



POLICY PRIORITY: FINANCIALLY SECURE FAMILIES

Family-friendly Work Policies & Income Supports for Families



Local, State & Federal Budgets

- Identify and advance opportunities to advocate for **increased appropriations in the federal FY 2024 budget for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)** to ensure all eligible participants receive the full cash-value voucher/benefit, including the fruit and vegetable adjustment



Legislation

- Advocate for the **state passage of a child tax credit** that is refundable, provides a per-child credit, phases out with income, and is accessible for families who file with an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)
- Advocate for **state passage of a paid family and medical leave insurance program** with substantial protections for low-wage workers and sufficient time off for new parents and infants to bond



Administration & Implementation

- Support **implementation of the Illinois Earned Income Tax Credit's increase to 20% of the federal credit, as well as expanded eligibility**, for tax year 2023, as amended by SB 157 (Pub. Act 102-700)
- Increase opportunities for **outreach and referrals to WIC for families enrolled in Head Start and Early Head Start programs**, through a collaboration between the Illinois Head Start Association and the Illinois Department of Human Services
- Ensure full and equitable implementation of the **Paid Leave for All Workers Act** (Public Act 102-1143), entitling nearly all employees in Illinois to a minimum of 40 hours of paid leave, or an accrual of one hour for every 40 hours worked, in a 12-month period
- Advocate for the **approval of the final rule on Initial Activity Search for Child Care Assistance Program eligibility**, allowing up to three months of child care subsidy during a parent's employment or education search (making permanent the temporary rule first approved in 2021)



Public Awareness & Engagement

- Support the **launch of a statewide marketing campaign and mobile enrollment pilot to increase enrollment in WIC**, particularly for children ages 1-3
- Amplification of **public awareness and storytelling campaigns to galvanize support for paid family and medical leave** in Illinois

