



## Child Care Hot Topics

### Topic 1: Financial Supports During Coronavirus

Hello Child Care Providers,

Across Minnesota and the nation, individuals and families are struggling with the economic downturn. We know that childcare providers have been hit especially hard. The information below is designed to help you navigate meeting your financial needs now, and for long-term sustainability.

The work you do provides indescribable value that ripples across Scott County and the State of Minnesota. We are grateful for you and are here to support you. Please reach out to your licensor with any questions, and keep up to date on all things child care in Minnesota by visiting: <https://mn.gov/childcare/>.

-- Child Care Licensing Team

#### State Resources and Guidance

- [Minnesota Peacetime Emergency Childcare Grant Application](#): Grant amounts will vary between \$4,500 and \$21,000/month; and will be distributed in April, May and June as funding is available or until the peacetime emergency has ended. Here is a list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) to help you navigate this process.
- [Child Care Assistance Program Waivers-Provider Memo](#): This memo provides information for child care providers about temporary policy modifications, along with reminders of existing policies.
- [Minnesota Unemployment Insurance](#): Minnesota is one of the first states in the nation to implement both the \$600 per week additional compensation and the 13 week extension of benefits (PEUC) available under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES).
- The Minnesota Department of Education will ensure children and programs who receive early learning scholarships will continue being served and funded.
  - ✓ Absent days will not be counted towards the 25 maximum absent days policy in order for families to make individual decisions that are best for their families.
  - ✓ Programs that temporarily close due to response to COVID-19 mitigation, regardless of program type, will have closure days waived for the duration of the crisis.
  - ✓ As funds allow, a child's scholarship temporarily may be increased if the program regularly attended closes, and the child attends another eligible program as back-up.
  - ✓ Learn more by reading page 19 of the [School Closure Guidance](#) document.

#### Federal Resources

- Child care providers may also be eligible for business loans, including the [Federal Small Business Administration COVID 19 Disaster Loans](#).
- The federal Coronavirus Aid, Response and Economic Security (CARES) Act has provisions that expand
  - ✓ The [Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loans](#) (allows a \$10k grant upfront regardless if you take a loan – apply at [SBA.gov/disaster](https://www.sba.gov/disaster))
  - ✓ The new [Paycheck Protection Program](#) (with certain conditions can be forgiven; apply directly through participating lenders), for which providers may be eligible.
- [SBA Resource Partners](#) are available to help with no-cost, one-on-one business counseling regarding COVID-19.

#### Other Resources

- [Minnesota Initiative Foundation Grant](#): Open to support child care programs in Greater Minnesota
- [Think Small Grant](#): Available for eligible licensed family child care programs in the seven-county metropolitan area.
- [An Update on the Financial Impact of the COVID-19 on Family Child Care Providers](#): In this article, Tom Copeland shares information about the impact of COVID-19 on the economy, and available resources.

