



Kay Ivey  
Governor

# State of Alabama Department of Human Resources

S. Gordon Persons Building  
50 Ripley Street  
P. O. Box 304000  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-4000  
(334) 242-1310

[www.dhr.alabama.gov](http://www.dhr.alabama.gov)



Nancy T. Buckner  
Commissioner

## MEMORANDUM

April 8, 2020

**TO:** EHS-CCP Program Partners and Child Care Partners

**FROM:** Jennifer Connell, Child Care Services Division Director

**SUBJECT:** Further Guidance on COVID-19

On Friday, April 3, 2020, Dr. Scott Harris, State Health Officer with the Alabama Department of Public Health, issued an amended statewide health order which remains in full force and effect until 5:00 PM on April 30, 2020. The order states in-person instruction or classes at all schools shall be closed. To comply with the health order, **DHR is extending its closure of all EHS-CCP classrooms, both center-based and family child care-based, through Friday, May 1, 2020. Classrooms will tentatively reopen on Monday, May 4, 2020.**

During this closure period, no visits to EHS-CCP centers or family child care homes will be conducted by Program Partner staff, DECE staff, or DHR EHS-CCP staff. Program Partners may still invoice DHR for the full number of contracted slots on invoices for March and April, even if vacancies have exceeded 30 days. Program Partners shall continue to pay Child Care Partners the full rate of \$231 per week, per child (based on number of contracted slots) during this emergency closure period. Child Care Partners shall continue to pay the EHS-CCP center-based teachers and family child care assistant providers even if they are unable to work during this closure period.

During this period, no EHS-CCP care will be provided. EHS-CCP sites may choose to remain open for regular child care as long as operating is not in violation of any state or local proclamation or order. If the EHS-CCP site elects to remain open for regular child care, the EHS-CCP children who attend on these days will be considered dually enrolled. EHS-CCP sites are not required to provide care that meets the higher quality EHS-CCP standards during this emergency closure period. However, the sites must maintain the minimum standards to meet licensing requirements on these days. The DHR EHS-CCP program is not responsible for regular child care provided during this emergency closure period. The Department of Human Resources (DHR) strongly encourages all child care providers to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) regarding COVID-19.

Program Partners need to work with their Child Care Partners to inform all EHS-CCP parents about this extended emergency closure period no later than close of business on Monday, April 13, 2020. DHR expects Program Partner Family Advocates to attempt to make weekly contact with their assigned EHS-CCP families during this closure period and document this in ChildPlus.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Myra Davis at [myra.davis@dhr.alabama.gov](mailto:myra.davis@dhr.alabama.gov) or 334.242.0575.

cc: Nancy T. Buckner, Commissioner, DHR  
Faye Nelson, Deputy Commissioner for Family Resources, DHR  
Bernard Houston, Administrator of Child Care and Workforce Development  
Joy Winchester, Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education  
Melissa Godwin, Alabama Department of Public Health  
EHS-CCP Policy Council  
EHS-CCP Governing Committee