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Community Connections Newsletter: COVID-19 Update

Prince George's County Maryland sent this bulletin at 03/30/2020 07:25 PM EDT



Monday, March 30, 2020

COVID-19 Update: Statewide Stay-At-Home Order Effective Monday, March 30th at 8 PM

Dear Prince Georgians:

Today, Governor Larry Hogan issued a stay-at-home order, which takes effect tonight at 8 PM and provides that no Marylander should leave their home except for an essential job or for an essential reason like visiting your doctor.

I know there are many questions surrounding the statewide stay-at-home directive. I wanted to reach out to make sure you know that all of the steps we have taken to ensure the health and well-being of our residents are not changing. For instance, students can pick up their meals at the <u>designated meal sites</u>, food delivery to our residents who are in need of

assistance will continue, trash will still be picked up, and you can still take a walk outside while practicing social distancing.

The statewide order provides that you can *only* leave your homes for essential reasons such as picking up medicine, visiting your doctor, or getting food. While you can go for a walk, you may not gather in groups, you may not play pick-up basketball games, and you may not go places for non-essential reasons. On March 23rd, Governor Hogan ordered all non-essential businesses in the County to shut down and that order still stands.

Bottom line, it is absolutely critical that you stay home. The Governor's executive order does give law enforcement the power to enforce the order and anyone found in violation could be charged with a misdemeanor that could result in a fine or even jail time. This order is a life-saving measure, and I ask that every Prince Georgian comply to help us stop the spread of this indiscriminate virus.

I know this virus has dramatically changed our way of life for the moment, but we are strong, and together we can and will get through this. COVID-19 will not have the final say. For more information about the Governor's stay-at-home directive, click here.

We also want to provide you with the latest updates on County Government operations, some of which are reminders from our update last week, and others, which are new changes to services and operations.

Public safety agencies, including our **Police Department, our Fire and EMS Department, our Department of Corrections, and the Office of the Sheriff,** will remain operational to ensure the safety of our residents and those in our custody.

For non-violent crime reports, the Prince George's County Police Department is taking specific reports over the phone, rather than in-person. Residents wishing to report a crime should still call 911 as usual.

The Fire/EMS Department is responding to all 911 calls for service.

Domestic violence will not be tolerated during this difficult time. The **Office of the Sheriff** is responding to 911 domestic violence emergency calls for service in Police District III and Police District VIII. In addition, the Office of the Sheriff continues to serve peace and protective orders throughout the County. The Special Victim Assistants (SVAs) in the Office of the Sheriff are still available to support victims of domestic violence and can be reached at 301-780-8426.

The **District Court Commissioner's Office** in both Upper Marlboro and Hyattsville are still open 24/7 and they are still accepting and issuing domestic violence petitions.

The Family Justice Center is closed to the public, but services are still available by phone during normal business hours. Please call 301-780-8008 and an intake specialist will follow-up with you.

The **Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS)** buildings remain closed until further notice. However, PGCMLS is offering many ways to engage online. Prince Georgians can access eBooks, audiobooks, movies, music, and educational tools via <u>85+ online resources</u>, Digital Suite, Creative Suite, Homework Support Suite, and Discovery Suite. Virtual programs for all ages are offered daily. Drive-up WiFi is available <u>24/7 outside of all library branches</u> (signal strength may vary). Library cards can be <u>renewed online</u>. The Library also wants your input on shaping online programs via the <u>Online Library Survey</u>. Survey responses are due on Friday, April 10, 2020.

Our **Department of the Environment** will continue to provide trash, recycling and yard trim collection services on schedule. Convenience Center Drop-Off locations will remain open as well for the public. However, all bulky trash collections are suspended and will be rescheduled at a later date.

The **Animal Services Facility and Adoption Center** remains operational but closed to the public. The Facility will still handle emergency calls for service from residents, and those calls can be placed at 301-780-7200.

The main office of the Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development, the Housing Authority of Prince George's County and the Redevelopment Authority of Prince George's County, are closed to the public but open for business via telephone, internet and e-mail. A staff directory, with telephone numbers and e-mail addresses, is located on the <u>agency webpage</u>.

The Housing Authority's Rental Assistance Division is continuing to process certification and recertification applications. In addition, the Chief Judge of the Maryland Special Court of Appeals has suspended all residential and commercial evictions and foreclosures until Friday, May 1, 2020.

