

Emergency Child Care – What is it and how does it work?

What is emergency child care?

The Child Care Services of Goettingen („Kindertagespflegeboerse Goettingen“) and the Department of Medicine of the University of Goettingen started a joint project in October 2013 called “Emergency Child Care“. Affiliates of the Department of Medicine can register with Child Care Services and then become eligible to use it up to four times a year for “emergency“ cases, when no other child care option can be arranged. The Child Care Services of Goettingen provides you with a qualified child care provider and the Department of Medicine pays for the care.

Who is eligible for the “Emergency Child Care“?

All affiliates of the Department of Medicine can register for this program with Child Care Services of Goettingen.

When and where can I register?

Register with the Child Care Services of Goettingen (contact at the end of the paper) preferably (at least six weeks) before the day on which you will need child care (see registration form). This ensures an introduction phase in which you and the child can get to know the child care provider.

What happens after I register?

As soon as you register in this program, an assistant from the Child Care Services of Goettingen will recommend qualified and suitable child care providers to you. You can then contact them and get to know them. You choose a provider (in exceptional cases you could choose two) with whom you will then arrange appointments for the introduction phase (see above). Please don't forget to inform the Child Care Services which child care provider you choose. For your information: You could arrange introductory meetings (up to six times a year) in between the four emergency child care visits as well. This helps your child/children stay familiar with the care provider even if a lot of time lapses between the emergency child care visits.

Who are the child care providers?

All child care providers (some male, but mostly female) recommended by the program have been qualified through Child Care Services of Goettingen, a certified institution of the German Youth Institute („Deutsches Jugendinstitut“). Their qualifications come from a 168-hour-curriculum, which is standard training for child care providers in Germany. The second possibility is that the nominated child care providers are nannies that have been prepared by Child Care Services of Goettingen in a 30-hour course that prepares them to take care of your children. All child care providers have been checked for their suitability. Throughout the whole process all child care providers get professional guidance and support from Child Care Services.

What is an “Emergency Case“?

- Cancellation of regular child care (at nursery school, kindergarten, or elementary school, or from an early child care provider, babysitter...), for example caused by sickness, bad weather conditions, or strike, etc.

- Official business appointments, for example extra hours, substitutions, special events or student meetings that are scheduled out of regular child care times.
- (Light) sickness of your own child

What do I have to do if an emergency arises?

If an emergency arises, contact the child care provider you have chosen. Immediately following the emergency child care, notify Child Care Services of Goettingen. You can do this by filling out the confirmation form („Bestaetigungsformular“) and sending it to Child Care Services within one week.

What is covered by the „Emergency Child Care Program“?

- 6 appointments in the „introduction phase“ (2 hours each)
- 4 visits of “emergency child care“

for each accounting period (October until September).

Formalities:

After each appointment in the „introduction phase“ and after each emergency care visit, the child care provider turns in an invoice to Child Care Services of Goettingen and therefore balances accounts with them directly. The parents turn in the confirmation form („Bestaetigungsformular“) indicating whether the meeting was introduction phase or emergency child care. Only when the invoice (by the child care provider) and the confirmation form (by the parents) have been received by Child Care Services of Goettingen can the child care provider be paid.

How long can I use the program?

The program always runs from 01.01. - 31.12. of a calendar year. In November, a needs inquiry will be made on the Kindertagespflegebörse. This will clarify whether you remain in the program or loses the right to the place, because you did not use it.

*If you have further questions please contact Kindertagespflegeboerse:
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More information: www.kindertagespflege-goe.de