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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

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PIN 20-21-CCP

TO: ALL CHILD CARE FACILITY LICENSEES AND PROVIDERS

FROM: *Original signed by Pamela Dickfoss*
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**SUBJECT: PROVIDING RESOURCES AND SUPPORT FOR CALIFORNIA'S
IMMIGRANT POPULATION**

Provider Information Notice (PIN) Summary

PIN 20-21-CCP provides resources to support child care programs in providing services to, and communicating with, children and families in California's immigrant households during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

The purpose of this PIN is to highlight COVID-19 related information and resources available to support Dual Language Learners (DLL), English Language Learners (ELL), and their families. (The term, "English Language Learners," is generally used for children in the K-12 system, and "Dual Language Learners" is used for children birth to age 5.) Oftentimes, child care providers are trusted messengers in the community and serve as sources of information for parents, caregivers, and families. They also play an important role in creating a welcoming and safe environment for children to learn and grow.

Overview of California's Immigrant Population

California is home to almost 11 million immigrants, which is about 27% of the State's population. Approximately half of all California's children have an immigrant (foreign-born) parent. More than half (52%) of California's immigrants became U.S. citizens through the naturalization process, whereas another 25% have some other permanent or temporary documented statuses (including green cards and visas). The remaining approximately 23% of immigrants are undocumented. Roughly 1.4 million ELLs are enrolled in the K-12 public school system, and DLLs comprise nearly an estimated 60% of children ages birth to five.

Meeting the Needs of DLLs and ELLs and Families

Child care providers play a key role in supporting DLL/ELL children's development and learning. They provide language-rich activities that consider the diverse language and cultural backgrounds of the children and acknowledge their unique strengths. Child care providers are encouraged to learn more about how to meet the needs of the DLLs and families by seeking more knowledge about their cultural and linguistic background. Being intentional with the enhanced supports and resources provides children with the knowledge and confidence to take risks while learning. Reaching out to immigrant families with COVID-19 guidance, and other community resources, can help build meaningful connections with those families.

Communication and relationships are key when providing services to families. Child care providers should try to provide information in the preferred language of the families. To the extent possible, and as a best practice, there should be at least one staff member who speaks the language of children served within a program. If such a language match is not available, providers should use interpreters or written translations. If these resources are not available, ask the parent if they have a friend or a relative who can assist with translating. Also, tap into your local trusted community organizations such as child care resource and referral that can help with options.

Immigration Status

It is important for child care providers to be sensitive to the issue of immigration status. Many immigrants are fearful of potential immigration consequences of accessing government services or assistance. Different legal statuses have different eligibility for government benefits or programs. Even when a person has a documented immigration status, they may still have concerns about sharing personal information or accessing government services for their family members.

Additionally, some immigrants have experienced a great deal of trauma during their lives. Sensitivity to how children and their adult caregivers may express trauma will be critical for all child care providers (See [Pin 20-14-CCP Resources To Support Social And Emotional Development Of Children During The Covid-19 Public Health Emergency](#) for more information) . Having resources in the various native languages of families may alleviate some confusion and fear.

Family Engagement

Families are critical in supporting DLL/EL learning from birth. They provide DLL with the first early experiences that can help promote home language development which is critical to the maintenance of family cohesion. When families engage with their child care providers, together they can form strong connections and partnerships that build on DLL/EL children's language and cultural strengths and optimize their learning and development. Establishing positive relationships with families also provides an opportunity to inform families about the importance of continuing to speak to their children in their

primary language. Language is part of the social-emotional identity of the child. Therefore, modeling or emphasis on the home language is critical for the child's development.

Sharing Important COVID-19 Resources with Immigrant Families

Given the ongoing spread of COVID-19, it is important to share the following key messages with immigrant families about the importance of accessing health care and reporting symptoms of the illness:

- COVID-19 can be a serious respiratory illness, and you should not wait to seek care if you are experiencing symptoms such as cough, fever, or shortness of breath.
- If you are uninsured, regardless of income or immigration status, you can be covered for COVID-19 testing, examination, and treatment services FREE of charge through Medi-Cal.
- Seeking these services does NOT count under the public charge rule because it is for an emergency medical condition.
- Learn more at www.covid19.ca.gov or contact the [Medi-Nurse Line](tel:8774099052) at 877-409-9052, where you can speak directly with a health professional, get advice for further treatment, or learn how to apply for health insurance.

California has developed several resources to keep our immigrant communities informed about existing and new resources available to the community, in addition to resources for child care providers.

Governor Newsom's website on COVID-19 related resources has a page dedicated to resources for immigrants: <https://covid19.ca.gov/guide-immigrant-californians/>.

The COVID-19 [Guidance for Immigrant Californians](#) has specific information on:

- Stay-at-home considerations
- Ways to protect yourself and others
- Immigration help
- Public charge information for accessing public benefits
- Testing and treatment
- Information on jobs, wages, and benefits
- Small business support
- Housing
- Food and bills
- Community safety
- Protection against scams and bad information

Resources for Child Care Administrators and Providers

- [COVID-19 Updated Guidance: Child Care Programs and Providers](#)
- [California Preschool Program Guidelines](#)
- [Child Care Licensing Provider Resources](#)

- [California Early Learning and Care Playbook](#)
- [CDE Early Learning and Care COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Child Care Providers United \(CCPU\)](#)

In addition, the State has developed an online [COVID-19 Response Toolkit](#) for partners with resources in multiple languages to help communities understand the importance of getting tested, understanding contact tracing, wearing masks and face coverings, maintaining physical distancing, and other best practices to follow during the pandemic.

The philanthropic group, Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR), also has a [page dedicated to COVID-19 Resources](#), containing specific information mainly geared toward community partners. Resources include:

- [Explainer on US Deportations and Expulsions during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Information on Public-Private Partnerships to support undocumented immigrants](#)
- [Information on Supporting Immigrants during COVID-19](#)

If you have any questions on the COVID-19 public health emergency, please contact the Department's Coronavirus General Questions email at CCLCOVID-19INFO@dss.ca.gov.

For all other child care questions, please contact your [local Regional Office](#).