



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

2/19/2021

To: Early Learning Center Providers, Family Child Care Providers and In-Home Providers

From: Lisa Brochard, Louisiana Department of Education
Child Care Development Fund Grant Administrator

Re: NOTICE – LEVEL 2 – Severe Winter Storm

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) would like to remind you of the recent severe winter event in Louisiana which has caused power outages, water outages, and boil water advisories. The continuing freezing temperatures have slowed the efforts to resolve these outages and might result in the need for mass care and sheltering for those individuals without power, heat, or water during the current crisis. The LDOE will closely monitor conditions out of concern for your safety and for the safety of the children and families you serve. Please see [Governor Edwards' request for emergency declaration](#) and [presidential approval](#).

If you are a child care provider, please take the following steps to prepare:

- Print the appropriate Reopen Request form to have on hand.
 - [For Early Learning Centers \(Online Form\)](#)
 - [For Family Homes and In-Home Providers \(Online Form\)](#)
- Stay up-to-date with the status of the freezing temperatures and its impact on your area.
- Review the following for a current list of water systems with [outages](#) or under a [boil-water advisory](#).
- Visit the Louisiana Department of Health's [recommendations](#), [FAQs](#), and [Minimum Standards for Operation](#) if under a boil-water advisory
- Contact your local [GOHSEP office](#) for assistance with bottled water for providers without potable water especially if you provide services for essential workers.
- Review and update evacuation and safety plans.
- Practice evacuation and reunification plans.
- Let families know how you will communicate if you are unable to reopen following a disaster.
- Pay close attention to the messages from your local officials, especially concerning [road closures](#) and hazardous conditions.
- Review the FAQs below and be ready if a disaster declaration is made for your parish:
 - [Child Care Program \(CCAP\) – Before, During and After a Disaster](#)
 - [Reinstatement of a Child Care Center License Following a Disaster](#)
- Visit the [LDOE website \(www.louisianabelieves.com\)](#) or call 1-877-453-2721
- Obtain your parish's Emergency Preparedness Contact phone number by clicking [here](#).
- Review the below useful links:
 - <http://www.getagameplan.org/>
 - <http://www.emergency.louisiana.gov/>
- Be safe.

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