



Minnesota's Children's Cabinet

Child Care Update

Dear Family Child Care and Center-Based Child Care Providers:

Thank you for all you do for the children and families in your community, especially those of you who remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure families have a safe, nurturing place for their children. We'd like to extend a **special thank you** this week as the Governor [proclaimed](#) this week Family Child Care Provider Week and recognized May 8 as Child Care Provider Appreciation Day!

Weekly Recap

Last week, the Governor shared progress that Minnesotans helped make during the Stay at Home Order. This includes building hospital capacity, acquiring more protective equipment and critical supplies, and a partnership on testing that will allow us to test every symptomatic Minnesotan. The Governor announced cautious and measured steps forward, to *slowly* reopen society to slow spread and not overwhelm hospitals. As such, the Governor extended the [Stay Home Executive Order](#) for two weeks, until Sunday, May 17. During this time, some retail businesses and other non-critical businesses can resume operations with curbside delivery and moving toward a new normal.

Share Your Status

As businesses re-open we anticipate additional families needing child care. Please continue to update your capacity through the [survey](#). As you have questions about your license and availability call the Department of Human Services hotline at 1-888-234-1268.

Provider Call

The next provider call is on Monday, May 11, at 7 p.m. The call will feature agency partners, including the Department of Health (MDH), Department of Education, Department of Employment and Economic Development (regarding provider financial supports like unemployment benefits and forgivable loans), and Department of Human Services.

- **To have a question answered:** Email your question to childrenscabinet.MMB@state.mn.us by Thursday May 7th at 12 PM.
- **Join the call:** Log in to [WebEx](#) or by phone (1-415-655-0003; Access code: 966 958 239).
- Access the recording of the April 27 conference call [here](#).

Financial Supports Update

We have developed a series of resource documents to help you identify grants and other financial support opportunities.

- **Child Care Business Support Matrix and Resources:** Information and resources by provider type on business and financial supports, including grants and forgivable loans.
- **Family Child Care Provider Personal Financial Supports:** Resources for personal and family financial supports, including how Family Child Care providers can apply for unemployment benefits.
- **Child Care Center Employee Personal Financial Supports:** Resources for personal and family financial supports for child care center employees who may be experiencing income loss due to center closures or reduction in hours.

Additionally, the second round of Peacetime Emergency Child Care Grants, administered by Child Care Aware of Minnesota open **today** and will close on **Tuesday, May 12th at 5pm**. Award Decisions will be announced on **Monday, May 18th**. Please visit the [Peacetime Emergency Grants website](#) and read the updated [Peacetime Emergency Child Care grants FAQ](#) for other questions.

Public Health Guidance

Child care providers are asked to review updated guidance from MDH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and consider whether to make changes in their operations. Updated MDH COVID-19 cleaning and disinfecting guidance is below and on mn.gov/childcare.

- [COVID-19 Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidance for Schools and Child Care Programs](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions About COVID-19 for Facilities Service and Cleaning Staff](#)

For specific health questions regarding your care settings, reach out to the MDH school and childcare team at health.schools.covid19@state.mn.us.

Thank you for all you do to care for our littlest Minnesotans and help our communities respond to COVID-19. We will continue to provide updates on business supports, supplies, and other resources as on mn.gov/childcare. Please continue to send questions to childrencabinet.mmb@state.mn.us or call us at 651-259-3636.

Thank you,

Erin Bailey, Executive Director, Governor's Children's Cabinet

On behalf of participating agency leaders and staff

Contact Us.

Website: www.mn.gov/childrencabinet

Email: childrencabinet.MMB@state.mn.us