

# *Yavapai* COLLEGE

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## **Child Care Needs Survey Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center**

**Conducted Spring 2006**

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# Child Care Needs Survey

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## **I. Introduction**

In spring 2004, a survey was developed to solicit community input for the new Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center. As a follow-up to preliminary information collected, a second survey was administered in spring 2006. The objective of the study was to provide a complete, accurate and unbiased measure and clarify the child care needs in the Prescott area. The elements measured include:

- Determining the level of interest in a child care facility on the Prescott Campus
- Determining the number of children and ages
- Scheduling needs of parents
- Funding and payment options

The questionnaire was developed by Yavapai College Institutional Research Department with input from the college's Early Childhood Education program.

The 2006 survey was first introduced at the Family Enrichment Center ground breaking in April 2006. Surveys were also available at the circulation desk in the Yavapai College Prescott Library. An online version of the survey was also developed and available on the Yavapai College website. A total of 254 completed surveys were returned (207 online responses and 47 paper surveys). Of those who returned the survey, 186 had children age five or younger. Ninety-four of the survey respondents indicated they have children between the ages of six and 12 years.

## II. Findings

### Status of Respondents

**Table 1**  
**Status of Respondents**

Status	N=	%
Student	190	75%
Administration	8	3%
Faculty	12	5%
Staff	25	10%
Community Member	19	7%
Total	254	100%

- The majority (75%) of the respondents are students.
- Nineteen (7%) of the respondents self-identified themselves as community members.

## Relationship to Child

**Table 2**

<b>Relationship</b>	<b>N=</b>	<b>%</b>
Single Parent	55	31%
Married Parent	111	62%
Grandparent	4	2%
Other	10	5%
Total	180	100%

- Parents represent 93% of all respondents with the largest share of respondents (62%) married parents.
- Included in the other category: respondents self-identified themselves as foster parents, aunts, same-sex parents, cohabitating parents and joint parents.

## Ages of Children

Parents were asked to provide the ages of their children (as of January 2007). More than one-half (57%) are preschoolers. Due to the January 2007 stipulation, infants may be understated.

**Table 3**  
**Ages of Children – Age 5 & under**

	<b>N=</b>	<b>%</b>
Infant (2 mo. – 12 mos.)	35	20%
Toddler 1 (1-2 years)	55	31%
Toddler 2 (2-3 years)	62	35%
Preschooler (3-5 years)	101	57%
Total	253	143%

*Exceeds 100% due to multiple choice options.*

### Days of Week Child Care Would be Used

Monday through Friday scheduling is preferred by parents with both full day and half day schedules.

**Table 4**  
**Days of Week Child Care Would be Used**

	N=	%
Full Days		
M-F	71	51%
MWF	18	13%
T-TH	12	8%
M-TH	22	16%
Other	17	12%
Half Days (5 hrs or less)		
M-F AM	45	41%
M-F PM	36	33%
Other	29	26%

Other comments include: Saturday; depends on class schedule

### Likelihood of Using Yavapai College Child Care Services

Seven out of ten respondents would use Yavapai College child care services. Twenty-six percent are unsure. Only 4% indicated that they would not use YC child care services. More than one-half (52%) want year-round services.

**Table 5**  
**Likelihood of Using Yavapai College Child Care**

	N=	%
Yes	122	70%
May-be	45	26%
No	8	4%
Total	175	100%

## Schedule Considerations

Survey respondents were asked the type of child care schedule that would be needed. While the times varied as to the earliest or latest schedule that would work for them, more than one-half (51%) need child care services prior to 7:30 a.m. and 43% need services after 5:30 p.m.

**Table 6**  
**Scheduling Considerations**

<b>Earliest Time Needed</b>	<b>N=</b>	<b>%</b>
7:00 AM	50	30%
7:30 AM	34	21%
8:00 AM	55	33%
Other	27	16%
Total	166	100%
<b>Latest Time Needed</b>		
4:00 PM	26	16%
5:00 PM	25	15%
5:30 PM	71	43%
Other	43	26%
Total	165	100%
<b>Preferred Schedule</b>		
Fall & spring semesters only	37	22%
Fall, spring & summer semesters	41	24%
Year-round, excluding college closures dates	88	52%
	3	2%
Total	169	100%

A review of survey comments show a few needing times outside those suggested above. One respondent needed 6:30 a.m. and some indicated the need for at least 6 or 6:30 p.m. A few expressed the need to 9 p.m. when classes are out.

An electronic copy of survey comments is available upon request for further review.



## Opinions on Night Classes and Funding Issues

Survey respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with statements on night classes and funding and payment options.

**Table 7**  
**Opinions on Night Classes and Funding**

	N=	Agree	Disagree	Don't Know
<b>Night Classes</b>				
I am interested in taking night classes	151	62%	20%	18%
I do (or will) take night classes, but prefer to use other (home based) child care	144	26%	43%	31%
I would be interested in evening child care on campus to enable me to take night classes	156	58%	26%	16%
<b>Funding and Payment</b>				
I am willing to pay market rate for child care on campus	157	41%	34%	25%
I would use financial aid monies to help pay for child care	149	59%	26%	15%
I will be working and going to school and will apply for DES child care subsidies	147	39%	37%	24%
I would apply for whatever scholarship monies might be available to help cover the cost of child care	152	81%	12%	7%

From the above data, it appears that a large number are interested in night classes (62%) and the availability of child care on campus (58%).

