HOWIE MORALES LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ELIZABETH GROGINSKY CABINET SECRETARY

JOVANNA ARCHULETA ASSISTANT SECRETARY for Native American Early Childhood Education and Care

> DR. JENNIFER DURAN-SALLEE DEPUTY SECRETARY

November 2, 2020

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Child Care Provider:

As COVID-19 continues to impact our communities, the Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) is committed to supporting families and child care providers across the state.

Previously, ECECD waived parent copayments for Child Care Assistance for September and October, 2020. Now, ECECD is extending this parent copayment waiver through December, 2020. You do not need to take any action.

Parents and Guardians

- Account Credit: If you have already paid your monthly copayment to your provider for September, October, or November, we are asking providers to credit your account for that amount.
- Changes to Contracts: If you currently have a part-time contract and now require additional hours of care for your child, we will increase your hours as needed, based on your qualifying activity (e.g. work or school schedule). As the parent/guardian, you must contact your local child care assistance office to request this change. Please see the contact information below.
- **Telework**: If your employer is allowing you to work from home, you may utilize child care during your work hours. Please contact your local child care assistance office to make any required changes to your contract, based on your work schedule. Please see the contact information below.
- **Online courses:** If you are attending online courses to achieve your educational goals, you may utilize child care during your online education hours. Please contact your local child care assistance office to make any required changes to your contract, based on your school schedule. Please see the contact information below.

Providers

• **No Lost Revenue**: ECECD will cover the revenue child care programs would have received from copayments; the Department will include this amount in your monthly reimbursement checks (for example, you will receive November copays with your early December funds).

Sincerely,

Alejandra Rebolledo Rea Division Director Early Care, Education and Nutrition

Please note: the State of New Mexico is committed to containing the spread of COVID-19. We have implemented precautions to keep you, your family and our staff healthy. Our offices remain closed to public access; however, our staff are available to assist you and continue to process paperwork. Please see below and attached contact information for our offices. You may contact your local child care office by phone (contact list attached). You can also submit documentation via email, fax or mail. Email addresses are listed below:

- If your contract is handled from one of the Southern Regional Offices (Alamogordo, Anthony, Carlsbad, Clovis, Deming, Hobbs, Las Cruces, Silver City or Truth or Consequences), please submit documents to: <u>ECECD.CCA-South@state.nm.us</u>
- If your contract is handled from one of the Central/Northern Regional Offices (Santa Fe, Farmington, Gallup, Grants, Las Vegas, Raton, Espanola, Taos, Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Los Lunas, or Socorro), please submit documents to: <u>ECECD.CCA-North@state.nm.us</u>

For additional information, please visit https://www.nmececd.org/covid-19/