



# Notice Of Governor Proclamation Declaring Disaster

On May 31, 2021, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation declaring a disaster in the state of Texas due to a surge of individuals unlawfully crossing the Texas-Mexico border. The proclamation directs the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to discontinue state licensing of any child-care facility that shelters or detains individuals not lawfully present in the United States under a contract with the federal government.

The proclamation suspends sections of Texas law and directs HHSC:

- to deny a license application for any new child-care facility that shelters or detains individuals not lawfully present in the United States under a contract with the federal government;
- to renew the license of an existing child-care facility eligible for renewal that shelters or detains such individuals for a renewal period ending no later than 90 days following the date of this order to allow the federal government to identify alternative locations for individuals within its custody; and
- to provide advance notice and initiate a 90-day period beginning on the date of this order during which any other existing child-care facility that shelters or detains such individuals must wind down those operations and allow the federal government to identify alternative locations for individuals within its custody.

## What do I need to do?

By August 30, 2021, you must wind down any operations at your child-care facility that provide care under a federal contract to individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States.

### **What happens after August 30, 2021?**

If you are still providing care for individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States under a contract with the federal government, HHSC will take necessary steps to comply with the proclamation and ensure no state-licensed child-care facility is sheltering or detaining individuals who are not lawfully present under a contract with the federal government.

### **What if my permit is eligible for renewal prior to August 30th?**

At the time of the renewal, if you are otherwise eligible for renewal and caring for individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States under a contract with the federal government, HHSC will renew your permit and you may continue to care for individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States until August 30, 2021, in order to allow the federal government to identify alternative locations for individuals within its custody.

### **Does this apply if I contract with the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) or another federal entity and provide care for individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States?**

Yes, this proclamation applies.

### **Does this apply if I am a family residential center?**

Yes, this proclamation applies to state-licensed family residential centers.

### **Does this apply if I do not have any contracts with the federal government?**

No, this proclamation prohibits state-licensed child-care facilities from providing certain services pursuant to a contract with the federal government.

### **Does this apply if my operation is not located in a county named in the proclamation?**

Yes, this proclamation affects "any child-care facility in this state that shelters or detains unlawful immigrants or other individuals not lawfully present in the United States under a contract with the federal government."