximize Potential with Procare's Financial Features

Procare offers an array of features designed to simplify financial management, helping you track, allocate and maximize funding efficiently. Here's what Procare can do for your child care center:



## 1. Grant and Subsidy Tracking

Procare's financial management tools make tracking multiple funding sources seamless. Whether it's federal grants, state-based initiatives or privately funded subsidies, Procare enables you to monitor receipt and allocation with real-time updates.



## 2. Efficient Reporting

Grants often come with stringent reporting requirements. Procare allows you to generate customized financial reports with just a few clicks. Clear, accurate reports ensure compliance and increase your reputation, making future funding easier to secure.



## 3. Parent Subsidy Management

Procare lets you monitor family tuition subsidies, ensuring that eligible families receive the benefits they're entitled to while maintaining accurate billing records. This feature reduces administrative errors and saves valuable time.



## 4. Budgeting for the Future

With Procare's budgeting features, you can identify areas of high-cost spending and allocate funds effectively. Predictive analytics provide insights into how long your current funding will last and where adjustments are necessary.



## 5. Integrated Payment Systems

Streamline the payment process by combining your billing and tuition collection systems through Procare. Automating these processes not only boosts your cash flow but also ensures transparency across all financial transactions.



# Strategies for Securing Grants and Funding

Securing funding can feel daunting, but with a strategic approach, child care organizations can find success. Here are actionable steps to take:

## 1. Identify the Right Opportunities

Stay informed about new funding opportunities by regularly visiting websites like [Procare Solutions](#), NAEYC, Child Care Aware and local government portals. Set alerts for deadlines and prioritize programs that align with your center's goals. Make sure you look for grants specific to:

- Expanding capacity, such as adding classrooms or programs
- Workforce stabilization and payroll support
- Equipment upgrades and safety improvements

## 2. Craft Strong Applications

A compelling grant application can make all the difference. Tailor your application to address the specific outcomes requested by funders. Highlight:

- Your program's impact on the community
- Clear financial needs and how the funds will be allocated
- Procare's role in maintaining accountability for fund use

## 3. Collaborate for Strength

Many grants favor collaborative applications. Partner with local schools, advocacy groups, or businesses. For instance, teaming with organizations like Child Care Aware or the Alliance for Early Learning Leadership can lend credibility to your application.

## 4. Leverage Federal and State Subsidies

Familiarize yourself with available subsidies under programs like Child Care Development Block Grants. Keep track of eligibility requirements for both your center and the families you serve.

## 5. Advocate for Policy Awareness

Ensure that your staff remains up to date with policy changes that may affect child care funding. Subscribe to newsletters from advocacy groups like NAEYC for the latest updates.





# Tips to Ensure Financial Sustainability

Once funding is secured, managing it effectively is key to sustaining your program. Here are tips to keep your finances stable:

## 1. Diversify Your Funding Sources

Relying on a single income stream can be risky. Explore partnerships with local businesses, run community campaigns or organize fundraisers. Procare's integration with IntelliKid Systems can help you market your ECE program with families searching for high-quality child care.

## 2. Invest in Your Staff

Staffing shortages affect enrollment and quality. Allocate funding to competitive wages and benefits to attract and retain qualified educators. Procare's payroll management features can help distribute these funds correctly.

## 3. Engage Families

Increasing community and family engagement can lead to additional funding opportunities. Communicate regularly with families about how funds are being used to improve their children's experience. Procare's digital communication features can assist with this.

## 4. Monitor Spending Regularly

Regularly review your operating budget using the financial dashboard in Procare. This ensures funds are allocated as intended and helps track whether adjustments are needed.

## 5. Plan for Emergencies

Build a financial cushion to cover unexpected expenses, like repairs or fluctuating enrollment. Procare allows you to create reserve accounts and track their growth over time.





# 2025 Child Care Business Trends Report



2025 Child Care Business  
Trends Report

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## Thrive in 2025 with Procare

Navigating the financial landscape in the child care sector requires creativity, diligence and the right tools. By finding funding opportunities and using the robust financial management features of Procare, you can strengthen your program's operations and remain resilient in 2025 and beyond.

Procare empowers child care providers with tools to **automate reimbursement tracking, optimize fund allocation and streamline financial transparency**. By combining these capabilities with proactive funding strategies, your center can not only survive the challenges but thrive.

Take charge of your financial future by integrating Procare into your operations and pursuing grants, subsidies and funding with confidence. Sustainability starts here.

[Contact us today](#) to learn more about how Procare can help your center thrive.

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