

# Know Your Rights: Universal Childcare in New Mexico

## How to Enroll

### 1. Submit an Application:

- Online: [www.nmececd.org](http://www.nmececd.org) click on "Apply for Services"
- By Phone: 1-800-832-1321
- In a local ECECD office. Call to find the office nearest to you.

### 2. Submit Required Documents:

Applicants must turn in a copy of a picture ID, proof of NM address, proof of child's birth, adult employment or enrollment in school, guardianship if applicable, and immigration status if the applicant lists the child as a US citizen or immigration status that qualifies for federal assistance. After being approved applicants have an additional 90 days to turn in proof of income and child care placement.

**3. Find a Child Care Placement:** Visit <https://childcare.ececd.nm.gov/search> to find a placement location and service that meets your family's needs.

**4. Renew Your Enrollment:** Families will need to submit a complete application and supporting documentation of income, employment or school enrollment to renew benefits. You will not have to renew for at least 12 months.

## Important Rights:

- **Applicants have up to 30 days to turn in required documents.** Proof of income and adult employment or school enrollment can be submitted up to 90 days after approval.
- **All children qualify, regardless of immigration status.** Immigration status information is only required for children that are US citizens or in an immigration status that qualifies for federally funded benefits. Children who are not in a status that qualifies for federal funding can still enroll in free child care and proof of status is not required. Information about parents' immigration status is never required. Participating in universal child care will not create immigration consequences for families.
  - Immigration statuses that qualify for federally funded benefits: permanent residents, refugees, individuals granted asylum or withholding of deportation, granted parole for at least one year, cuban/haitian entrants and certain immigrants who survived abuse and their children or parents, certain victims of trafficking, individuals residing in the US pursuant to the Compact of Free Association conditional entrants.)
- **All families can receive full time child care,** even if they are in school or working part time, depending on their preference.
- **Enrollment will be approved for a minimum of 12 months.**



505-255-2840



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