



Important Program Information and Updates Pertaining to COVID-19

Update on Status of Day Programs – We do not have a firm opening date for our Day Program participants to return in-person, but we are making progress! We are reviewing our safety plans and protocols, the State Blueprint, and following guidance from Ventura County Public Health, CDC and Community Care Licensing to prepare for a safe reopening. We expect Day Programs to open at 10-25% of our previous licensed capacity. Remote and online services will continue.

Community Care Licensing (CCL) requires The Arc to maintain a written record of vaccination status of all program participants. If COVID-19 vaccination (2nd dose of a 2-dose vaccine or the one-dose vaccine) has been completed, we would appreciate a copy of the participant's vaccine card. If electing not to vaccinate, a COVID-19 Vaccine Declination Form will be available to complete. If you decide to vaccinate after declining, please provide a copy of the vaccine card and we will update participant's CCL file. Please be assured that vaccination status has no bearing on eligibility to return to Day Program.

If you have any questions about your services, please contact your program's manager or case manager. You may also contact Patty Schulz at 805-650-8611, ext. 1050 or by email at pschulz@arcvc.org.



We encourage you to consider the COVID-19 Vaccination to protect yourself and the people around you. Please see the attached vaccine information and if you have any questions or need help making or keeping a vaccination appointment, reach out to your program manager for assistance.

We understand that choosing to vaccinate or not is a personal decision and we will respect your choice either way. You may want to seek advice from your medical provider about whether or not to vaccinate.

The California State Controller's Office has compiled the **COVID-19 Relief and Assistance for Individuals and Families**, a resource for easy access to available state and federal financial assistance programs. You can visit the page here:

<https://www.sco.ca.gov/covid19ReliefAndAssistanceIF.html>



The State Controller's Office also safeguards lost and forgotten property turned over to the state (e.g., bank accounts, uncashed checks, insurance benefits, wages, stocks, bonds, and safe deposit box contents) until claimed by the rightful owners. Potential owners can search for unclaimed property on the Controller's database at www.claimit.ca.gov.



Emergency Broadband Benefit Program

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has established the Emergency Broadband Benefit, a new Program to help households struggling to pay for internet service during the pandemic. The Program will be available to qualified households, including individuals with special needs.

About the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program

The Emergency Broadband Benefit will provide a discount of up to \$50 per month towards broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute \$10-\$50 toward the purchase price. The Emergency Broadband Benefit is limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household.

Who Is Eligible for the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program? A household is eligible if one member of the household:

- Qualifies for the [Lifeline](#) program;
- Receives benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision, or did so in the 2019-2020 school year;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
- Experienced a substantial loss of income since February 29, 2020 and the household had a total income in 2020 below \$99,000 for single filers and \$198,000 for joint filers; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating providers' existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

The Program has been authorized by the FCC, but start date has not yet been established. The FCC is working to make the benefit available as quickly as possible, with sign-ups anticipated by the end of April, 2021. Please select the following link for additional information: <https://www.fcc.gov/consumer-faq-emergency-broadband-benefit>.

The Arc of Ventura County has registered as an Outreach Partner with the FCC and will share important information about the Emergency Broadband Benefit with our constituents as received.



**Thank you for your continued support of The Arc of Ventura County.
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