

22 August 2021

Keeping you updated COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)

Kia ora koutou

Childcare for Workers of Alert Level 4 Businesses or Services Scheme

The Government has restarted the childcare scheme for essential workers in Alert Level 4 businesses and services. [Read the Government press release here.](#)

The Ministry of Education, which is managing the scheme, currently has 32 approved licensed home-based education and care providers across New Zealand to provide childcare to workers in Alert Level 4 businesses and services.

Capacity *is* limited so the scheme covers childcare for children aged 0-13 years in instances where there are no other adults in the household able to care for the child. Each carer is limited to supporting one household. In this situation, the carer becomes a part of the household 'bubble'.

Find carers providing childcare under the new scheme on the [Ministry of Education website](#).

This includes childcare for workers in social service and community-based organisations continuing to operate at Alert Level 4.

[More information about social service and community-based organisations that can operate at Alert Level 4](#)

At Alert Level 4 everyone should follow relevant Alert Level 4 requirements. More information about [Alert Level 4 requirements on the Unite Against COVID-19 website](#).

Remember that capacity for childcare is limited, and parents are encouraged to consider their own private arrangements, if possible.

This scheme is only available during an Alert Level 4 lockdown as announced by the Government.

More information about the childcare scheme for workers of [Alert Level 4 businesses and services on the Ministry of Education website](#).

Out of School Care and Recreation (OSCAR) services

OSCAR services were funded to provide childcare for workers during the first Alert Level 4 lockdown in March 2020. However, OSCAR services are not included under the new childcare scheme for workers in Alert Level 4 businesses and services.

The latest COVID-19 Public Health Response Act Order does not allow OSCAR services to operate at Alert Level 4. [You can read the Health Order here.](#)

Parents working during Alert Level 4 who usually use OSCAR services can arrange childcare under the new scheme by contacting an approved provider directly.

Find carers providing childcare under the new scheme on the [Ministry of Education website](#).

COVID-19 Wage Subsidy August 2021

If your business cannot operate because of Alert Level 4 restrictions or you will lose revenue, you can apply for the COVID-19 Wage Subsidy scheme to help keep paying your staff.

Businesses and self-employed people must expect a 40% drop in revenue to be eligible to receive the wage subsidy.

Businesses anywhere in New Zealand can apply for the Wage Subsidy Scheme if they are eligible.

Applications for the August 2021 Wage Subsidy are now open. You need to apply through Work and Income.

Find out if you are eligible for the [Wage Subsidy on the Work and Income website](#).

COVID-19 Resurgence Support Payment

The COVID-19 Resurgence Support Payment helps to cover wages and fixed costs for businesses who have been directly affected when there is an increase to Alert Level 2 or higher for a week or more.

To be eligible, your business must have experienced at least a 30% drop in revenue or a 30% decline in capital-raising ability over a 7-day period, due to an increase in Alert Levels.

Applications for the COVID-19 Resurgence Support Payment will open at 8am on 24 August 2021. You need to apply through Inland Revenue.

You can apply for both the COVID-19 Resurgence Support Payment and the COVID-19 Wage Subsidy Scheme if you meet all the eligible criteria.

Find out more information about the [COVID-19 Resurgence Support Payment and how to apply on the Inland Revenue website](#).

Support is available

Updated information for people that need help, support or advice can be found on the [Unite against COVID-19 website](#).

Keep in touch

Stay up to date with previous communications to social service and community providers:

- [Keeping you updated on COVID-19 - 20 August 2021](#)
- [Keeping you updated on COVID-19 - 19 August 2021](#)
- [Keeping you updated on COVID-19 - 18 August 2021](#)
- [Keeping you updated on COVID-19 - 17 August 2021](#)

If you have any questions about this or any other issues, you can email Community_Information@msd.govt.nz

Please regularly check the [Government's COVID-19 website](#) for updated information.

Ngā mihi

Ministry of Social Development on behalf of Government agencies that provide social service funding

If you have any queries, please contact us at Community_information@msd.govt.nz



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