



Emergency Child Care Guidance

For First Responders, Emergency Workers, Health Care Professionals, and other Essential Workers

First and foremost, thank you to each worker on the front lines of this public health emergency. We wish health and safety for you and your loved ones. There are many of you needing child care right now to enable you to get to work; here is what you need to know:

- **Reach out to 211** for up-to-date information on the emergency child care programs operating in our region. To receive a customized referral to emergency child care programs contact 211info by:
 - Calling 211. **Listen to the prompt for Child Care** and press the specified number.
 - Texting the keyword “children” or “niños” to 898211 (TXT211).
 - Emailing children@211info.org .
 - Visiting the website to complete a request: <https://orm.naccraware.net/orm/ormSearch>

Hours: Monday – Friday: 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday – Sunday: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Licensed child care providers have until Friday, March 27th to enroll as emergency child care programs. All other child care programs are ordered to close. **211 will be up-to-date soon.** The guidance is that if workers *can* stay home, they *should* stay home. This emergency child care is truly for those who cannot stay home.

Emergency child care may also be offered by some employers, in some public schools, or by other entities. There may be options to have child care provided in your home. Please call 211 for referral options and check the Early Learning Division website frequently for the most current information: <https://oregonearlylearning.com/COVID-19-Resources>

- **What will emergency child care cost?** This will vary by program. Some programs may have funding that can offset the cost for families and others do not and must charge families in order to pay their staff. You will need to inquire with individual child care programs regarding out of pocket expenses. If you are unable to pay for child care, please visit www.oregon.gov/DHS/ASSISTANCE/CHILD-CARE/ to see if your family qualifies for Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) Subsidy.
- **Essential Worker Definition:** see the comprehensive definition set forth by U.S. Department of Homeland Security <https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CISA-Guidance-on-Essential-Critical-Infrastructure-Workers-1-20-508c.pdf> Workers included in this definition are eligible for emergency child care.
- **To stay up-to-date on the latest emergency child care actions,** visit Oregon Early Learning Division’s website and click the links for family and for emergency child care: <https://oregonearlylearning.com/COVID-19-Resources>

We appreciate your patience while this response system gets mobilized and we are truly grateful for all of your efforts for the citizens of Southern Oregon.

