

Companion Document for Critical\Essential Service Workers and Licensed Child Care Supports



The Government of Yukon and the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) would like to thank all licensed child-care providers and early childhood educators in Yukon for supporting children and families during Yukon's COVID-19 response. Their dedication is much appreciated during these challenging times.

The CMOH has directed that we reduce the number of children in licensed child care, to keep our children safe by reducing the risk of transmitting the virus. However, we still need to ensure that child care services are available to critical or essential workers who are performing vital services at this time.

This document has been created to assist parents and child-care providers in determining who are critical and essential workers, so they can make the right decisions about who will receive child care services.

At this time, we are asking all parents and guardians who normally access licensed child care and who are working from home, or whose occupation is not considered critical or essential, to keep their children at home.

This will help us ensure that children whose parents are employed as critical or essential service workers will have continued access to licensed child care during the COVID-19 response.

Staff from Yukon's Child Care Services Unit will work with child-care operators on an ongoing basis to monitor who is using the spaces in our licensed programs to ensure that the directions of the CMOH are being followed.

Critical and essential workers include:

- Early childhood educators
- Health and social services workers including caregivers that are required to support the COVID-19 response
- Those who are critical to providing life saving services including Emergency Medical Services
- Food and medicine services
- Information and communication technology
- Energy and utilities
- Transportation required for the COVID-19 response
- Safety
- Government required to support the COVID-19 response
- Other services as assessed by Child Care Services Unit

Those not eligible for licensed child care at this time include:

- Students
- People working from home, such as accountants, consultants and counselors
- Other workers who are not critical\essential to providing those essential services as required to support Yukon's operations

Also on the advice of the CMOH, we ask that parents and guardians make no un-scheduled drop-offs at any child-care facility.

Details about Government of Yukon's financial support for child-care operators is available online at yukon.ca/child-care-centres-and-family-day-homes.

Child care centres and family day home operators can reach out their child-care inspector if they have any questions or concerns.

Parents or guardians can contact the Child Care Services Unit at 867-667-3492 or childcare@gov.yk.ca if they have any questions or concerns.

This COVID-19 response plan and its associated processes will be reviewed regularly and changed or updated accordingly.