

Mesa Community College Children's Center continues to offer childcare assistance for students

For the past four years, the Mesa Community College Children's Center has been providing childcare assistance to students through The Child Care Access Means Parents In School grant. With the receipt of \$104,578 in CCAMPIS grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education, the Center last week announced it will continue supporting student parents this year, according to a press release.

Student parents who receive Pell grants are able to subsidize their child care tuition by enrolling in the CCAMPIS program, reducing the cost they pay for child care. Students typically pay \$4 each hour. In comparison, student parents enrolled in

CCAMPIS only pay \$1 or \$1.50 per hour based on their household income.

"The majority of our student parents are recipients of the CCAMPIS grant. Many of them wouldn't otherwise be able to afford high-quality child care or continue their education," Kris Bliss, supervisor of the Early Childhood Center, said in the release.

In addition to the tuition subsidy program, a partnership between the MCC Children's Center and Arizona State University's Mary Lou Fulton College of Education preschool program provides students a seamless transition between MCC and ASU.

ASU holds a minimum of five spaces

in one of its child care facilities for Pell-eligible students who are transferring with their children from the MCC Children's Center.

"This is extremely helpful for our students who transfer to ASU. Often there is a very long waiting list to get into the child care centers at ASU, but with this program, they don't have to wait," Ms. Bliss said. "They continue to receive a child care subsidy and the comfort of knowing their children will have the same high quality, accredited child care as they had in our program."

Mesa Community College students who need childcare assistance are encouraged

to enroll in the CCAMPIS program for the upcoming spring semester.

For more information about the MCC Children's Center please visit ww.mesacc.edu/students/childrens-center.

Mesa Community College provides transfer and career and technical programs, workforce development, and lifelong learning opportunities to residents of the East Valley area of Phoenix, Arizona. MCC excels in teaching, learning and empowering its more than 40,000 students to succeed in a local and global community. Mesa Community College is one of 10 colleges that comprise the Maricopa County Community College District.