



Care for Children of Families Working in Critical Sectors

Under the Governor's [Executive Order 20-20](#) (Directing Minnesotans to Stay Home), workers providing critical services are exempt and able "to travel to and from an individual's place of work and an individual's performance of work duties, including transportation to and from child care or school settings as necessary to ensure the safe care of children".

In addition, under the Governor's [Executive Order 20-19](#) (Distance Learning Period), school districts are "to provide care, at a minimum, to district enrolled students age 12 and under who are eligible children".

The 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.

In order to ensure that we are providing for the needs of our children, this guidance serves as a clarification for which critical sector workers are eligible for care.

Additionally, this guidance can be used by child care providers who are willing to prioritize the needs of these workers during this unprecedented emergency. To find available child care providers open and able to serve critical workers, including many willing to serve school-age children, visit mn.gov/childcare or call 1.888.291.9811.

Please note that many, though not all, critical sector areas in the Governor's Executive Order 20-20 refer directly to the federal [Cybersecurity and Infrastructure and Security Agency \(CISA\) guidelines](#). For questions regarding definitions of the critical worker areas, please review these guidelines, [Executive Order 20-20](#), and <http://mn.gov/deed/critical>.

School Districts and Charter Schools

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

Districts should carefully consider their local community needs related to care for workers beyond those listed in Tier 1. In addition, based on community workforce needs and local staffing and space considerations, 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
- Communications and information technology
- Other community-based government operations and essential workers
- Critical manufacturing
- Hazardous materials
- Financial services
- Chemical
- Defense industrial base
- Charitable and social services organizations
- Shelters for displaced individuals
- State workers essential to the continuation of Minnesota Unemployment Insurance

Childcare Providers

Childcare providers are strongly encouraged to provide care for children of all critical workers. Childcare providers should start with age 0-5 children of workers in Tier 1, then care for any other age 0-5 children of critical workers, and lastly with capacity, provide care to any child 12 and under of critical workers.

Childcare providers should start by providing care to age 0-5 children of these Tier 1 workers:

- 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

Then, childcare providers should care for any other age 0-5 children of critical workers, and lastly with capacity, provide care to any child 12 and under of critical workers. In addition to critical sectors listed above, workers in critical sectors also include:

- Energy
- Water and Wastewater
- Transportation and logistics

- Public works
- Communications and information technology
- Other community-based government operations and essential workers
- Critical manufacturing
- Hazardous materials
- Financial services
- Chemical
- Defense industrial base
- 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
- Shelters for displaced individuals
- Charitable and social services organizations
- Legal services
- Notaries
- Critical Labor Union Functions
- Laundry services
- Animal shelters and veterinarians
- Real Estate Transactions
- Essential Supply Stores