



ASSEMBLYWOMAN • DISTRICT 80

**LORENA**  
Gonzalez ★

**CORONAVIRUS**  
CHILD CARE UPDATES



## **Child Care Help is Available for Essential Workers and At-Risk Populations**

We are still grappling with the fallout from the coronavirus pandemic, including how California can provide parents with adequate child care while schools are closed. On April 10, the governor announced a plan to support essential workers and at-risk populations by providing subsidized child care services through June 30.

On April 17, San Diego County's two Alternative Payment Program agencies, Child Development Associates (CDA) and YMCA Childcare Resource Service, received a \$ 5.1 million share of state funding for emergency child care services. **This amounts to an estimated 2,664 children in San Diego County who will be provided two months of free child care services.**

In this email?

- **Who is eligible for priority enrollment in state-subsidized child care programs?**
- **How can families get the financial assistance?**

**Who is eligible for priority enrollment in state-subsidized child care programs?**

**At-risk populations:** Children who are at risk of being neglected or abused, or recipients of child protective services, will still have priority for subsidized child care in the following order of priority:

1. Children receiving Child Protective Services or at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation
2. Children eligible through the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children

3. Families experiencing homelessness
4. Children of domestic violence survivors

**Children of essential workers:** Nurses, doctors, grocery store workers, police and other [essential workers](#) , whose total family income does not exceed the current income eligibility threshold (family assets do not exceed \$ 1 million) and are not able to work remotely, now have access to state-subsidized child care in California while schools are closed because of coronavirus. Both parents must be essential workers in order to qualify, or the second parent must be unable to provide care for the child due to incapacitation.

The following is the order of priority:

1. Healthcare / public health and emergency service sectors
2. Food and agriculture, teachers and education staff, providers of early learning and care services including custodial, kitchen staff and other support staff, workers supporting critical infrastructure, state and local government workers, communications and IT, energy, transportation and logistics, critical manufacturing, hazardous materials, financial services, and chemical sectors
3. All other fields listed as [essential workers](#) .

**Families with children with disabilities or special health care needs :** Those with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) or Individualized Family Services Plans (IFSPs), including early learning and care services.

### **How can families get the financial assistance?**

Under San Diego County's Alternative Payment Program, families receive subsidy vouchers to get care from the child care provider of the parents' choice. This includes services from licensed child care centers or family child care homes, or license-exempt caregivers, such as friends or relatives who provide in-home care. Payments will be made directly to the child care provider.

**Families of essential workers and at-risk populations can apply online at [San Diego for Every Child](#) to receive financial assistance for child care through June 30, 2020. Apply directly [here](#) or [here in Spanish](#) .** Families will be contacted by the

San Diego County's Child Development Associates or the YMCA Childcare Resource Service within three business days or receiving their application.

Please contact the Child Care Referral Line at 1 (800) 481-2151 or email [myreferral@ymca.org](mailto:myreferral@ymca.org) to get a list of child care providers. This will speed up your approval for child care subsidies.

Although the financial assistance is available for essential workers and at-risk populations, anyone else can call the [YMCA Childcare Resource Service](#) at 1 (800) 481-2151 or [visit their webpage](#) for child care referrals and receive the same service. Advisors are available Monday through Friday, from 8 am - 5 pm, and Saturday through Sunday, from 8 am - 12 pm

**My office remains open to serve constituents of Mid-City and South San Diego County and provide updates on important resources.** To speak to someone over the phone, contact my District Office during regular business hours, Monday-Friday: (619) 338-8090. To reach someone by email, contact [Assemblymember.Gonzalez @ assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Gonzalez@assembly.ca.gov) .

You can find the latest information on [a variety of available local and state resources on my website](#) .

Stay safe. We will get through this together.

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### **Child Care Help Is Available For Essential Workers And Populations At Risk**

We are still grappling with the consequences of the coronavirus pandemic, including how California can provide parents with adequate child care while schools are closed. On April 10, the Governor announced a plan to support essential workers and at-risk populations with subsidized child care services through June 30.

