

COVID-19: Targeted Emergency School-Age Child Care for Essential and Critical Service Workers – April 2021

On April 12 the Ministry of Education [announced](#) that all Ontario schools will move to remote learning effective April 19, 2021. Child care for non-school aged children remains open during this time. However, licensed child care programs and authorized recreation programs that serve school age children are required to close effective April 19 per the Ministry of Education. To support parents of school-aged children who are required to work during the school closure, the Ministry of Education is implementing a free, targeted [emergency child care \(ECC\) program for school-aged children](#) of eligible parents.

Applications for all emergency child care programs are being managed by the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board (RRDSSAB).

ELIGIBILITY

Emergency child care is reserved exclusively for school-age children of essential workers who are required to work during the school closure period. **Please note that all parents/guardians living in the household must be working during this period to qualify.** The RRDSSAB reserves the right to ask for employment verification as proof of eligibility.

Emergency child care spaces are available to [essential workers](#) as determined by the Province of Ontario. Exceptions may be granted by the RRDSSAB for special circumstances based on community need and capacity.

It is important to note that there is currently an increase in active COVID-19 cases within the Rainy River District.

DETERMINING PRIORITY ACCESS FOR EMERGENCY CHILD CARE

Please note that if the demand for care exceeds the availability of spaces the RRDSSAB has established a priority list for health care and essential workers.

The RRDSSAB will continue to monitor the need for emergency child care and work with child care providers to expand access to care if needed, where possible. The RRDSSAB reserves the right to reassign priority in terms of determining eligibility for spaces based on the evolving needs of the community and availability of spaces.

APPLICATION

Please complete the attached application to apply for emergency child care. It's important to note that submitting an application does not guarantee a child care space. Families will be contacted by RRDSSAB Children Services staff if more information is required and to notify you of your eligibility. The child care centre will contact families when a space is available for your child(ren).