

PHILIP D. MURPHY Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER *Lt. Governor* State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT PO BOX 716 TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

CAROLE JOHNSON Commissioner

NATASHA JOHNSON Assistant Commissioner

December 28 2020

Re: COVID-19 Child Care Initiatives Extended Through January 31, 2021

Dear Child Care Provider:

As part of Governor Murphy's Child Care Initiatives in response to COVID-19, the New Jersey Department of Human Services' Division of Family Development is extending the following COVID -19 related child care assistance programs through January 31, 2021.

- Full-Time Child Care Assistance for School Age: the division will continue to pay for children approved for full-time care through the NJ Child Care Subsidy Program due to remote learning through January 31, 2021.
- Child Care Tuition Assistance for School-Age Children: the extension will happen automatically for approved families currently enrolled in your program and who continue to need child care while their child (5-13 years old) attends remote learning through January 31, 2021. Payment for child care services in January is scheduled to be issued directly to you beginning mid-January. If you have questions, you may email <u>NJCOVID-19APPS@dhs.nj.gov</u>.
- **Supplemental Payments:** the division will issue an additional supplemental payment of \$300 per subsidy-eligible child, for January, including infants, toddlers, and school-age children enrolled in your program. More information regarding this payment will come at a later date.
- **Enrollment-based Payment:** the division will continue to pay providers based on enrollment rather than attendance through January 31, 2021.

This was possible due to federal Coronavirus Relief Funds that the administration allocated for child care assistance which under federal law were set to expire at the end of December. However, the newly signed federal legislation extends the December deadline for these funds, providing us an opportunity to extend these initiatives through January. We will review the recently signed federal legislation to determine additional actions to support working families and child care providers in the months ahead.

Should you have any questions, please contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency.

Thank you.