On April 17, the two San Diego County Alternative Payment Program agencies, Child Development Associates (CDA) and YMCA Child Resources Service, received a \$ 1.5 million

share of state funds for emergency child care services. **This means that an estimated 2,664 children in San Diego County will receive two months of free child care services.** Assistance for available child care spaces is already filling up in our community, but if you qualify, please [complete this online questionnaire](#) to add them to a waiting list and notify you when the spaces open.

**In this email?**

- **Who is eligible for priority enrollment in state-subsidized child care programs?**
- **How can families get financial assistance?**

### **Who is eligible for priority enrollment in state-subsidized child care programs?**

**Populations at risk:** Children who are at risk of being neglected or abused, or beneficiaries of child protective services, will continue to have priority for subsidized child care in the following order of priority:

1. Children who receive child protective services or are at risk of abuse, neglect or exploitation
2. Eligible children through the Foster Child Emergency Bridge Care Program
3. Homeless families
4. Child survivors of domestic violence

**Children of essential workers:** Nurses, doctors, grocery workers, police, and other [essential workers](#), whose total family income does not exceed income eligibility (family assets do not exceed \$ 1 million) and cannot work remotely, now have access to state-subsidized child care in California while schools are closed due to coronavirus. Both parents must be essential workers to qualify, or the second parent must be unable to care for the child due to disability.

The following is the order of priority:

1. The health / public health and emergency services sectors
2. Food and agriculture staff, teachers and education, early care and learning service providers, including custodial, kitchen and other support staff, state and local government, communications and IT workers, energy, transportation and logistics, crypto manufacturing, hazardous materials, financial services, and chemicals.
3. All others listed as [essential workers](#).

**Families with disabilities or special health care needs:** Those with Individualized Education Plans (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSP), including early learning and care services.

### **How can families get financial assistance?**

Under the San Diego County Alternative Payment Program, families receive subsidy vouchers to receive care from the child care provider of their parents' choice. This includes services from licensed child care centers or family child care homes, or license-exempt caregivers, such as friends or relatives who provide home care. Payments will be made directly to the child care provider.

**Families of essential workers and populations at risk can apply online through [San Diego for Every Child](#) to receive emergency child care services until June 30, 2020. Apply directly [here](#) or [here in Spanish](#).**

Child care assistance spaces are already full in our community, but if you qualify, please complete [this online questionnaire](#) to add it to a waiting list and notify you when the spaces open. YMCA or CDA will contact families within three business days after receiving their request.

Please contact the Child Care Referral line at 1 (800) 481-2151 or by email at [myreferral@ymca.org](mailto:myreferral@ymca.org) for a list of child care providers. Having a provider will speed up your approval for the child care subsidy.

Although financial assistance is available to essential workers and populations at risk, anyone else can call the [YMCA Child Care Resource Service](#) at 1 (800) 481-2151 or [visit their website](#) for child care referrals and receive the same service. Advisors are available Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm, and Saturday through Sunday, 8 am to 12 pm The state of

California has also announced a new website tool. [MyChildCare.ca.gov](http://MyChildCare.ca.gov) , which is an interactive map of qualified licensed child care providers near you. The tool is available in English and Spanish.

**My office remains open to serve the constituents of Mid-City and South San Diego County and provide important resources.** To speak to someone on the phone, call my District Office during regular business hours, Monday-Friday: (619) 338-8090. To contact someone via email: [Assemblymember.Gonzalez @ assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Gonzalez@assembly.ca.gov) .

You can find the latest information on various available state and local resources by [visiting my website](#) .

Take care. Together we will overcome this.

Sincerely,



Lorena Gonzalez  
Assemblymember, 80th District

[visit MY WEBSITE](#)

[send ME AN EMAIL](#)

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