



GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
GOVERNOR OF GUAM

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SEGUNDO MAGA'LĀHEN GUĀHAN
LT. GOVERNOR OF GUAM

THERESA C. ARRIOLA, MBA
DIRECTOR

PETERJOHN D. CAMACHO, MPH
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

AMANDA LEE SHELTON, MPA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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DPHSS to Phase Out Emergency Child Care Waivers By August 1, 2025

Hagåtña, Guam – The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), Division of Children's Wellness, Bureau of Child Care Services (BCCS), announces the upcoming **discontinuation of essential worker waivers** beginning **August 1, 2025**.

These temporary waivers were introduced to support families during declared states of emergency, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and Typhoon Mawar. This measure allowed families to receive child care subsidies based on enrollment rather than attendance and covered out-of-pocket costs such as co-payments and overages.

As Guam transitions from emergency response to standard operations, the temporary essential worker waivers will be discontinued. **Essential worker waivers approved prior to August 1, 2025, will remain valid for up to 12 months from the date of approval.** While these waivers will not be reissued after their 12-month period ends, families can continue to renew their child care assistance based on standard Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) eligibility criteria.

Families currently receiving assistance are encouraged to review these upcoming changes and plan accordingly. Resources and detailed infographics are available at: <https://guamchildcare.com/>.

“Now that conditions are returning to normal, we remain focused on supporting Guam's families and advancing our mission to ensure safe, reliable child care. While some measures will change, our commitment to those affected stays strong” said DPHSS Director, Theresa C. Arriola. “We encourage those affected to stay informed, plan ahead and reach out if you need help. When we work together, our island community stays strong.”

For questions or additional details regarding these changes, please contact Heidi J. Quinata, Chief Children's Services Administrator, at Heidi.quinata@dphss.guam.gov. You may also reach the BCCS directly at (671) 735-7256.

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