



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES**

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Contract Correspondence Transmittal (CCT)

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The intent of this correspondence is to provide guidance and information concerning COVID-19. The attached Frequently Asked Questions document provides response and guidance to the numerous questions received from providers over the past two weeks. This document will be updated regularly as new questions arise to ensure that all providers receive consistent information in a timely manner.

We have received multiple questions as to whether our residential providers' staff are considered essential employees under the current state of emergency. The Department for Community Based Services acknowledges that Private Child Caring (PCC) and Private Child Placing (PCP) agencies provide essential services to children throughout Kentucky. The PCCs and PCPs are, by contract, an extension of DCBS' critical services to protect children from immediate safety concerns, provide treatment, and ensure wellbeing. These essential services must continue even as other businesses are ceasing operations.

Additionally, the staff of PCC and PCP agencies can access limited duration childcare programs during the temporary childcare closure subject to their availability. This was vetted through the Office of the Secretary and Office of Inspector General of this Cabinet. The limited duration childcare programs are listed on the Office of Inspector General's website.

<https://chfs.ky.gov/Pages/cvres.aspx> There will be prioritization of the limited number of childcare slots available through these programs, as most are to be reserved for essential health care workers, namely those in hospitals responding to COVID-19.

If you have additional questions, please contact Holly Davis at hollyc.davis@ky.gov or Sherry Postlewaite at Sherry.Postlewaite@ky.gov.

