

То:	Licensed Child Care Providers
From:	Steven R. Hicks Assistant State Superintendent Division of Early Childhood
Subject:	Change in Child Care Scholarship Payments
Date:	July 3, 2020

The Board of Public Works (BPW) has delayed its decision on the provider reimbursement rate increase for Child Care Scholarship until a later date.

On March 27, 2020, all licensed child care programs were closed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). On March 30, 2020, all licensed providers were invited to apply to serve as Essential Personnel Child Care (EPCC) programs, and the State began paying the Child Care Scholarship payments to all participating child care providers based on enrollment beginning March 27, 2020. All parent/guardian co-pays for the Child Care Scholarship Program were waived.

We are now progressing through Stage 2 of Governor Hogan's *Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery*. Family and Center-based child care programs may reopen by contacting their licensing specialist and complete a *Child Care Verification of Reopening* form. All parents/guardians are now permitted to access available child care programs.

Effective July 20, 2020, the MSDE will make payments for Child Care Scholarship invoices to all child care providers serving families in the Child Care Scholarship program based on attendance. Parents will be required to pay their mandatory co-pays, unless the parent has requested the suspension of their child care services or the provider has chosen not to reopen.

Please be sure to begin submitting invoices at the end of the July 20, 2020 service period. Payment will not be made without the submission of the completed invoice.

If you are unable to serve children, please direct families to LOCATE: Child Care so they can find alternative child care arrangements. Parents/guardians can visit the website at <u>https://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/for-parents/locate-child-care</u> or talk to a specialist by calling (877) 261-0060 Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. **Also, please notify your licensing specialist**

and CCS Central of your permanent or temporary closure.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.