The **Department of Social Services'** buildings are closed, but they will still process benefits applications, visit youth in care, and conduct investigations related to the abuse and neglect of children and vulnerable adults. For more information, visit their website here.

Our **Department of Family Services**, in conjunction with our Department of Public Works and Transportation, will continue to provide meal deliveries to seniors who are already part of existing delivery programs, including the Senior Nutrition Program.

In addition to senior meal delivery services, our **Department of Public Works and Transportation** continues to operate essential para-transit services, including medical appointments, trips for dialysis patients, and senior trips for grocery shopping. They will also maintain critical repairs of County roads, bridges and traffic signals.

Our County's bus system, **TheBus**, continues to operate under reduced service, with service suspended on routes 11, 12, 14, 15x, 21x, 22, 23, 25, 27, 34, 35s, 51 and 53. TheBus will modify service on 4 bus lines (13, 26, 28, and 37) effective Tuesday, March 31, 2020. You will not be charged to ride TheBus while services have been reduced. More information about service for TheBus can be <u>found here</u>.

Our **311 Call Center** remains operational and will continue to take calls to address issues. However, due to the suspension of bulky trash collection, they will not be scheduling future bulky trash pickup dates at this time. The 311 Call Center is open Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Our **Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement** will continue providing essential review of licenses and permits as well as essential inspection functions.

Over the past week, **the Office of Central Services** (OCS) has provided enhanced cleaning of our government facilities in response to COVID-19. Deep-cleaning services for buildings both used by the public and County employees has begun. Over the next week, OCS will disinfect nearly 2 million square feet of building space. Assigned facilities staff for each building will be on hand to open offices and allow cleaning crews to disinfect.

The Prince George's County Human Relations Commission has halted in-person appointments. Their efforts to fight discrimination and ensure Prince George's County is a welcoming place for all who live, work, and play here will continue. If you have a complaint

of discrimination and would like to schedule an intake appointment to discuss your complaint, please call 240-695-7220. All intake appointments will be conducted by phone or via video conference until further notice.

The Revenue Authority of Prince George's County has been closed to all in-person visits, but all agency personnel can be reached by email or telephone, and residential parking public hearings will continue over teleconference. All Revenue Authority programs will continue to operate despite the closure.

Finally, our **Health Department** will continue to operate, providing essential health and wellness services in addition to its work on containing this pandemic. If you would like to see a full list of County Government closures and modifications to government operations, please click here.

For our employees who continue to work to provide these essential functions and programs, we are ensuring that the proper precautions and procedures are put in place and the appropriate equipment is provided for their safety and well-being. This includes continuing to maintain the telework operations we already put in place. Those essential employees who are keeping the government running during this time will be compensated with paid leave.

I also wanted to share that testing for COVID-19 began today at the FedExField parking lot. This screening site is designed to alleviate the pressure on hospitals and health care facilities that will likely increase in the coming weeks due to COVID-19. Those who normally go to hospitals or emergency rooms to receive primary health care are highly encouraged to seek a telehealth appointment through the Prince George's County Health Department if they believe they have been exposed and are exhibiting symptoms associated with this virus.

This site is primarily a screening area that will have limited testing capabilities for those people who meet stringent <u>CDC testing guidelines</u>. This site is accessible by appointment only, and the process is as follows:

- 1. Call the Prince George's County Health Department Coronavirus hotline at 301-883-6627 to schedule an initial telehealth screening.
- 2. The telehealth medical professional will speak to the caller to obtain information to determine if the patient meets the CDC testing requirements.
- 3. If the caller meets CDC testing guidelines, they will receive an appointment time and an appointment number (from 1 to 100**MUST KEEP ASSIGNED APPOINTMENT NUMBER) to go to the FedExField site on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday. The individual must show up at the appointment time, with the appointment number, and be able to answer questions based on the telehealth screening.
- 4. Upon arriving at the testing site, the individual will receive instruction from law enforcement as to where to park and when to exit their vehicle.
- 5. The individual will walk to the checkpoint and give their appointment number, then they will be escorted to a tent based on their symptoms.
- 6. If the individual meets testing requirements outlined by the CDC, they will be escorted to the testing tent. Following the testing, the individual will be given instructions on home self-care and social distancing.
- 7. Those who do not meet CDC guidelines will not be tested. Those individuals who do not meet criteria but are symptomatic will receive instructions on home

self-care and self-isolation, as needed. Those individuals who are asymptomatic will receive instructions on home self-care and social distancing. The individual will then be escorted to the exit.

