| ECCE logo | VIRGINIA’S CHILD CARE SUBSIDY PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM PROVIDERS |
| --- | --- |

## WHY WILL VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (VDOE) OVERSEE THE CHILD CARE SUBSIDY PROGRAM (CCSP)?

In 2020, the Virginia General Assembly passed [legislation](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title22.1/chapter14.1/section22.1-289.03/) directing the Board of Education to establish a [unified public-private system for early care and education](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/early-childhood/build-unified-early-childhood-system/index.shtml), administered by the VDOE. This legislation establishes the VDOE as the single point of accountability for school readiness and moves oversight of child care programs to the VDOE.

Effective July 1, 2021, VDOE will set policy and funding priorities for the CCSP. However, the program will still be administered by the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) through its network of local offices. The experience for approved vendors and families will not change as of July 1, 2021.

## WILL FAMILIES’ ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CCSP CHANGE ON JULY 1?

No. All CCSP policies and procedures related to parent or family eligibility will transfer to VDOE on July 1 as-is.

VDOE will review all child care policies and regulations after the July 2021 transition in partnership with the Early Childhood Advisory Committee, the Virginia Board of Education, and the Virginia Department of Social Services.

* This process will include significant engagement with parents, providers, and advocates.
* Proposed changes to CCSP policies will be brought to the Board in late 2021 or early 2022, with the goal of maximizing access to and participation in the subsidy program among providers and families.
* Providers and families will be given advance notice of any changes.

## ARE THERE ANY CHANGES FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE CCSP ON JULY 1?

No. There will not be any changes for child care providers that participate in the CCSP as of July 1, 2021. All CCSP policies and procedures related to provider eligibility, enrollment, and payment processes will transfer to VDOE on July 1 as-is.

VDOE will review all child care policies and regulations after the July 2021 transition in partnership with the Early Childhood Advisory Committee and the Virginia Board of Education.

* All licensed and regulated providers will be notified of the revision process and have opportunities to provide input.
* Proposed changes to CCSP policies will be brought to the Board in late 2021 or early 2022.
* Providers will be given advance notice of any changes.

Some CCSP Vendors may choose to participate in Practice Year 1 of the Unified Measurement and Improvement System. For information on the Unified Measurement and Improvement System, visit VDOE’s [*Building a Unified Early Childhood System*](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/early-childhood/build-unified-early-childhood-system/index.shtml)resource page*.*

## WHERE WILL PROVIDERS APPLY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CCSP AFTER JULY 1?

There will be no change in how providers apply to participate in the CCSP. VDSS will continue to process applications for child care providers that wish to participate in the subsidy program. VDSS will also continue to process bimonthly payments and offer technical assistance to providers.

Interested in serving children through the Child Care Subsidy Program? Learn more about the process for [becoming an approved vendor](https://www.dss.virginia.gov/cc/providers/index.html?pageID=2).

## WHERE CAN PARENTS APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE AFTER JULY 1?

There will be no change in how parents apply for assistance as of July 1. Parents will still apply for assistance at their [local department of social services](https://www.dss.virginia.gov/localagency/index.cgi) or online through [CommonHelp](https://commonhelp.virginia.gov/access/). Applications are available in [English](https://www.dss.virginia.gov/files/division/cc/assistance/parents_guardians/applications/Service_Application_and_Redetermination.pdf), [Spanish](https://www.dss.virginia.gov/files/division/cc/assistance/parents_guardians/applications/Service_Application_and_Redetermination_Spanish.pdf), and other languages upon request.

## WHO DO I CONTACT WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SUBSIDY PROGRAM TRANSITION?

Providers may contact [EarlyChildhood@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:EarlyChildhood@doe.virginia.gov) with questions or feedback about the transition of the child care subsidy program. [Information about the Child Care Subsidy Program](https://www.dss.virginia.gov/cc/index.html) can be found on the Child Care VA website.