Child Care Licensing

Orange County Regional Office
October 20, 2020

Note: Due to the rapidly changing guidance, please refer to the Governor’s Office for COVID – 19 updates and you local county public health department for most current updates.
The core mission of the Child Care Licensing Program is to ensure the health and safety of children in care.

The Child Care Licensing Program strives to provide preventive, protective, and quality services to children in care by ensuring that licensed facilities meet established health and safety standards through monitoring facilities, providing technical assistance, and establishing partnerships with providers, parents, and the child care community.
Agenda

- Guardian
- COVID-19 Update Guidance: Child Care Program and Providers
- Providers Information Notices (PINS)
- Safe Sleep
- Lead Testing
- Waivers
- Tour the Child Care Licensing Website
- Orange County Health Care Agency Information
- Guest Speakers:
  - Diana Torres, Children’s Home Society of California
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Questions and Answers (Q&A)
- Resources
The Caregiver Background Check Bureau (CBCB) is working on the implementation of a new background check data system. The name of the system is Guardian and is expected to go live Fall 2020.

The Guardian will ensure background checks are completed faster and more efficiently, while making the process easier for applicants and agencies to request exemptions. Agencies will have the ability to process clearance and exemption transfers and will be able to manage their rosters online.
Agencies (facilities) will have the ability to:
  • View and manage your own roster
  • Perform real time associations and disassociations for your agency
  • Initiate background checks for an applicant
  • View and manage the exemption process for an applicant
  • Receive electronic communications from the Caregiver Background Check Bureau

More information can be found on the Guardian Webpage

Guardian General Inbox:
Guardian@dss.ca.gov
(All Spanish inquiries sent to this inbox are translated and responded to)

The new tool is set to go live FALL of 2020.
We will briefly highlight the most recent COVID-19 Update Guidance Child Care Program and Providers. The guide can be found at

www.covid19.ca.gov
COVID-19 Update Guidance

For child care facilities remaining open or reopening, it is important to intensify cleaning routines and increase the frequency of disinfecting high-touch surfaces.

All child care facilities should be implementing physical distancing guidelines.

This means 6 feet of separation between individuals to the best extent possible, while actively implementing the wearing of facial coverings unless there is special need.
COVID-19 Update Guidance

Children over the age of 2 years should be highly encouraged to wear their masks. Please keep in mind, this will take time to teach and reinforce these healthy practices with children.

It is suggested to send home resources and reminders to families.
Changing our actions and teaching young children and parents healthy and safe habits amid at this health crisis, even for a short period of time, will help to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
Provider Information Notices

- **PIN 20-04 CCP** - Statewide Waivers for Licensing Requirements Due to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), and Prevention, Containment, and Mitigation Measures.

- **PIN 20-06 CCP** – Social and physical distancing guidance and healthy practices for child care facilities in response to the global Coronavirus pandemic.

- **PIN 20-07 CCP** Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Talking Points From the Child Care Licensing Stakeholder Calls Held on March 17, 2020, and April 1, 2020.
Provider Information Notices

- **PIN 20-11 CCP** (Updated May 21, 2020) - COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for Child Care Licensees and Providers. This will be available in multiple languages.

- **PIN 20-13 CCP** Provides information to child care licensees and providers regarding the Finding a Testing Site webpage where individuals can search for the nearest available COVID-19 testing location.

- **PIN 20-14 CCP** Provides resources for providers and families to support the social and emotional development of children during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) public health crisis. (Available in Spanish)
Provider Information Notices

- **PIN 20-15 CCP** Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) Updated Guidance for Child Care Settings, specific to the staff to child ratio.
- **PIN 20-17-CCP** Provides an updated safety notice regarding hand sanitizers containing methanol.
- **PIN 20-18-CCP** Provides information regarding Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C), recently identified by health authorities as being linked to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).
Provider Information Notices

- **PIN 20-19 CCP** Provides information about Rapid Assistance Support Team (RAST) tele-visits to assist child care facility licensees and providers operating during the COVID-19.

- **PIN 20-21-CCP** Provides resources to support child care programs in providing services to, and communicating with, children and families in California’s immigrant households during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.
Provider Information Notices

**PIN 20-22-CCP** Provides responses to the most frequently asked questions from child care providers concerning waivers, cohorts, group size, and ratios required in licensed and license-exempt child care settings during the COVID-19 health crisis.

**PIN 20-24-CCLD** Provides direction to all community care licensees regarding the resumption of requirements related to in-person complaint investigations; that were in place prior to the COVID-19 emergency.
Provider Information Notices

NON-COVID-19 Provider Information Notice (PIN)

PIN 20-24-CCP Provides information on the recently adopted safe sleep regulations to be implemented in all licensed facilities. The PIN is only a summary please review Title 22 Regulations for specific changes.
Safe Sleep
Safe Sleep

- Infants up to 12 months of age must be placed on their backs to sleep, unless there is a medical exemption from a licensed physician that allows for an alternative sleep position.