Please note that walkups exhibiting no symptoms will not be tested. Those with prescriptions from primary care physicians or other health care providers will still need to make an appointment through the Prince George's Health Department's COVID-19 Hotline and telehealth services by calling 301-883-6627.

The clinic will be primarily staffed by Prince George's County Health Department officials with support from the Maryland Department of Health, the Maryland National Guard, the Maryland Medical Reserve Corps, and the University of Maryland Medical System. We want to thank our Health Department, Governor Hogan, the Maryland Department of Health, University of Maryland Medical System and the Washington Redskins for ensuring this prototype screening facility was able to be built, as it will be a model for other screening facilities across our State.

We also have additional updates from Governor Hogan to share. **School closures have been extended to April 24, 2020**. Dr. Goldson and her team have come up with a plan to ensure continuity of learning, which can be found <u>online here</u>. **Child care centers were ordered to be closed on March 27**, except for those centers providing child care to essential workers as designated by Governor Hogan.

Essential workers are those in areas such as healthcare, law enforcement, and government. The State is opening child care centers for essential workers at no cost. Essential workers who wish to find a child care provider should visit the <u>Maryland State Department of Education website</u>, which contains instructions on how to apply and a list of essential workers as designated by Governor Hogan. Eligible programs can also be found by calling 877-261-0060, Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

As we continue confronting this crisis, we are asking residents to please continue to stay informed, either by visiting our County Government website (<u>mypgc.us</u>) or by calling our coronavirus hotline at 301-883-6627, available from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM daily.

We are facing an unprecedented crisis and, very sadly, we have already lost lives. We must work together and do everything in our power to keep our families and community healthy and safe. Together, we will make it through this crisis.

