



# Emergency Child Care Assistance – General FAQ

## What is Emergency Child Care (ECC) Assistance?

ECC is **temporary** financial assistance to help cover child care costs for families facing crisis situations such as a recent job loss, domestic violence, illness/hospitalization, homelessness, or natural disaster. Fees are paid directly to the child care provider on behalf of the parent. ECC is intended to help with child care costs for a **short** period of time while families address their emergencies.

## Who provides the funding for ECC?

Quality Care for Children (QCC) raises funds for ECC from various private sources. QCC is an Atlanta-based nonprofit that has been serving families and child care providers for 40 years.

## Who is eligible for ECC?

Certain eligibility criteria is determined by the funding source. For example, some require that families live in certain areas or be members of certain health insurance plans. However, all eligible participants **must** be experiencing a crisis situation that is impacting their ability to pay for child care.

## How will child care providers receive payment?

Child care providers that are Quality Rated or in process of becoming Quality Rated may agree to receive this weekly tuition assistance on behalf of the qualifying parent. QCC pays providers via direct deposit each week for child care services provided the week prior. This payment process is non-negotiable.

## I cannot afford to pay for child care. Do I qualify for ECC?

Without a qualifying crisis situation, families are not eligible for ECC assistance. Families in need of more permanent assistance with child care fees are encouraged to apply for CAPS at [www.gateway.ga.gov](http://www.gateway.ga.gov). Families may also call **ALL-GA-KIDS** (1-877-255-4254). ALL-GA-KIDS can help families locate affordable child care as well as see if there is any other financial assistance in the area other than CAPS.

## I need more help. Where can I learn more about other services in my area?

Families can learn about other available services by visiting [www.211.org](http://www.211.org). Families may also speak to someone confidentially over the phone by calling 211. 211 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Other services include food pantries, physical/mental health care, support groups/counseling, rent/utility assistance, homeless/domestic violence shelters, employment/educational opportunities and more.

*For more information about Emergency Child Care assistance, please contact  
QCC's Family Resource Specialist via email at [ecc@qccga.org](mailto:ecc@qccga.org)*