



Updated April 28, 2020

## **Child Care and COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions for Businesses**

*Note: This information will be updated frequently. Please check back regularly for updates.*

**My business is preparing to re-open after May 1, 2020. Many of my employees will need child care for their children. How can families find child care?**

Care About Childcare is Utah's child care resource and referral system, and is available to help families locate child care for their children. Families can contact Care About Childcare at [careaboutchildcare.utah.gov](https://careaboutchildcare.utah.gov). If your employee does not have access to the internet, please have them call 1-800-670-1552.

**Are there resources available to my employees to help cover the costs of child care, which is a new expense for them now that school is closed?**

Workforce Services provides child care assistance to working families to help offset the cost of child care. Specific income limits and work requirements must be met. During this time, Workforce Services has temporarily increased the income limits to qualify for child care assistance. This will allow more families to qualify for child care assistance.

To apply online, go to [jobs.utah.gov/mycase](https://jobs.utah.gov/mycase).

**Can I establish temporary child care for my employees?**

Yes.

### **If I set up temporary child care, what process do I need to follow? Is there someone I need to notify?**

If you are setting up a temporary child care program and you are not charging your employees for child care during this time, you do not need to contact anyone. In that situation, employers should follow their own procedures and policies for establishing the temporary program.

However, if you plan to establish a temporary child care for which you will be charging employees, this is 'child care' by law and you will need to contact Child Care Licensing for more information at 888-287-3704 or [childcarelicensing.utah.gov](http://childcarelicensing.utah.gov). Although many requirements will be waived during this time, there are others that will still apply. Child Care Licensing can support you through that process and answer any questions.

### **What are the health and safety requirements I need to meet for temporary child care?**

Child Care Licensing developed materials for businesses that plan to establish temporary child care for employees during this time. These resources include the minimum health and safety requirements that businesses should meet when establishing a temporary child care program for which you are not planning to charge families. Those materials are available on the Child Care Licensing website, [childcarelicensing.utah.gov/EmergencyChildcare](http://childcarelicensing.utah.gov/EmergencyChildcare).

### **What resources are available for businesses that are considering establishing temporary child care for employees?**

The following resources are available at [health.utah.gov/licensing/EmergencyChildcare.html](http://health.utah.gov/licensing/EmergencyChildcare.html)

1. Facility Application
2. Emergency Child Care Manual
3. Emergency Child Care Provider Pre-service training video
4. Emergency Child Care Caregiver Pre-service training video
5. Instructions on submitting background checks
6. Emergency Child Care Inspection Checklist

In addition to these resources, you can call the Office of Child Care at 801-842-7072 with questions. You should also contact Child Care Licensing at 888-287-3704 before starting the process.

**Will the state provide other resources to businesses that establish temporary child care for employees?**

At this time, the state's resources are being utilized to address the child care needs of first responders and health care professionals to ensure the safety of Utah citizens. As a result, there are no resources available for businesses to establish temporary child care. Instead, the state of Utah encourages families to first seek care from friends, families and others in their community.

**Where should I be sending parents who have a child care need following school or child care program closures?**

Utah families are strongly encouraged to first try to arrange care from friends, families and others in their community who may not be working. The capacity of the child care system and any temporary child care programs that will be set up during this time will be focused on meeting the needs of the state's essential employees, such as first responders, health care professionals and others working to meet the public health and safety needs of Utah's sick and vulnerable residents.

If formal child care is the only option for families, direct them to Care About Childcare at [caraboutchildcare.utah.gov](http://caraboutchildcare.utah.gov) for assistance finding childcare. If the family does not have access to the internet, please have them call 1-800-670-1552.

**What financial resources are available for parents to help offset the cost of child care expenses?**

Child care assistance is available through Workforce Services. The household must meet specific income and work requirements. It may not cover the full cost of care but it will help. For more information, visit [jobs.utah.gov/occ/parent/overview](http://jobs.utah.gov/occ/parent/overview).