



SC Child Care Voucher Policy Updates: COVID-19 Emergency

- For the period of March 16, 2020 – April 30, 2020, the SC Voucher program will not be dropping children after ten (10) consecutive absences. If a child care facility is open, but the voucher parent is not bringing their child to the facility during the COVID-19 emergency time period, the child care provider should use the absence code HAZ on their Service Voucher Log (SVL). This code will allow for excused absences for the child.
- School aged children's half-time vouchers will be changed to full-time vouchers for March 16, 2020 – April 30, 2020. Providers are encouraged to call the SC Voucher program at 1-800-262-4416 to ensure all services for school aged children are changed to full time when eligible.
- If an ABC Quality child care provider closes during the COVID-19 emergency and a voucher eligible parent needs to move to another provider in order to continue to work, the voucher child will be immediately disconnected from the closed provider and moved to a new provider.
- If an ABC Quality provider had voucher connections between March 16, 2020 and April 30, 2020 and had to close as a result of the COVID-19 emergency, the vouchers will continue to be paid. Providers in this situation should use the absence code FCL during this time period on their SVL.
- Child care providers that operate private 4K classrooms paid for by South Carolina First Steps through CERDERP funding, cannot be double paid by a voucher, private pay, etc. for the same children.

If you have any questions about vouchers during this COVID-19 emergency, please contact the SC Voucher Control Center at (800) 262-4416. Staff are available to assist you.

THANK YOU for all you are doing to serve our children and families during this state of emergency!!! We appreciate you!