

Child Care Financial Support Programs During The COVID-19 Closure Period

The State of Vermont, through the Department for Children and Families, Child Development Division is offering several financial support programs to child care providers during the COVID-19 closure period. Child care programs can choose to participate in as many of the programs as they want and are not required to participate in any of the programs.

CHILD CARE PROGRAMS SERVING THE COVID-19 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKFORCE

To ensure Essential Persons have access to full time care during this closure period, the Child Development Division is providing tuition and incentive payments to providers who serve children of the COVID-19 Critical Infrastructure Workforce. Workers in critical businesses (per ACCD critical business list) who must work outside of the home during this response and do not have other care options are eligible for child care.

COVID-19 Child Care Tuition Payments for Essential Persons

The State of Vermont will pay the child care program the weekly tuition for each child:

- Infant through Preschool Age Children Tuition Payments for Child Care Essential Persons: **Beginning the week of 4/5/2020 until Governor's Order Ends**, the State of Vermont will pay full tuition, up to \$360 per week, for essential persons utilizing an alternative child care program.
- School Age Children Tuition Payments for Child Care Essential Persons: **Beginning the week of 3/15/2020 until Governor's Order Ends**, the State of Vermont will pay \$200 per week per school age child to the child care program.

Requirements:

- Provide required information to the Child Development Division for payment processing.

COVID-19 Child Care Incentives: \$125 per week, per child served infants through grade 8

The Child Development Division is providing supplemental payments, in addition to tuition, to providers who serve children of the COVID-19 Critical Infrastructure Workforce.

Requirements:

- Provide required information to the Child Development Division for payment processing

STABILIZING THE CLOSED REGULATED CHILD CARE SYSTEM

Child Care Financial Assistance Program

Beginning on 3/18/2020 until Governor's Order Ends, Child Care Financial Assistance payments will be based on children scheduled to attend and eligible for Child Care Financial Assistance and not on actual attendance.

Requirement: Program bills for Child Care Financial Assistance enrollment using guidance by the Child Development Division

COVID-19 Child Care Stabilization Payment Program for Private Tuition

Part 1: 3/18/2020 – 4/4/2020: Full tuition payments for families that are unable/unwilling to pay

Requirements:

- Request families pay their full regular tuition and/or co-pay.
 - If a family is unable to pay their tuition the provider can receive the payment from the state on behalf of the family regardless of their income status.
- Pay all their staff at their full salary.
 - Programs, such as registered homes, where the owner/operator is the only staff are exempt from this requirement
- Provide required information to the Child Development Division for payment processing.
- Maintain the slot for the enrolled family regardless of whether any payment comes from the family.

Part 2: 4/5/2020 – until Governor's Order Ends: Payment of 50% tuition on behalf of families. If families do not pay 50% or a lesser agreed to amount of tuition, and the program unenrolls the child from the program, the division will reimburse the child care program up to \$360.00 per week for full tuition.

Requirements:

- Ensure slots are maintained for a family paying up to 50% regular tuition and/or co-pay.
- Pay all their staff at their full salary.
 - Programs, such as registered homes, that the owner/operator is the only staff are exempt from this requirement
- Provide required information to the Child Development Division for payment processing.