

COVID-19 UPDATE

COUNTY REOPENING & OTHER UPDATES

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT CEO/HR DIRECTOR

Riverside County's new coronavirus cases have been steadily decreasing over the past few weeks, resulting in fewer patients requiring hospitalization and intensive care. These decreases are attributed to the safety measures put in place to reduce the community spread of coronavirus. Actions like increasing telecommuting options, online services and wearing face coverings have helped to protect employees and residents alike.

The county will again reopen county facilities for limited in-person services on September 8, 2020. These in-person services will vary by department, and community members are strongly encouraged to call ahead or visit the department's website to find out if the service they need can be done virtually. In addition, some departments may require appointments for in-person services.

The county will continue conducting health screenings when employees and residents arrive. Upon arriving at a county facility, community members and employees will be asked if they are feeling well or have any COVID-like symptoms. Face coverings are still required for everyone. Face masks or face shields will be made available to anyone without one. Residents reporting symptoms will be directed to conduct their business over the phone or online. Employees reporting symptoms will be sent home until cleared to return to work. Employees who have been exposed or who have symptoms, should notify their supervisor/manager immediately so contact tracing can begin to help staunch the spread of the virus.

Clear partitions have also been installed at front desk or counter areas, as well as floor markings to keep people distanced by six feet when standing in line. Elevators are also limited to no more than four people at a time for elevators similar in size to those at the County Administrative Center. The number of occupants in an elevator may increase or decrease depending on the elevator's size.

Additionally, with schools possibly returning to the classroom for the fall term, the Department of Labor (DOL) issued new Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on August 27, 2020, regarding the interaction of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) with distance learning and “hybrid” models of instruction. Please note that these new FAQs only apply to employees who do not work in classifications or departments excluded from utilizing FFCRA leave as indicated in the Employee COVID Guides under the headings of “health care workers” or “emergency responders” in accordance with the Act. Eligibility for FFCRA leave due to distance learning is as follows:

- It will depend largely on the options that the child's school or school district offers. For example, if the student can attend school in person and the employee opts out of in-person instruction for online instruction only, then the employee may not be eligible for FFCRA leave.
- However, if the student is participating in a hybrid model that only allows students on campus for specific days, the employee may be eligible to use FFCRA leave on the days the child is not permitted to attend school on campus.
- Or if the school opens in a remote learning program, out of concern for COVID-19 and no other option is available, until further evaluation is made to determine a reopening date for in-person attendance the employee may be eligible to use FFCRA leave.

More details regarding this matter are included in this link: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-questions#98>

In an effort to assist employees further, the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) is available to provide childcare for essential workers who are physically reporting to their worksites. A temporary subsidized payment to assist with the cost of childcare for children (ages birth to 13) is available

through September 30, 2020 to allow for the ability to continue working during this time; funds are paid directly to the selected childcare provider. The attached fliers provide details on how to contact RCOE to apply. If services are still needed beyond the September 30, 2020 date, families may apply and submit documentation to determine if they qualify for extended childcare assistance. However, this will only apply if funding is extended.

As a reminder, employees may also utilize the County of Riverside's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) through Anthem, which provides quick and easy access to confidential counseling and referral services to help employees and their household members deal with daily work and life challenges. Anthem EAP has created an online resource area that addresses issues that may arise specifically due to COVID that can be accessed here, [Anthem EAP Online COVID Resources](#).

As this pandemic has unfolded, we've continued to evolve and change our ways of doing business. Thank you for your service and your assistance in keeping both yourself and others safe and for all your efforts to flatten the curve – again.


BRENDA DIEDERICHS



Child Care for Essential Workers

Effective August 2020, Riverside County Office of Education, Early Care and Education (RCOE ECE), is available to provide needed child care services for those essential workers reporting to their worksites.



If you are an essential worker in need of child care, who should you contact?

- Contact the RCOE ECE team through email at cclupdates@rcoe.us.
- If you do not have access to email, please call (800) 442-4927 and leave a message.
- Please be sure to identify yourself as an essential worker.
- Provide your best contact phone number and email
- A member of the RCOE ECE team will contact you within one business day. In many cases, services can begin immediately.

