



Office of Children and Family Services

Attention New York State Essential Workers

\$25 Million Available for Child Care Scholarships

Starting June 22, 2021

Eligibility

All essential workers: health care providers, law enforcement, pharmaceutical staff, firefighters, transportation workers, food delivery workers, grocery store employees, child care staff and others are eligible. See <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/no-2026-continuing-temporary-suspension-and-modification-laws-relating-disaster-emergency>

- Essential staff must work outside the home and have an income of less than 300 percent of the [federal poverty level](#) (or \$79,500 for a family of four)
- More information is available at <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/NYCARES.php>

How to Apply

- Parents can apply for funding through an easy online application, available at <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/NYCARES.php>
- Online applications can be submitted starting June 22, 2021 and will be processed and awarded on a rolling basis until funds are depleted

IMPORTANT NOTE:

All current essential worker scholarship participants **MUST** reapply through this new application to continue to receive funding. CARES 3 Essential Worker Scholarship Funding will end on June 27th. You must reapply for funding to continue.

How it Works

- Funding is part of the Federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act
- Child care costs will be paid up to market rate for each region statewide; market rate information can be found at https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/policies/external/ocfs_2019/LCM/19-OCFS-LCM-23.pdf
- Child care providers will be paid directly on behalf of the parent
- Parents are responsible for any tuition amount the scholarship does not cover

Questions?

<https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/NYCARES.php>