

To: [DOT All Staff](#)
Subject: URGENT - Childcare Message
Date: Saturday, March 14, 2020 4:26:08 PM

From: "MacKinnon, John S (DOT)" <john.mackinnon@alaska.gov>
Date: March 14, 2020 at 4:13:23 PM AKDT

We've seen the rapidly accelerating impacts of Novel Coronavirus 19, the response and closures of many public facilities, programs and events, and the Governor's declared public health disaster emergency on Wednesday.

I realize with schools and afterschool options being closed, there are many of you with concerns regarding childcare for your young children.

Each employee should work through their immediate supervisor to determine what options are available to them and their family to cover childcare needs. Your supervisors will then work through the Division Director for approval of each plan. There is no one answer for every situation. However, possible solutions may include working a flexible schedule with shifting hours, working alternate days to allow two parents to trade off, considering telecommute possibilities, and other creative solutions depending on the specific circumstances. Each situation will be different based on the employee's need and the business need tied to the employee's responsibilities especially those employees caring directly for the life, health, and safety of those we serve.

I understand this is a stressful time, but the State of Alaska is committed to working with employees to try and meet their needs while continuing to serve the vulnerable Alaskans we must protect. The State will continue to be flexible and modify plans as situations change. We must all work together as public servants and as a community to help support each other. This is an opportunity for us as Alaskans to do what we do best; support and care for each other.

Please continue to check the [COVID-19 website](#) for the most current information and guidance regarding Novel Coronavirus 19.

Thank you all for your continued dedication to serving Alaskans.

John MacKinnon
Commissioner
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