Relative to funding and payment, there is a strong need for financial aid (59%) and the willingness to apply for scholarship monies (81%).

### Price Willing to Pay

Respondents were asked to indicate the amount that they are willing to pay for Yavapai College childcare services. With interest in full-time (55%) and part-time (45%) usage split, the amounts they are willing to pay vary. The following summarizes the weekly prices by age group.

- Infants: Thirty-nine responded with input. The range was from a low of \$15/week to a high of \$210/week.
- Toddlers: Fifty-five responded with input. The range was from a low of \$10/week to a high of \$210/week.
- Preschoolers: Sixty-six responded with input. The range was from a low of \$10/week to a high of \$210/week.

### **III. Conclusion**

There appears to be strong interest in a child care facility on the Prescott Campus. Seventy percent of the respondents indicated they would use child care on the Prescott Campus. Approximately 55% of the respondents indicated they would use the facility full-time and 45% part-time. More than one-half (54%) are interested in year-round services. In terms of funding and payment, 59% indicated they would use financial aid to help pay for the child care and 81% are willing to apply for whatever scholarship monies are available.

## **Appendix**

**Yavapai  
College**

**Child Care Needs Survey - Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center/Lab School - 2006**

Planning for the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center is underway. This survey is designed to solicit feedback about the specific child care needs of students, staff and faculty who plan to use the center. All responses are confidential. Please use a number 2 pencil, black pen or dark blue pen and fill in the appropriate response bubble completely.

This survey is also available online at: <http://surveys.yc.edu/surveys/family.htm>

**1. Check your status: [Select One]**

- 1 Student     2 Faculty     3 Administration     4 Staff     5 Community member

**2. Do you have any children in your household age 5 or under?**

- 1 Yes     2 No [GO TO QUESTION 14]

**3. What are the ages of your children?**

(as of January 2007)

Child 1  
Child 2  
Child 3  
Child 4

	Infant (2 mo. - 12 mo.)	Toddler One's (1 - 2 years)	Toddler Two's (2-3 years)	Preschooler (3-5 years)
Child 1	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
Child 2	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
Child 3	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4
Child 4	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4

For five or more children, please list ages on back page in comments.

**4. What is your relationship to these children?**

- 1 Single parent     2 Married parent     3 Grandparent     4 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Would you use child care services at Yavapai College Prescott Campus?**

- 1 Yes     2 Maybe \_\_\_\_\_     3 No \_\_\_\_\_

**6. What is the earliest time you would need child care in the morning?**

- 1 7:00 a.m.     2 7:30 a.m.     3 8:00 a.m.     4 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**7. What is the latest time you would need child care in the afternoon?**

- 1 4:00 p.m.     2 5:00 p.m.     3 5:30 p.m.     4 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**8. The Family Enrichment Center plans to offer a range of scheduling options. Which of the following best describes the schedule you would choose?**

**Full Days - 8 or more hours [SELECT ONE]**

- 1 M-F     2 MWF     3 T-TH     4 M-TH     5 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Half Days - 5 hours or less [SELECT ONE]**

- 1 M-F am     2 M-F pm     3 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Schedule: [SELECT ONE]**

- 1 Fall and spring semesters only  
 2 Fall, spring and summer semesters  
 3 Year round, excluding college closure dates  
 4 Other \_\_\_\_\_



9. If the center followed a semester schedule and you needed year round care, would you still enroll your child in the Family Enrichment Center and find alternative care for your child during the weeks the center was closed?

- Yes  No

Comments:

10. How many credit hours do you plan to be enrolled in spring 2007?

- Less than 6 credit hours  6 - 11 credit hours  12 or more credit hours  Not applicable

11. Would the availability of child care on campus enable you to enroll in more classes?

- Yes  No  Not applicable

How many additional hours?

- 3 hours  6 hours  12 hours

12. Please indicate your opinions about the following statements:

**Night classes:**

- I am interested in taking classes at night \_\_\_\_\_
- I do (or will) take night classes, but would prefer to use other (home based) child care \_\_\_\_\_
- I would be interested in evening child care on campus to enable me to take night classes \_\_\_\_\_

**Agree**      **Disagree**      **Don't know**

- |                       |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

**Funding and payment:**

- I am willing to pay market rates for child care on campus \_\_\_\_\_
- I would use financial aid monies to help pay for child care \_\_\_\_\_
- I will be working and going to school and will apply for DES child care subsidies to help pay for child care. \_\_\_\_\_
- I would apply for whatever scholarship monies might be available to help cover the cost of child care \_\_\_\_\_

- |                       |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

13. The Family Enrichment Center will operate on a fee-for-service basis using a sliding fee scale. Please indicate the highest weekly rate you would be willing to pay for full-time care.

- Infant: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week  Preschool: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week  Toddler \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week

Comments:

14. Do you have school-age children (ages 6-12) in your household?

- Yes  No

Would you be interested in summer programming for them?

- Yes  No

**Additional Comments:**

You may return your completed survey in one of the following ways:

- Return to the individual distributing the survey, or
- Place in one of the collection boxes located at Prescott Campus: Library circulation desk, Advising department or in the Prescott cafeteria.

Thank you for your help!



Please address questions or comments to Vickey La Motte, Director of Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center, at 928/776-2174 or vickey\_lamotte@yc.edu