



HENRY McMASTER, GOVERNOR  
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October 15, 2020

As part of our efforts to assist families during the COVID-19 pandemic, DSS is offering child care assistance for working parents. The number of vouchers is limited based on funding availability, and parents must meet income and other requirements to qualify.

In order to qualify, you must be currently working at least 15 hours a week or attending school or training, and your family's gross income must be at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty level.

If you have questions about these vouchers or whether you meet the eligibility criteria, please call (800) 476-0199 or email [CCDFApplications@dss.sc.gov](mailto:CCDFApplications@dss.sc.gov) for assistance.

To apply, please complete the application located here: [CCDF Application](#) and email it to [CCDFApplications@dss.sc.gov](mailto:CCDFApplications@dss.sc.gov). In the email, please include your first and last name, and the best telephone number to reach you during regular business hours.

If you need help finding available child care, please contact our Child Care Resource & Referral Network at 1 (888) 335-1002 or go to the website after hours at [www.sc-ccrr.org](http://www.sc-ccrr.org) and submit a referral indicating your need to find an opening in a child care facility and someone will assist you.

For more information about DSS' response to COVID-19 related to child care, please visit our child care website at [www.scchildcare.org](http://www.scchildcare.org).

COVID-19 Child Care Assistance for Working Parents  
Frequently Asked Questions  
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**1. Who is eligible for a child care voucher?**

In order to qualify, you must meet the income guidelines listed below, be currently working 15 or more hours per week or in school/training, and have a child(ren) between 0 and 12 years of age. For two-parent households, your spouse or partner must also be working 15 or more hours per week, in school/training, or have a verified disability.

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) gross income must be under 300% of the federal poverty level (see chart below). *Gross income is the amount before taxes and other deductions come out.*

| Family Size | Gross Family Income Limit |                 |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
|             | Monthly                   | Annual          |
| 1           | \$0 - \$3,190             | \$0 - \$38,280  |
| 2           | \$0 - \$4,310             | \$0 - \$51,720  |
| 3           | \$0 - \$5,430             | \$0 - \$65,160  |
| 4           | \$0 - \$6,550             | \$0 - \$78,600  |
| 5           | \$0 - \$7,670             | \$0 - \$92,040  |
| 6           | \$0 - \$8,790             | \$0 - \$105,480 |

**2. How do I get help with child care?**

To apply, please complete the attached application and email it to [CCDFApplications@dss.sc.gov](mailto:CCDFApplications@dss.sc.gov) along with the appropriate support documentation for wage or school verification. In the email, please include your first and last name, and the best telephone number to reach you during regular business hours. If you do not have access to the Internet, please call (800) 476-0199 for assistance.

**3. What is the necessary supporting documentation I must provide for child care eligibility?**

Along with the completed application, you must provide:

- If working, the most current 30 days of check stubs or a letter from your employer indicating gross pay, number of hours worked, the rate of pay, and how often paid.
- If in school, a copy of your school schedule and a copy of the paid registration.

For two-parent households, your spouse or partner must also supply the above information.

**4. How does this program work?**

If a parent qualifies, vouchers will be paid directly to the child care providers. Parent must choose a provider that is enrolled in the ABC Quality program. ABC Quality providers already have an established weekly voucher rate based on their quality level. DSS will not assess a weekly co-pay per child.

**5. Does the child care provider have to be licensed for the parents to utilize the vouchers?**

Child care providers must be licensed or registered and enrolled in ABC Quality to receive vouchers. License-exempt providers that are enrolled in ABC Quality are also able to receive vouchers for eligible

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children. Any license-exempt provider that is operating more than four hours per day must have a Certificate of Temporary Operation issued by DSS to operate legally during this time.

**6. How long will the voucher cover?**

This category of child care is being provided for up to 52 weeks from the point of approval.

**7. How will parents be compensated if they have already paid for child care directly to the provider?**

This category of child care is not retroactive. DSS will pay for up to 52 weeks from the point of approval.

**8. How do I find an ABC Quality child care provider?**

Visit [www.scchildcare.org](http://www.scchildcare.org) to search for a child care provider enrolled in the ABC Quality program.

Providers enrolled in ABC Quality will have a quality level (A, B, C, or P) listed by their name.

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