



Office of Children and Family Services

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

SHEILA J. POOLE
Commissioner

Dear Child Care Provider:

The Governor's recent Executive Order, EO 202.6, as well as the associated guidance issued by the Empire State Development Corporation, sets forth in-person work restrictions, effective as of March 20, 2020 at 8 pm, and until further notice. These restrictions require all businesses and nonprofit entities utilize telecommuting and work from home procedures to the extent possible. However, essential businesses are exempt from these restrictions.

Child care and services needed to ensure the continuing operation of government agencies and provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public are essential services and are therefore exempt from these restrictions.

We are writing to confirm that your child care program, which is licensed, registered, or enrolled with OCFS qualifies for this exemption and may remain in operation to the extent necessary to provide those services. This includes your administrative offices and those employees necessary to support the essential functions of your program's mission.

Don't forget to regularly check the NYS DOH and OCFS websites for the latest guidance on COVID-19 as the outbreak evolves.

<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/providers.htm>

<https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/news/COVID-19/>

The value of the child care services you are providing is immeasurable. Thank you for all you're doing to support children and families during this stressful and challenging time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janice Molnar".

Janice M. Molnar, Ph.D., Deputy Commissioner

Division of Child Care Services