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LOUISIANA OPENS CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO CRITICAL PERSONNEL AMID COVID-19 OUTBREAK

Program Allows Eligible Families to Access Subsidized Care for Children Age 12 and Under

BATON ROUGE, La. -- In response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) today opened the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) to support essential critical infrastructure personnel. By simply completing [an application](#), these families can access subsidized care for children age 12 and under at licensed childcare centers participating in the program, or through registered and certified family childcare and in-home providers.

The [Governor's emergency proclamation](#) to close all school facilities to students through at least April 13, 2020, did not include childcare and early learning centers. Early learning centers make individual decisions about whether to close their businesses. However, updated directives from the Governor's Office and health officials have advised limiting group sizes to 10 or fewer children and adults.

"If you can keep your children at home, please do so," said Acting State Superintendent Beth Scioneaux, echoing [guidance from the Louisiana Department of Health](#). "But we must ensure affordable access to childcare for those who are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 response effort. Opening CCAP to critical personnel is necessary and important as we fight the spread of COVID-19."

Effective today, families of essential critical infrastructure workers are eligible for CCAP, and their applications will be expedited. [Essential critical infrastructure workers](#) belong to the following industries:

- HealthCare/Public Health
- Law Enforcement, Public Safety, First Responders
- Food and Agriculture
- Energy (electrical industry, petroleum, natural and propane gas workers)

- Waste and Wastewater
- Transportation and Logistics
- Public Works
- Communications and Information Technology
- Other Community-Based Government
- Critical Manufacturing
- Hazardous Materials

Interested families must complete the [CCAP Pandemic Protective Services Crisis Application](#).

Upon approval, initial certification will be valid for 30 days. If the public health crisis continues beyond 30 days, the LDOE will reassess applications.

[Access the CCAP Pandemic Protective Services Crisis Application.](#)

[View subsidy rates.](#)