

Hello Steamboat Child Care Center Families,

A new school year has started at the Steamboat Child Care Center, and we're preparing for our next round of classroom move-ups in November. If your child is already enrolled and there are no schedule changes, no action is necessary - your child will be automatically enrolled for the winter season with the same schedule.

When we launched the Steamboat Child Care Center in 2022, we knew that the true cost of high-quality child care would not be fully covered by tuition. That's why Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation (SSRC) committed to subsidizing the center by \$200,000 annually from the very beginning.

This summer, we also recognized that our teacher compensation needed to be adjusted to stay competitive with local market rates. In support of our mission to provide consistent, relationship-based care, we implemented a \$2/hour wage increase for all teaching staff. This investment helps us retain our skilled educators, reduce turnover, and provide the stable, nurturing environment your children thrive in.

To support this important step forward, SSRC has increased its subsidy to more than \$230,000 annually. Even with this generous support, however, a tuition increase is necessary to maintain program quality and ensure our team is fairly compensated.

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### **The True Cost of Care**

Providing high-quality care involves much more than what's visible day to day. In addition to increased wages, we're facing rising costs for essential supplies - particularly health and safety materials like cleaning supplies, gloves, and other PPE that are critical to maintaining a safe, hygienic environment for children and staff.

At the same time, as the cost of living in Routt County continues to rise, we remain committed to paying our educators a livable wage that reflects their qualifications, experience, and the importance of their work. Many hold college degrees and specialized training in Early Childhood Education, and the consistency they provide is essential to strong relationships and positive developmental outcomes.

We know that tuition increases are not easy for families, and we do not take them lightly. While this increase does not fully cover the rising costs of providing the high-quality care that is central to our mission, it helps offset those costs and ensures we can continue delivering on that mission for all families who rely on our center.

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### **Tuition Increase Effective November 4**

The new tuition rates will go into effect on Tuesday, November 4. *Please note: We will be closed on Monday, November 3 for a staff professional development day.*

**For SSRC Employees:** We remain committed to offering a **20% discount off our community tuition rates**, and that discount will remain in place even after the rate change. Please note that tuition rates at other child care centers in Steamboat have also increased. Our updated rates continue to remain in line with similar tuition adjustments seen at other local centers.

Winter seasonal employees returning to SSRC will transition to the employee rate beginning November 4.

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#### **New Tuition Rates Effective November 4, 2025**

	<b><u>SSRC Employees</u></b>	<b><u>Community Members</u></b>	<b><u>Hours (Mon–Fri)</u></b>
<b>Infants</b> (3 – 18 months)	\$80/day	\$100/day	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
<b>Toddlers</b> (12 months & walking – 36 months.)	\$80/day	\$100/day	7:30 AM – 5:30 PM
<b>Preschoolers</b> (2.5 – 5 years)	\$72/day	\$90/day	7:30 AM – 5:30 PM
<b>Pre-K</b> (4 years old by 10/1/25)	\$72*/day	\$90*/day	7:30 AM – 5:30 PM

\* Children eligible for Colorado’s Universal Preschool (UPK) program receive a tuition subsidy from the state. This subsidy will increase in November to align with our updated tuition rates, helping to offset the cost of care for participating families. SSRC employees benefit from both the UPK subsidy and the SSRC employee tuition discount.

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If this change affects your family’s ability to remain enrolled at the center, please don’t hesitate to reach out. We are happy to discuss potential tuition assistance options that may be available. We also want to remind all of our families about assistance available through [CCCAP of Routt County](#) and First Impressions.

Thank you for your continued support of our high-quality, employer-based child care program and our incredible teaching and administrative team. We are so grateful for the opportunity to care for your children and to be part of your family’s journey.