

# CORONAVIRUS GUIDANCE

## *Child Care Information for Families*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, schools across the state of Kansas have closed for the remainder of the school year. In addition, many child care providers have closed temporarily, as well as many businesses. With those closures, many parents are staying home with their children. However, many parents must still work, and often must work additional hours above and beyond their normal work hours. To assist families based upon their individual situation, the Kansas Department for Children and Families is offering the following assistance for families receiving child care assistance.

1. For families working additional hours, additional child care hours may be authorized. Please contact your local DCF service center to report your change in hours worked.
2. Families whose child care assistance is due to be reviewed for benefits to continue in April, May, June or July will have an additional 12-month eligibility period authorized automatically at the same benefit level as before. If your child care assistance was already reviewed for April benefits, you will receive notification as usual regarding your new benefits. If you have had an increase in work hours, or if your income has gone down, let your local DCF service center know so we can review to see if we can adjust your benefits to better serve your needs.
3. During the months of March, April, May, June or July of 2020, DCF will delay taking action on some child care cases that normally would close. A family's regular income must remain under 85% of the State Median Income (SMI) in order to remain eligible for child care. You can find the current SMI for your household size on any approval notice that you receive for child care with plans starting in April 2020. This information can also be found at [http://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/ees/Pages/Child\\_Care/ChildCareSubsidy.aspx](http://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/ees/Pages/Child_Care/ChildCareSubsidy.aspx).

If you have questions about any of these, contact your local DCF office.

Additional resources:

If you need help finding available child care, visit Child Care Aware of Kansas at <https://www.ks.childcareaware.org/> or call toll free: 1-877-678-2548.

For more information about COVID-19 and what is happening in local communities go to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's website at the following link: <https://govstatus.egov.com/coronavirus>.