



Prioritization of Children of Families Working in Critical Sectors

Summer Programming & Child Care

NOTE: This document is no longer current. For current guidance, please see the [School-Age Care Guidance and Frequently Asked Questions for the 2020-21 School Year](#) document

Care for children of critical sector workers has been crucial for the state's frontline workers to confront the COVID-19 pandemic. As such the Administration continues to encourage schools, child care, and all child and youth programming to prioritize critical sector families in their enrollment. However, nothing prevents care and programming to be provided to children outside of critical sectors as long as public health guidance is followed.

Under the Governor's [Executive Order 20-57](#) for the summer school period, school districts and charter schools may provide care and programming to all children but must continue to prioritize onsite care for eligible children of critical workers.

This guidance serves as a clarification for which critical sector workers should be prioritized for summer 2020. (See Appendix A for information regarding care provided by school districts for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year during the Extended Distance Learning Period).

Families seeking child care should visit mn.gov/childcare for a map of licensed providers with current openings for critical sector workers or call 1.888.291.9811 for more information.

Tier 1

School districts, summer programs, and child care programs (including certified and licensed centers and licensed family child care programs) are highly encouraged to plan, advertise and implement options that prioritize the enrollment of children of families in Tier 1.

- Healthcare and public health
- Law enforcement, public safety and first responders
- Food and agriculture
- Judicial Branch (essential services)
- National Guard
- Educators and school staff caring for children of any critical worker
- Child care providers caring for children of any critical worker

Tier 2

Following Tier 1, school districts, summer programs, and child care programs (including certified and licensed centers and licensed family child care programs) are next encouraged to enroll children of workers in Tier 2 based on community workforce needs and local staffing and space considerations.

- Energy
- Water and Wastewater
- Transportation and logistics
- Public works and infrastructure support services
- Communications and information technology
- Other community-based government operations and essential functions
- Critical manufacturing
- Hazardous materials
- Financial services
- Chemical
- Defense industrial base
- Charitable and social services organizations
- Residential/shelter facilities and services
- State workers essential to the continuation of Minnesota Unemployment Insurance

Tier 3

Following Tier 1 and Tier 2, school districts, summer programs, and child care programs (including certified and licensed centers and licensed family child care programs) are next encouraged to enroll children of workers in Tier 3 based on community workforce needs and local staffing and space considerations.

- Tribal Governments
- Executive Branch (priority services), including state workers essential to the continuation of Minnesota Unemployment Insurance
- Executive Constitutional Offices (essential personnel)
- Legislative Branch (essential services)
- Federal employees
- Faith leaders and workers
- Construction and critical trades
- Hotels, residential facilities and shelters
- Legal services
- Notaries
- Critical Labor Union Functions
- Laundry and Hygiene Products and Services
- Animal care and veterinarians
- Real Estate Transactions
- Commercial Facilities/Essential Supply Stores
- Minimum Basic Operations

Nothing prevents care and programming from being provided to children outside of critical sectors. MDH public health guidance must be implemented and followed, as well as any licensing and any other regulatory rules typically required.

Appendix A

The information below applies only to the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year (Extended Distance Learning period under Executive Order 20-41).

School districts and charters are to provide care, at a minimum, to district enrolled students age 12 and under who are Eligible Children.

School districts and charters are required to provide care for children of workers in the following **Tier 1** areas.

Tier 1

- Healthcare and public health
- Law enforcement, public safety and first responders
- Food and agriculture
- Judicial Branch (essential services)
- National Guard
- Educators and school staff providing care for critical workers in Tier 1 or Tier 2
- Childcare providers caring for children of any critical worker in the Governor's Executive Order

School districts are encouraged to provide care for children of workers in Tier 2. The **Tier 2** list is provided below.

Tier 2

- Energy
- Water and Wastewater
- Transportation and logistics
- Public works and infrastructure support services
- Communications and information technology
- Other community-based government operations and essential functions
- Critical manufacturing
- Hazardous materials
- Financial services
- Chemical
- Defense industrial base
- Charitable and social services organizations
- Residential/shelter facilities and services
- State workers essential to the continuation of Minnesota Unemployment Insurance

The school-age care for children of these workers is intended for extreme circumstances in which no parent or guardian is available to care for a child due to employment as a critical worker.