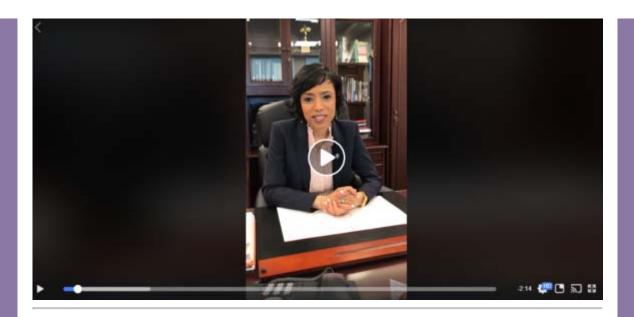
Yours in service,

Angela Alsobrooks

Prince George's County Executive

COVID-19 Videos

A Video Message from the County Executive

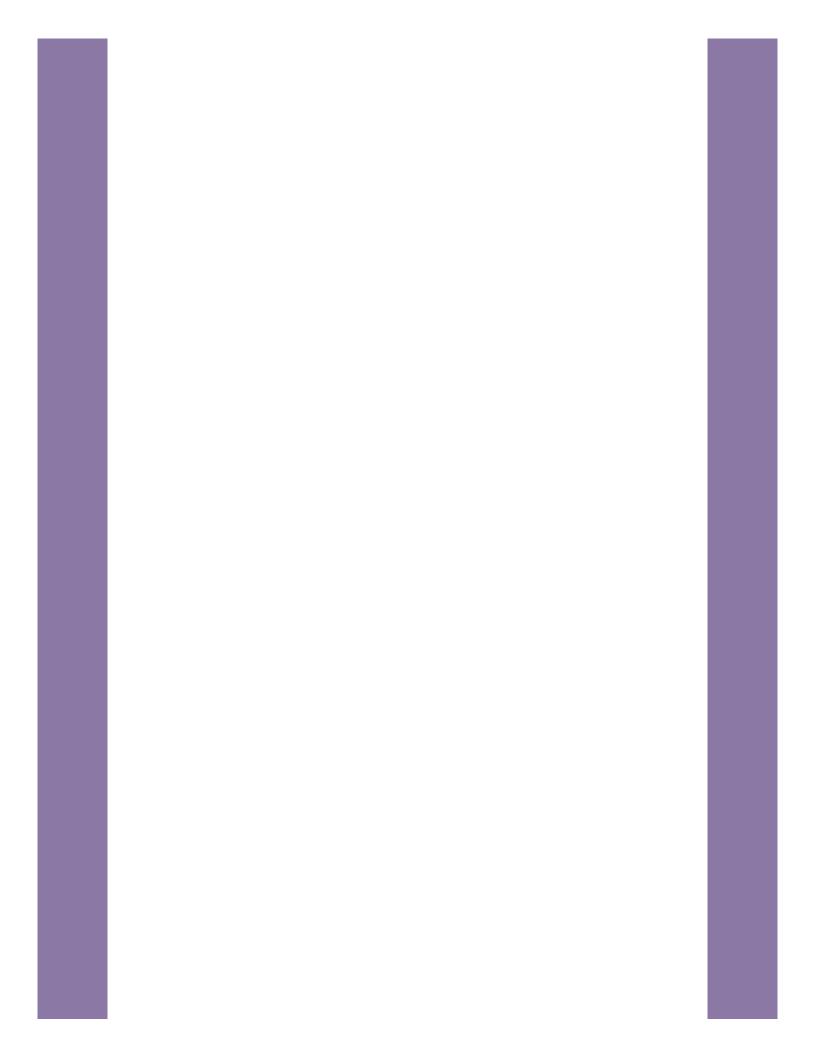


COVID-19 Screening Site Step-by-Step Instructions



Additional Resources

COVID-19 Screening Site Step-by-Step Infographic



C Coronavirus)







Step-by-Step to Prince George's County Screening Site

This clinic is accessible by appointment only, and the process is as follows:



Call the Prince George's County Health Department Coronavirus hotline to schedule an initial telehealth screening.

The telehealth medical professional will determine if you meet CDC testing requirements. If you meet the requirements, you will receive an appointment time and number (from 1 to 100).

>> YOU MUST KEEP ASSIGNED APPOINTMENT NUMBER <<

The FedExField site is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am - 3pm. You must show up at your appointment time.



Upon arriving to the screening site, you will receive instructions from a public safety official/officer on where to park and when to exit your vehicle.

Walk to the checkpoint and give your number. You will be escorted to a screening tent based on your symptoms.

If you meet testing requirements outlined by the CDC, you will be escorted to the testing tent.

After testing, you will be given instructions on home self-care and social distancing.



After testing you will then be escorted to the exit.

If you DO NOT meet CDC guidelines YOU WILL NOT BE TESTED

You will receive on-site counseling and instructions on home self-care and social distancing.

PLEASE NOTE: WALKUPS EXHIBITING NO SYMPTOMS WILL NOT BE TESTED



Those with prescriptions will still need to make an appointment through the Prince George's Health Department's COVID-19 Hotline and telehealth services by calling 301-883-6627.

(Coronavirus)







Paso a Paso al Sitio de Evaluación del Condado de Prince George

Esto es accesible solamente por cita, y el proceso es como sigue:



Llame a la línea directa de Coronavirus

El profesional médico de

Si usted cumple con los

> DEBE MANTENER EL NÚMERO DE CITA ASIGNADO 🛚 «

El sitio de FedExField estará abierto lunes, miércoles o viernes 10am – 3pm Debe llegar a su cita a tiempo.



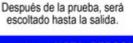
Al llegar al sitio de prueba, recibirá instrucciones de la policía sobre dónde estacionar y cuándo salir de su vehículo. Usted caminará al puesto de control y dará su número de cita. Luego será acompañado a una tienda de campaña según sus síntomas. Si cumple con los requisitos de prueba descritos por los CDC, será acompañado a la tienda de pruebas.

Después de la prueba, se le darán instrucciones sobre el cuidado personal en el hogar y el distanciamiento social.



Si NO cumple con los requisitos de prueba del CDC, NO SE LE HARÁ LA PRUEBA

Se le darán consejo, instrucciones sobre el cuidado personal en el hogar y el distanciamiento social.



