

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 21-31

**EXTENDING EMERGENCY REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY FOR
CHILDCARE LICENSING; AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER 21-15.**

Oregon is currently in the midst of a surge of the Delta variant of COVID-19. This has placed an extreme strain on our healthcare system. These challenging circumstances highlight the critical importance of our childcare infrastructure to support working parents, including parents who are healthcare providers, and our youngest Oregonians. As we continue to navigate the challenges of this pandemic, it is vital that our childcare providers are able to remain nimble to respond to urgent and shifting needs to support families. In light of the current delays in processing multistate background checks and the process for child care licensure, I find that there is a need to continue my emergency authorization of regulatory flexibility in the childcare sector so it can continue to support Oregon's economy and its families.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

Pursuant to my authorities under ORS Chapter 401, I am amending paragraph 6(b) of Executive Order 21-15, pertaining to providing additional regulatory flexibility for childcare providers, to modify the authority in sub-paragraphs 6(b)(i) and 6(b)(ii), and to extend the expiration date of the authorizations in those sub-paragraphs through December 31, 2021.

Effective September 1, 2021, at 11:59pm, Paragraph 6(b) of Executive Order 21-15 is amended to read as follows:

- b. Ordering Additional Flexibility through December 31, 2021. For purposes of ensuring continuity of care and facilitating a flexible and orderly transition away from the structures created by Executive Order 20-19, and pursuant to my authorities under ORS Chapters 401 and 433 and this Executive Order, I order the following, through December 31, 2021:
 - i. An entity or individual can be approved to operate a temporary unlicensed emergency childcare facility as authorized by order of the Early Learning Division if the entity or individual meets and complies with all requirements for emergency childcare as provided by the Early Learning Division, including any conditions imposed on the emergency childcare approval. The Early Learning Division may issue guidance to implement this directive.



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- ii. A childcare worker may satisfy the requirement to be enrolled in the Central Background Registry through an Emergency Background Check as authorized by order of the Early Learning Division and in accordance to guidance issued by the Early Learning Division. The Early Learning Division may issue guidance to implement this directive.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 1st day of September, 2021.



Kate Brown

Kate Brown
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Shemia Fagan

Shemia Fagan
SECRETARY OF STATE