

## Child Care Services Daily Update – January 20, 2021

The Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) will continue to provide you with the most current information pertaining to Child Care programs. We will continue to remain diligent in keeping the Child Care Updates website current.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Information:**

For priority access to the COVID-19 vaccine, child care providers are in the same phase as school teachers. Different parts of the state are in different phases of distributing the vaccine. If a child care agency wants to know which phase is taking place in their community or wants information about how to access the vaccine, they should coordinate with their local health department. [Click here to view the TN Department of Health Press Release](#) for more detailed information about Tennessee’s Vaccination Plan.

### **News from Tennessee Department of Health for Child Care Agencies wanting to obtain COVID-19 Test Kits**

The state has authorized a program for interested Tennessee businesses to obtain COVID-19 tests kits, free of charge while supplies last. The goal of the program, administered jointly by the Tennessee Department of Health and Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, is to help participating businesses demonstrate with greater confidence that their facility is safe to customers and employees.

In order to access the test kits, businesses must follow certain reporting requirements and follow guidelines.

The first step is to fill out [this spreadsheet \(click here\)](#) and send it to the [covid19.testing@tn.gov](mailto:covid19.testing@tn.gov) email so the business can be added to the survey. (This usually takes about 24 hours.) Facilities are unable to enter their own address information directly into the survey as a means to control who can access the survey and order supplies. Once added to the survey, child care agencies will be listed under the “Industry” category.

After registering through the survey, child care agencies can order the Binax rapid antigen tests as long as they can fulfill the requirements of obtaining a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waiver and registering for reporting. Guidance documents are below (Please read each thoroughly):

**Directions for ordering supplies:** [Ordering BinaxNOW Guidance](#)

**General guidance:** [General Guidance - Use and Obtaining CLIA Waiver](#)

**Reporting:** [Reporting Guidance](#)

If child care providers have any questions or issues, please contact [covid19.testing@tn.gov](mailto:covid19.testing@tn.gov)

**Additional Information from Abbott who produces the BinaxNOW Cards:**

Training materials for the BinaxNOW test can be accessed [here](#) and trainings are available via WebEx. The WebEx training consists of a PowerPoint Presentation which lasts approximately 30 minutes. For technical questions regarding the BinaxNOW test, please call Abbott Technical Services at 1-800-257-9525. Email [COVID.Laboratory@TN.gov](mailto:COVID.Laboratory@TN.gov) if you are interested in scheduling a training via WebEx.

Your facility's use of BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card will assist with testing and enable adherence to ongoing testing practices according to public health guidelines. For information on Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) POC antigen and asymptomatic testing, click [here](#). For FDA recommendations for health care providers who are ordering authorized tests outside their authorization (e.g., antigen tests for asymptomatic individuals) – see [FDA's FAQ on Testing for SARS-CoV-2](#) (“Q: Does the FDA have recommendations for health care providers using SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic tests for screening asymptomatic individuals for COVID-19?”) for further information.

**Attention: Below is information to attend a Webinar specific to Family Home Providers**



**NATIONAL CENTER ON**  
**Early Childhood Quality Assurance**

**National Webinar: How Family Child Care Providers Can Take Advantage of the New Small Business Administration Loan and Grant Programs**

The Office of Child Care's (OCC) [National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance](#), in partnership with [Tom Copeland](#), the Nation's leading expert on the business of child care, invites you to attend a national webinar, *How Family Child Care Providers Can Take Advantage of the New Small Business Administration Loan and Grant Programs*, on **Saturday, January 23, 2021**, from **2:00 to 3:30 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time)**.

This webinar will provide an overview of the business resources in the [Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021](#) (CRRSA), which was enacted on December 27, 2020. CRRSA appropriates funds to help small businesses, including minority-owned businesses and nonprofit organizations, recover from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic through the continuation of an improved version of the [Payroll Protection Program \(PPP\) and other supports](#).

This webinar will provide basic information to help family child care (FCC) providers access PPP and Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL). PPP provides loan opportunities for eligible small businesses,



including child care businesses. EIDLs provide economic relief to businesses that are currently experiencing a temporary loss of revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, providers will receive help in identifying supports that best meet their specific needs and in applying for those supports. This webinar will address child care-specific business requirements for each program and the application process. Resources will be shared.

### **Webinar Topics**

- Eligibility for loans
- Obligations of accepting loans
- How new funding differs from previous rounds
- New resources available to support FCC providers

### **Who Should Attend**

The webinar will benefit FCC providers. It will also benefit the consultants and agencies who provide direct technical assistance to FCC businesses applying for these funds.

### **How To Register**

You can register for the webinar via [this registration Web link](#).