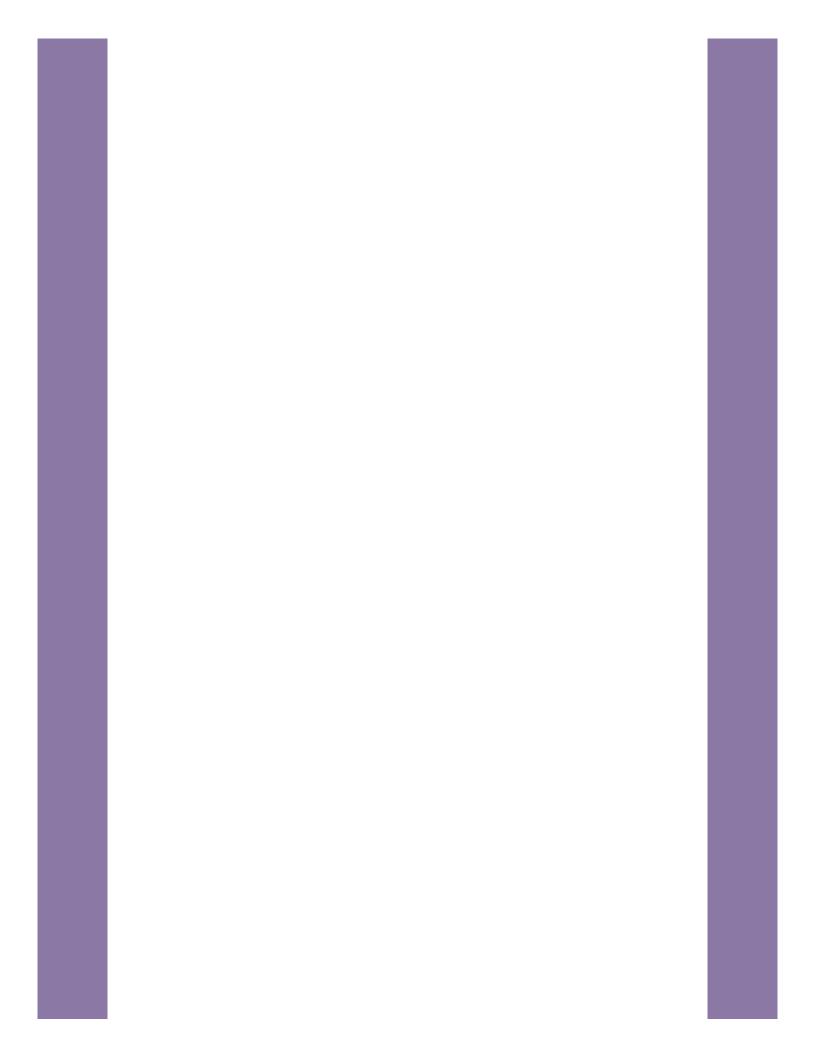
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NOTA: PERSONAS QUE LLEGUEN AL SITIO Y NO PRESENTEN LOS SÍNTOMAS NO SE LE HARÁ LA PRUEBA

Aquellos que posean una receta médica tienen que hacer cita por medio de la línea caliente de COVID-19 y servicios de telesalud del Departamento de Salud del Condado de Prince George Ilamando al 301-883-6627.

Maryland Essential Businesses





All non-essential Maryland businesses have been ordered to CLOSE.











Law Enforcement/ Fire and Rescue









This is NOT a shelter in place order, however residents should remain home.

Gas Stations







C*VID-19 (Coronavirus)

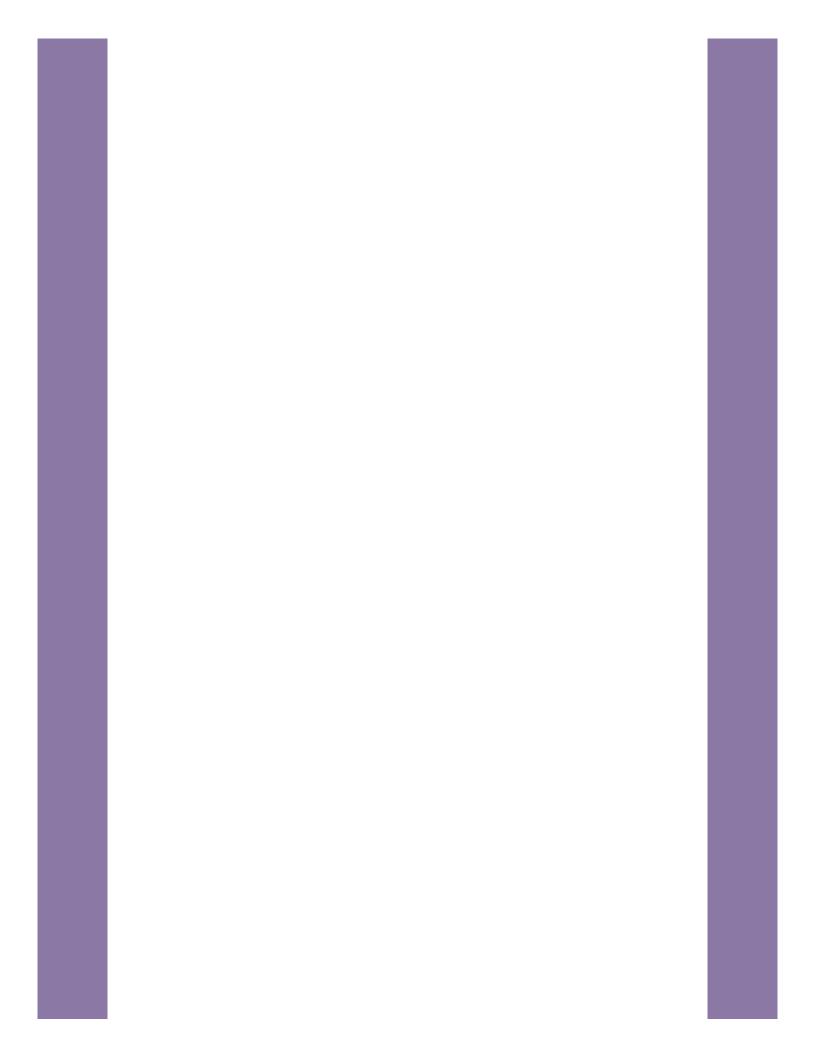
Se ha ordenado el cierre de todos los negocios no esenciales de Maryland.

