

MEDIA RELEASE BY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

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Release: Immediate

Deadline to apply for ECD Stimulus Relief Fund looms

The Western Cape Department of Social Development would like to remind all Early Childhood Development (ECD) Services that the applications for the ECD Stimulus Relief Fund close this Friday, 19 February 2021.

To date, 724 applications have been received from the Western Cape.

The National Department of Social Development has received R496 million from National Treasury as part of President Cyril Ramaphosa's COVID-19 relief measures, to assist ECD programmes and services that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of the R496 million received by National Treasury, R53 million has been earmarked to support ECD programmes and services in the Western Cape.

ECD centres and services can reach out to designated NPOs for assistance with completing the application forms, guidance on opening bank accounts, as well as help with registering on the Central Supplier Database. The list of NPOs can be accessed on the DSD website, by clicking [here](#).

The Early Childhood Development Employment Stimulus Relief Fund is part of sustaining employment opportunities in the sector in light of the high unemployment rate and job losses caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

ECD operators/owners/managers must apply on behalf of their ECD service, and if successful, would pay the ECD employees. Individual ECD workers cannot apply to the fund themselves.

Successful applicants can only use the funds to subsidise the cost of employment for workers.

The financial support will amount to a maximum value of R4 470 per staff member. The support varies according to the type of ECD service.

1. A maximum of 4 staff members per ECD centre will be supported.
2. A maximum of one staff member will be supported at non centre-based ECD programmes.

The types of ECD programmes include the following:

- ECD centres
- Playgroups
- Mobile ECD programmes
- Childminders
- Toy libraries

Before making an application, applicants must ensure that they have the following in place:

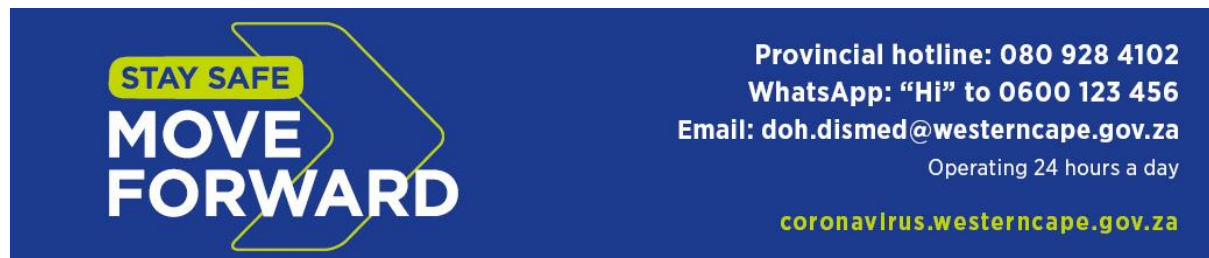
- Banking account: All ECD services making an application will need to have a bank account in the name of the ECD service.
- Loaded on the Central Supplier Database (CSD): ECD services that do not currently receive funding from Provincial DSD will need to be registered on the CSD database, which can be done via this link: <https://secure.csd.gov.za/Account/Register>.
- The registration number generated from the CSD database will be required for the stimulus application.

How to apply:

Applicants must use the govchat.app portal to apply.

For assistance with the application, call 0800 089 666. For more information about the qualifying criteria, visit www.dsd.gov.za

Applications opened on 05 February 2021 and will close at 23h59 on the 19 February 2021.



STAY SAFE

MOVE FORWARD

Provincial hotline: 080 928 4102
WhatsApp: "Hi" to 0600 123 456
Email: doh.dismed@westerncape.gov.za
Operating 24 hours a day
coronavirus.westerncape.gov.za