



Child Care Application and Authorization Program for First Responders and Health Care Workers

The Office of Early Learning along with local Early Learning Coalitions has provided child care and early learning services to more than 20,000 children of first responders and health care workers to help support Florida's response to COVID-19. Below is important information for families seeking to enroll or re-enroll their children in this program.

Employer referral required. First responders and health care workers should obtain a Child Care Application and Authorization (CCAA) form from their Human Resources office.

New applications for enrollment must be submitted by July 31, 2020. No new referrals will be accepted after July 31, 2020. First responders and essential health care worker families receiving services prior to July 31, 2020, may continue to receive services upon employer referral renewal.

Parent copayments based on income. Parent copayments may continue to be waived for the duration of the referral. If a referral is not renewed, the originally assessed parent copayment may be reinstated once the referral authorization date expires.

Understand all the options. If a referral is not renewed and the family's income is less than 85% of the State Median Income (SMI), the family will have three months to re-establish eligibility to continue to receive child care services. Families with higher incomes will no longer be able to participate as the state focuses on serving those families with the highest need.

Provider bonuses continue. Providers serving children of first responders and essential health care workers will continue receiving the applied bonuses while they are continuing to serve eligible families or until they have reached the maximum amount in funding.

Child Care Resource and Referral
Florida's Child Care Resource and Referral Services can help your family by providing:

-  A customized list of local child care options from trained child care resource and referral specialists.
-  Information about quality child care and early learning programs.
-  Financial assistance strategies and
-  Referrals to other community resources and

