

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS REQUIREMENT

As part of the new federal Child Care and Development Fund reauthorization requirements, child care facilities must meet emergency preparedness requirements by October 1, 2016. The new requirements are for child care centers/preschools, Child Development Homes, and child care homes [non-registered] with a Child Care Assistance Provider Agreement.

The facility's emergency plan must include procedures for:

1. Evacuation and relocation
2. Sheltering-in-place
3. Lockdown
4. Addressing the individual needs of children, including those with functional or access needs
5. Communication and reunification with parents and other approved individuals
6. Continuity of operations

A significant amount of collaborative work has taken place over the last several months. Based on this work, the following resources and assistance is available or in process for child care providers:

1. A child care emergency planning guide, emergency plan template, and tools/templates/resources are available on a dedicated emergency preparedness page on the CCR&R website. <http://iowaccrr.org/ep/>. The emergency planning guide reflects the agencies and organizations involved in the development of the emergency preparedness materials.
2. CCR&R consultants are working with emergency managers in each county to set up a county-level meeting with child care providers to answer questions about the new requirements, talk about emergency preparedness procedures and resources available within the county and share strategies to help meet the new requirements. An example of a letter sent to Buena Vista County child care providers is attached.
  - a. State-level ECI provided funding to print and provide copies of the emergency planning guide and emergency plan template at these county-level meetings.
  - b. State-level ECI provided funding for a limited number of NOAA weather radios to be distributed at county-level meetings.
3. This week, CCR&R released a Constant Contact message to providers in their listserv about the new emergency preparedness requirements, resources available on the CCR&R website and county meetings planned. Also, the blog posted today on the CCR&R website was on emergency preparedness planning.

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4. CCR&R consultants are working with child care providers to help them meet the emergency preparedness requirements in the new law by the October 1, 2016 deadline.

If you have questions, want to learn more about what is happening in the counties in your area or want to identify if there are unmet needs/gaps for child care providers related to emergency preparedness in your area, contact the CCR&R consultant, or the CCR&R Regional Director in your area.

Thanks to Tami Foley at the Iowa Department of Human Services