

Dear
Child Care Providers,

As

a child care business, your services are not only essential, but critical to the families of other essential workers who continue to serve the community during the state of emergency. We thank you for keeping your doors open to safely care for the children of these families, as we work together to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Now

more than ever, your partnership and service is needed to support first responders, critical health care workers, and essential public sector employees. In response to COVID-19, the Governor's Office has established a website

Arizona Enrichment Centers

to serve as a centralized, statewide hub of care options that are available for infants, toddlers, and children. Additionally, the website will serve as a centralized repository for capacity, supplies, and volunteer needs for care providers and community organizations. The ultimate goal is to connect families with licensed child care providers and additional resources, and ensure that providers can continue to safely care for these children.

You

are receiving this email because you responded to the CCR&R survey and answered that you are willing to remain open to provide care and support for the children of essential personnel. Since you are a licensed child care provider, even if you are not DES contracted, you may be eligible to become an Arizona Enrichment Center and receive public monies made available to Arizona for the purposes of providing priority access and care to children of first responders, critical healthcare workers, and essential public sector employees.

We

plan that in the next few days the Arizona Enrichment Centers website will go live and registration for these critical frontline employees seeking priority care for their children will be available. All priority families that register will be assisted in finding the appropriate care for their children. A limited number of child care scholarships for care will also be available for eligible employees for children 12 years of age or younger that are cared for in a licensed child care setting.

If

you wish to participate as an Arizona Enrichment Center and accept scholarship families, you must:

Be an Arizona licensed child care facility,
group home, or DES Certified Family Child Care home in good standing.

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Provide child care services for children
of COVID-19 critical function workers as part of the Arizona Enrichment Centers initiative.

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Follow the CDC guidelines, ADHS guidelines,
and any future COVID-19-related recommendations and guidance issued by the CDC and/or
ADHS.

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Report weekly capacity information so that
the supply and demand for child care services can be monitored.

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Provide care at no additional cost to the
families approved to receive the child care scholarship for first responders and emergency
personnel, as the reimbursement is intended to cover all costs of care for eligible families.

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Please

note that the Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected Executive Order

[2020-18](#)

***includes an exemption for day care centers providing care for individuals serving in any
essential services category.***

Arizona
Enrichment Center Provider Registration:

In order to participate as an Arizona Enrichment Center and accept scholarship families, you must be willing to sign the *DES Arizona Enrichment Centers Initiative Participation Agreement*. You can review and sign the agreement here: <https://des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care>

1.

Check the [CCR&R](#) website to make sure that your child care center is listed and your hours of operation are accurate.

2.

Once you are registered as an Arizona Enrichment Center partner, your information will also be loaded on the *Arizona Enrichment Centers* website

3.

On a weekly basis, we ask that you provide us with a weekly report informing us of your capacity to host additional children, any needs for supplies or requests for volunteers. We will then do our best to match resources with available needs.

4.

For additional information on how the program works, please visit the Arizona Enrichment Centers website once it is live. If you have any questions regarding the *DES Arizona Enrichment Centers Initiative Participation Agreement*, please email CCAContracts@azdes.gov.

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Lela Wendell
Program Administrator
Child Care Administration
Department of Economic Security
1789 W Jefferson Street, Mail Drop 5471
Phoenix, AZ 85007

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