

# Essential Workers Seeking Child Care

For as long as the COVID-19 public health emergency continues, emergency child care will be available **only** to “essential workers” (as identified in Gov. [Pritzker’s Executive Order 10](#)). These emergency child care sites—in both homes and centers—will be the only child care legally allowed to operate during the COVID19 State of Emergency.

Child care homes may serve up to six children of essential workers, while child care centers will be able to apply for emergency child care licenses to serve up to 10 children in one room and may be located in schools, community-based organizations such as churches and social services organizations, or health care facilities.

## Child Care Help:

- A dedicated help line has been created so Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&Rs) can help connect essential worker families to emergency child care.
- If you are an essential worker as identified in Executive Order 10, you can call toll-free (888) 228-1146 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday for an answer, or leave a message 24 hours a day.
- To find emergency child care in your area, visit COVID-19 Emergency Provider Search: [EmergencyCare.inccrra.org](https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/OECD/Pages/COVID-19.aspx).

## Other Resources:

- Governor’s Office of Early Childhood Development (GOECD) COVID-19 webpage: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/OECD/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>.
- Governor’s COVID-19 Response website: [coronavirus.illinois.gov](https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/OECD/Pages/COVID-19.aspx).
- If you have any questions, you can email [gov.oecd@illinois.gov](mailto:gov.oecd@illinois.gov).
- Office of Early Childhood Development website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/OECD/Pages/For-Communities.aspx>.

