

## Child Care Services Daily Update – September 11, 2020

The Tennessee Department of Human Services is committed to supporting child care agencies in providing programs that are safe, healthy and educationally rich. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has created many challenges over the past several months and many opportunities to approach the delivery of services in different ways. Thank you for remaining flexible and attentive to health and safety protections, while also remaining responsive to family needs.

### **Disaster/Emergency Grant Reminders:**

**Please Note:** We encourage you to turn in any grant applications as soon as possible after the close of the prior month. For example: For the month of August, please have your applications submitted by September 15<sup>th</sup>. Remember that the final month to apply for the Operational Support Grant is for the month of September. These applications are due by October 15, 2020 in order to be considered.

The category of Operational Costs Support has been extended through **September 30, 2020** in order to support these September operational adjustments. All applications for Operational Costs Support will need to be submitted by October 15, 2020 for the month of September. October 15, 2020 will be the final day for Disaster/Emergency Response and Recovery grant applications to be submitted.

The Department continues to provide supports to families and providers to absorb the impacts of COVID-19 and adjust to the next normal. The COVID-19 Operational Costs Support grant allows you to apply for costs associated with operating under the unique circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. We understand there may be a “cost difference” above the maximum state rate that families are required by your policy to pay. We ask that you apply for this “cost difference” amount under the operations cost category. This will provide relief for the family and support you in recouping that revenue through September 30, 2020.

The stipulation under this grant, is that once the money is received, if you have already charged and received payment from the parent, you refund or credit their accounts. If you have not received payment from the family, this grant amount will cover the full cost of care for children enrolled through subsidy.

**Learn about grant opportunities and apply online by visiting [www.childcaretennessee.com](http://www.childcaretennessee.com).**