

COVID-19: State Subsidy Payments Summary

In response to COVID-19, the California Departments of Education and Social Services (CDE and CDSS) have released guidance on subsidy payments across different program and subsidy types. In an effort to streamline information, OECE has compiled the following State Subsidy Payments Summary.

Senate Bill 117

On March 17, SB 117 included provisions to ensure continuity of care for children and continuity of payments to state-subsidized early learning and care programs. Specifically, the bill provides authority to issue guidance to waive specific attendance and reporting requirements imposed on state-subsidized early learning and care programs impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19). This waiver authority applies to Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 and the following programs: Alternative Payment Program (CAPP), California State Preschool Program (CSPP), General Child Care (CCTR), Family Child Care Home Education Networks (CFCC), Care for Children with Severe Disabilities (CHAN), and CalWORKs Stages 1, 2, and 3 (C1AP, C2AP, and C3AP) programs. Contractors/providers will be reimbursed using the most recent certified monthly enrollment record or invoice available.

Center-Based Contractor Reimbursement

Center-based contractors (CCTR, CSPP, CMIG, and CHAN) who are closed as a result of the state declared State of Emergency should refer to Management Bulletin 20-06 for emergency closure information. Subsidy payments are guaranteed through June 30, 2020.

State Voucher Reimbursement

Providers reimbursed by Alternative Payment (AP) programs, including California Alternative Payment Program (CAPP) and CalWORKs Stages 1, 2, and 3, must be reimbursed using the most recent monthly attendance record or invoice. Subsidy payments are guaranteed for 30 days to closed programs. The 30day limit applies to center, family child care educators, and license-exempt providers paid through a subsidy voucher from an Alternative Payment program. The 30 days begins on the first day the provider closed and stopped providing child care. AP providers who have already closed for 30 consecutive calendar days cannot be reimbursed for additional operating days of closure during the COVID-19 state of emergency.

Family Child Care Home Education Networks

The CFCC, CCTR, and CSPP contractors who provide services through FCCHENs must continue to pay FCCHEN providers who have closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, using the most recent monthly attendance record or invoice. In instances where FCCHEN providers have closed, CFCC, CCTR, and CSPP contractors must submit an emergency closure request to ensure that reimbursement is not impacted. Contractors who receive reimbursement from CDE for the emergency closure must reimburse the FCCHEN provider according to the normal reimbursement schedule. To continue to receive reimbursement, FCCHEN contractors and family child care educators must continue to meet contractual requirements. The FCCHEN providers who are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and are not able to submit their monthly attendance record or invoice shall be reimbursed based on the certified need of each family. For families certified for a variable schedule, providers shall be reimbursed based on the maximum authorized hours of care.

Continuity of Subsidy Payments:

					CalWORKS	CalWORKS	CalWORKS
CCTR	CSPP	CHAN	CFCC/FCCHEN	CAPP	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
				30 days			
Until	Until	Until		from	30 days	30 days	30 days
June 30,	June 30,	June 30,	Until June 30,	date of	from date	from date	from date
2020	2020	2020	2020	closure	of closure	of closure	of closure

Family Fees

Center-based contractors must immediately suspend collecting any family fees as of April 1, 2020, for the remainder of this FY and must notify families and providers that the fees for April, May, and June have been waived.

Alternative Payment (AP) contractors that require educators to collect family fees directly, must direct providers to suspend collecting these fees. Contractors will reimburse providers fully, without deducting the amount assessed for family fees. Contractors will inform families that fee imposition and collection will be suspended through June 2020.

Senate Bill 117: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB117

Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD) COVID-19 Guidance and Resources web page: <u>https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/elcdcovid19.asp</u>

Management Bulletin 20-05 COVID-19 Guidance: Temporary Waiver of Family Fees: <u>https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/mb2005.asp</u>

Management Bulletin 20-06 COVID-19 Guidance regarding Emergency Childcare Services for Essential Workers and At-Risk Populations: <u>https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/mb2006.asp</u>

Management Bulletin 20-10 COVID-19 Guidance regarding Family Child Care Home Education Networks: <u>https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/mb2010.asp</u>

ELCD Frequently Asked Questions: https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/covid19elcdfaq.asp