Solo las funciones esenciales permanecerán abiertas:





Child Care for Essential Personnel





EMERGENCY CHILD CARE

Effective Friday, March 27 after 5 p.m., all Maryland child care centers will close, except those caring for children of essential personnel. During this State of Emergency, child care programs have been established by the State to serve only designated essential personnel.

FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS DURING COVID-19

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

All employees deemed essential that are required to work to maintain the health, safety and welfare of the public. To view a full list of these personnel, visit: bit.ly/MDEssentialChildcare

WHAT WILL IT COST?

These programs are at NO COST to designated essential personnel.

HOW DO I FIND A PROVIDER?

Eligible programs may be found on the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) website at earlychildhood.marylandpublic schools.org or by using the "LOCATE: Child Care" resource, a telephone service that is available by phone Monday - Friday at 877-261-0060 between 7 AM and 7 PM.

LIST OF ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES ELIGIBLE FOR PROGRAM

(list is not all inclusive)

- · Public Safety/First Responders
- · Health Care Workers/Providers
- Essential Government Employees
- · Transportation/Delivery Personnel
- Utility Workers
- Food Distributors and Suppliers
- · Gas Station Operators/Mechanics

For more information, call 877-261-0060 or visit earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org

HEALTH DEPARTMENT Prince George's County







CUIDADO DE NIÑOS DE EMERGENCIA

A partir del viernes 27 de marzo después de las 5 p.m., todas las guarderías de Maryland cerrarán, excepto aquellos que cuidan niños de personal esencial. Durante este estado de emergencia, los programas de cuidado infantil han sido establecidos por el Estado para servir solo personal esencial designado.

PARA TRABAJADORES ESENCIALES DURANTE COVID-19

¿QUIÉN ES ELEGIBLE?

Todos los empleados se consideran esenciales que están obligados a trabajar para mantener la salud, seguridad y bienestar del público. Para ver una lista completa de este personal, visite: bit.ly/MDEssentialChildcare

¿CUÁNTO COSTARÁ?

Estos programas son SIN COSTO al personal esencial designado.

¿CÓMO ENCUENTRO UN Proveedor?

Se pueden encontrar programas elegibles en el sitio web del Departamento de Educación del Estado de Maryland (MSDE) earlychildhood.marylandpublic schools.org o utilizando el Recurso "LOCALIZAR: Cuidado Infantil," un servicio telefónico que es disponible por teléfono de lunes a viernes en el 877-261-0060 entre las 7 a.m. y las 7 p.m.

LISTA DE EMPLEADOS ESENCIALES Elegibles para el programa

(la lista no incluye todo)

- Seguridad Pública / Primeros Respondedores
- Trabajadores / Proveedores de Atención Médica
- · Empleados Esenciales del Gobierno
- Transporte / Personal de Entrega
- Trabajadores de Servicios Públicos
- Distribuidores y Proveedores de Alimentos
- Operadores de Estaciones de Servicio / Mecánicos

Para más información, llame al 877-261-0060 o visite earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org









Wayne K. Curry County Administration Building

1301 McCormick Drive, Suite 4000 Largo, Maryland 20774



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