Help for Nebraska’s Working Parents and Child Care Providers

The ongoing COVID-19 emergency has put parents and child care providers alike under tremendous strain. Parents—especially those who must still report to work outside their homes—need access to quality child care where they know their children will be looked after by licensed, experienced caregivers and educators. Child care providers need access to information and resources so they can practice their profession and survive the economic challenges of the months ahead. Here are resources that can help.

If You’re a Working Parent:

Nebraska Child Care Referral Network [https://www.nechildcarereferral.org/]

The Nebraska Child Care Referral Network is a newly launched website that can help working parents—particularly those working in critical jobs related to healthcare, emergency response and similar roles—to find child care in their area for children from birth to age 12. The website allows parents to use their computer, tablet or smartphone to search for providers based on a range of criteria including:

- Type of child care environment
- Does/does not accept subsidy
- Type of child care license
- Geographical distance
- Ages of children needing care
- Step Up to Quality participation

If you have additional questions about child care, contact Dena Johnson, Resource and Referral Assistant at the Nebraska Department of Education, at 1-800-CHILD or (402) 577-6886. You can also reach out by email at dena.johnson@nebraska.gov.

If You’re a Child Care Provider:


Nebraska Children and Families Foundation maintains a webpage of COVID-19 information and resources specifically for child care providers. Visit the page to find up-to-date information about a wide range of topics including:

- COVID-19 guidance from state and federal agencies
- Health and sanitation guidelines
- Checklists for providers and parents
- Financial support for providers
- Daily routines and coping

*Updates to website information:* To find additional information about updating the provider listings on the referral website, please see the second page of this document.

Nebraska Early Learning Connection [Early Learning Connection]

You can also find support by contacting an Early Learning Connection Coordinator in your region of the state to register and/or update your program information. Nebraska’s Early Learning Connection and its statewide network are there to support you and the children and families you serve.
Questions about the Nebraska Child Care Referral Network

Q. The website says you have no information for me, how do I update that:
A. Please complete the capacity inventory here: https://unleducation.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9N1XbDCMaYxphqd

Q. My phone number or address is incorrect:
A. This information is pulled from the licensing database. Please contact your licensing specialist either through email or by phone to update your contact information.

Q. My hours of operation are incorrect:
A. Please use this link to update your hours: https://unleducation.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2sjbfjyqKAC2W2N

Q. I am listed as open, but I am now closed or I am listed as closed but am now open:
A. Please use this link to update your availability: https://unleducation.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2sjbfjyqKAC2W2N

Q. I am currently closed but plan to reopen soon:
A. When you reopen you can complete this link to provide your new availability: https://unleducation.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2sjbfjyqKAC2W2N

We do not currently have a way to list when providers will be opening on the website, so would appreciate you updating your availability as soon as you are ready to re-open.

Q. I did not consent for my information to be shared when I completed the survey, but I now would like to be included on the website:
A. Please use this link to update your availability and your information will be included on the website: https://unleducation.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2sjbfjyqKAC2W2N