What services will be provided?

- For those still physically reporting to their worksite, a temporary subsidized payment to assist with the cost of child care services for your children (ages birth to 13) through September 30, 2020* to allow you to continue working during this time (paid directly to your child care provider).
- If services are still needed beyond September 30, 2020*, families may apply and submit documentation to determine if they qualify for other state-subsidized child care services.

** Services are authorized through September 30, 2020, unless funding is extended. The application period and offering of services is based upon availability of funding.*

What do I need to do to get started?

- Contact RCOE ECE to request services through email at cclupdates@rcoe.us or by calling (800) 442-4927 (please be sure to identify yourself as an essential worker and provide your best contact phone number and email).
- Complete the COVID-19 2020 Confidential Application for Emergency Childcare Services and the COVID-19 Self-Certification document.
- Provide the information for your selected child care provider and complete any documentation required by your child care provider.

A listing of open and available licensed programs can be accessed through this link: <https://secureweb.rcoe.us/ONLINEREF/> or by calling (800) 442-4927.

- Complete daily attendance records with your provider to facilitate direct payment to your provider.

Cuidado de niños para trabajadores esenciales

A partir de agosto de 2020, el departamento Cuidado y Educación temprana de la Oficina de Educación del Condado de Riverside (RCOE ECE), estará disponible para proporcionar servicios de cuidado infantil necesarios para aquellos trabajadores esenciales que se reporten a sus lugares de trabajo.



Si usted es un trabajador esencial y necesita servicios de cuidado infantil, ¿con quién debe ponerse en contacto?

- Comuníquese con el equipo de ECE de la RCOE por correo electrónico a cclupdates@rcoe.us.
- Si no tiene acceso a correo electrónico, llame al (800) 442-4927 y deje un mensaje.
- Por favor, asegúrese de identificarse como trabajador esencial.
- Proporcione su número de teléfono y correo electrónico
- Un miembro del equipo de ECE de la RCOE se pondrá en contacto con usted en un día hábil o antes. En muchos casos, los servicios pueden comenzar inmediatamente.

¿Qué servicios se proporcionarán?

- Para aquellos que todavía se están físicamente reportando a su sitio de trabajo, se proporcionará un pago temporal subsidiado para ayudar con el costo de los servicios de cuidado infantil para sus hijos (edades de nacimiento hasta 13 años) hasta el 30 de septiembre de 2020* para permitirle continuar trabajando durante este tiempo (pagado directamente a su proveedor de cuidado infantil).
- Si aún se necesitan servicios después del 30 de septiembre de 2020*, las familias pueden solicitar y presentar documentación para determinar si califican para otros servicios de cuidado infantil subsidiados por el estado.

** Los servicios están autorizados hasta el 30 de septiembre de 2020, a menos que se extiendan los fondos. El período de solicitud y la oferta de servicios se basan en la disponibilidad de fondos.*

¿Qué debo hacer para empezar?

- Comuníquese con ECE de la RCOE para solicitar servicios por correo electrónico a cclupdates@rcoe.us o llamando al (800) 442-4927 (por favor asegúrese de identificarse como un trabajador esencial y proporcione su mejor número de teléfono de contacto y correo electrónico).
- Llene completamente la solicitud confidencial COVID-19 2020 para Servicios de Cuidado de niños de emergencia y el documento de autocertificación COVID-19.
- Proporcione la información a su proveedor de cuidado de niños seleccionado y llene cualquier documentación requerida por su proveedor de cuidado de niños.

Se puede acceder a una lista de programas con licencia abiertos y disponibles a través de este enlace: <https://secureweb.rcoe.us/ONLINEREF/> o llamando al (800) 442-4927.

- Llene los registros de asistencia diaria con su proveedor para facilitar el pago directo a su proveedor.

Para más información, por favor envíe un correo electrónico a cclupdates@rcoe.us o llame al (800) 442-4927.