



EMPLOYMENT &
HUMAN SERVICES

MEMORANDUM

Kathy Gallagher, Director

40 Douglas Drive, Martinez, CA 94553 • (925) 608-5000 • Fax (925) 313-9748 • www.ehsd.org

To: All Staff, Code 2A

Date: April 30, 2020

From: Tish Gallegos, Community/Media Relations

Subject: County Mail Broadcast - Reminder: COVID-19 Emergency Child Care Still Available to Support County

Spaces are still available for children of Contra Costa County essential workers, who are on the frontlines of responding to the COVID-19 health crisis. You may be eligible for free or low cost child care through the County's Emergency Child Care Program. Follow this link for more information:

[COVID-19 Emergency Child Care Flier & Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Coronavirus (COVID-19)



Supporting Medical Staff, First Responders and Essential Workers

If you are an essential worker on the frontlines of responding to the COVID-19 health crisis, you may be eligible for free or low-cost child care through the Contra Costa County Emergency Child Care Program.

Emergency Child Care supports healthcare workers and first responders living or working in Contra Costa County. Other disaster service and essential workers may be eligible as more spaces become available.

- Preschool and school age care
- Full day care available
- In-home care for those eligible
- Rich educational curriculum with distance learning support for school age
- Fully-qualified and trained early care & education professionals
- Small group settings
- Care available in East, Central and West County
- Care is aligned with CDC COVID-19 and Health Department childcare guidelines
- Admission priorities are in accordance with state and county guidelines for health and education during COVID-19

Go to CocoKids.org, click on the **Emergency Child Care For Essential Workers** banner to complete a request or learn more about private providers that are open for child care.

Drop-in child care not available. Currently, Emergency Child Care is not open to the general public.

For questions, contact Candy Duperroir at candy.duperroir@cocokids.org.





COVID-19 Emergency Child Care Frequently Asked Questions

As an essential worker on the frontlines of responding to the COVID-19 health crisis, you may be eligible for the **Contra Costa County Emergency Child Care Program**. To support your family and ensure you have child care that enables you to continue serving in the fight against COVID-19, a limited number of child care spaces are available.

How will I know if I qualify as an essential worker?

The County's Emergency Child Care program supports the needs of frontline County health workers, including doctors, nurses, respiratory practitioners, staff members involved in direct patient care, disaster service workers, social workers and all workers providing essential services. See the State Public Health Officer's designation of [Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers](#).

Are there spaces available for all children needing child care?

Spaces are available for infants and children up to school age, whose primary caregivers are medical and other essential workers living or working in Contra Costa County, and for vulnerable children and teens, specifically youth who are homeless, at risk of abuse or neglect and those in the foster care system. Emergency Child Care is not currently open to the general public.

Who will provide the care?

Fully qualified early care and educational professionals in existing centers and family child care homes will provide care in small group settings of up to 10 children. These staff members have the essential training and necessary supplies to maintain the health and safety of children, families and child care workers.

Where are the child care sites located, and what hours are they open?

Child-care centers and family child-care homes throughout the County are available for Emergency Child Care. Hours vary by location.

How will I know if I qualify for in-home care?

In-home care through the "Family, Friend and Neighbor" program may be available for those who are eligible. As the program administrator, [CocoKids](#) can provide more information.

What about social distancing and other safety precautions?

All classrooms will follow guidance for social distancing, maintaining group sizes of no more than 10 children who remain in their same groups each day, as well as sanitation and hygiene. These health and safety practices align with County Health Officer, Community Care Licensing and the Center for Disease Control guidance for child care centers.

Is there a fee for services?

Child care is free or offered at low cost. Generally, there are no family fees. However a family co-pay may be required if the provider charges above the regional market rate for child care.

CocoKids, the resource and referral agency administering the program, can help you determine if your costs are covered or if there is a fee involved.

How many spaces are available countywide?

Currently, there are several hundred emergency child-care spaces available through center-based, family child care and in-home care.

Is drop-in care an option?

No. Drop-in child care is not available at any location.

How do I apply/register for Emergency Child Care?

Go to [CocoKids.org](https://www.cocokids.org) and click on the Emergency Child Care for Essential Workers banner to complete a request, or learn more about providers that are open for child care. CocoKids is the Emergency Child Care administrator, and is handling all enrollment and placement.

How does CocoKids make the child care placements?

As Contra Costa County's resource and referral agency, CocoKids serves as the conduit between providers and families, supporting parents/guardians in finding care that best fits their needs such as preferences, location and other considerations. If you have additional questions, contact Candy Duperroir at candy.duperroir@cocokids.org.

Contra Costa County COVID-19 Emergency Child Care is a collaborative led by the Employment and Human Services Department (EHSD) in partnership with County Office of Education (CCCOE), First 5 Contra Costa, CocoKids, EHSD's Community Services Bureau (CSB), the Local Childcare Planning Council and Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS).

For purposes of enrollment, admission priorities are in accordance with the State Public Health Officer's designation of [Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers](#), [California Department of Education Management Bulletin 20-06 – Early Learning and Care Division](#), and [Contra Costa County Health Officer Order](#) for Modified Childcare During COVID-19 Pandemic.

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Programa de Emergencia para el Cuidado Infantil



Apoyando al Personal Médico, Personal de Primeros Auxilios y Trabajadores Necesarios

Si eres un trabajador necesario en primera línea respondiendo a la crisis de salud por el COVID-19, puede que seas elegible para servicios gratis o de bajo costo para el cuidado de niños a través del Programa de Emergencia para el Cuidado de Niños del Condado de Contra Costa.

El Cuidado Infantil de Emergencia apoya a los trabajadores del sector de salud y primeros auxilios que viven o trabajan en el Condado de Contra Costa. Otros trabajadores necesarios y de servicios de desastre pueden ser elegibles mientras haya espacio disponible.

- Cuidado pre-escolar y niños de edad escolar
- Cuidado de día completo disponible
- Cuidado en el hogar para quienes califiquen
- Plan de estudios con apoyo a distancia para la edad escolar
- Profesionales de educación y cuidado inicial muy calificados y bien capacitados
- Grupos pequeños
- Cuidado disponible en las ciudades del Este, Centro y Oeste del condado
- El cuidado va de acuerdo con las pautas del CDC COVID-19 y el Departamento de Salud
- Las prioridades de admisión van de acuerdo con las pautas de salud y educación estatales y del condado durante el COVID-19

Visite CocoKids.org, seleccione Cuidado Infantil de Emergencia para Trabajadores Necesarios y llene una solicitud, o aprenda más sobre proveedores particulares que están disponibles para el cuidado de niños.

No está disponible dejar a niños de repente y sin tener un espacio designado para su hijo(s). Por el momento, el Cuidado Infantil de Emergencia no está abierto al público.

Si tiene preguntas, comuníquese con Candy Duperroir a candy.duperroir@cocokids.org.