- Cribs must be free from all loose articles and objects, including blankets and pillows.

- Mattresses must be firm and include a tight-fitted sheet.

- Infants must not be forced to sleep, stay awake, or stay in the sleeping area.

- Infants must not be swaddled while in care.

- An infant’s head must not be covered while sleeping.
Safe Sleep

- If an infant falls asleep before being placed in a crib, for example, in a provider’s arms or stroller, the provider must move the infant to a crib or play yard for Family Child Care Homes as soon as possible.

- Car seats will only be used for transportation and must not be used for sleeping within a child care facility.

- All pacifiers cannot have anything attached, such as a stuffed animal or a clip meant to attach the pacifier to the infant’s clothing.

- Providers must check on sleeping infants every 15 minutes and document their condition to check for signs of distress, which includes, but is not limited to labored breathing, flushed skin color, increase in body temperature, and restlessness.
Safe Sleep

- Each infant, up to 12 months of age, must have an Individual Infant Sleeping Plan (LIC 9227) on file, which will document the infant’s sleeping habits, usual sleep environment, and the infant’s rolling abilities.
Safe Sleep

CHILD CARE CENTER SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- Half-walls or transparent walls may be used when constant auditory and visual supervision can be maintained.

- In the event a separate room is used as a designated infant sleeping area, without transparent walls or half-walls, staff must adhere to the staff-infant ratio requirements, as specified in Section 101416.5(d).
Safe Sleep

FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- The provider must have one crib or play yard for each infant in care.

- If an infant is sleeping in a separate room from where the provider is stationed, the door to the room the infant is sleeping in shall remain open at all times.

- The provider shall be able to visually observe the infant without moving the door.

- The provider shall be near enough to the sleeping infant to be able to hear them wake up.
Lead Testing

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced an award of $6,137,000 in grant funding to assist the California Department of Social Services with identifying sources of lead in drinking water in childcare centers.

- Effective July 1, 2020, licensing applicants (includes new applications, change of location but not change of capacity applications) are required to take a health and safety training that includes prevention of lead exposure.

- All licensed Child care Center constructed before January 1, 2010, are required to test their water for lead between January 1, 2020 and January 1, 2023 and then every 5 years after the date of the first lead testing.
Waivers

- During this pandemic, the California Department of Social Services has authority to waive statutory requirements while under the Governor’s Proclamation of a State of Emergency.

- Some examples of COVID-19 related waivers include, but are not limited to annual fees, building and grounds requirements, personnel requirements.

- Fee waivers were considered only for licensing fees that expired between March 2020 and June 2020 per PIN 20-10-CCLD. The deadline for applying for this waiver was September 15, 2020.
Child Care Licensing Disaster Resource Webpage

Disaster Resources

The mission of the California Department of Social Services is to serve, aid, and protect needy and vulnerable children and adults in ways that strengthen and preserve families, encourage personal responsibility, and foster independence. When providers are impacted by natural disasters and catastrophic events, the result can be detrimental to the communities they serve.

For the most current information on the COVID-19 Health Emergency please see the Child Care Licensing Provider Information Notices and COVID-19 Resources. For current statewide and local guidance please refer to the following resources:

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) in California
- New: COVID-19 Positive Cases in Child Care Facilities
- Department of Public Health
  - Guidance Documents: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- Local Public Health Departments
  - Local County Public Health Department List
  - Local Health Department Communicable Disease Contact Information
Total COVID-19 Cases Reported OCRO from 3/13 – 8/21 (154)

Positive Cases (143)

Negative, Exposure Only, Pending Results (11)

Daycare Centers (119)

- Child (7)
- Parent/Authorized Representative (43)
- Family member of a child (2)
- Staff (66)
- Family member of a staff (1)

Large Family Daycare (24)

- Child (1)
- Parent/Authorized Representative (8)
- Family member of a child (1)
- Licensee (2)
- Family member of a licensee (5)
- Staff (4)
- Non-staff resident (3)
Guest Speaker

David Nunez, MD, MPH, FAAP
Medical Director, Community and Nursing Services Division
CDPH Resources

  - Planning and Training
  - Cleaning and Hygiene
  - Arrival procedures
  - Health screening and symptoms
  - Group size and staffing cohorts
  - Physical distancing
  - Meal times
Cleaning and Disinfecting

HCA Resources and Assistance

- COVID-19 Schools Response Team:
  - Case investigation and contact tracing assistance
    - Establish timeline when symptoms began
    - Identify list of potential close contacts using exposure criteria:
      - Within 6 feet of infected person
      - At least 15 minutes (cumulative)
    - Guidance on notification and information
  - LHD notification about cases and exposures
- HRL 1–800–564–8448, option 2, M–F 8am–5pm
HCA Resources and Assistance

COVID-19 Testing available in OC:
https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing
https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing

Where Can I Get Tested?
Ask your healthcare provider about testing. If you have health insurance, contact your healthcare provider about FREE testing and care. If you do not know how to reach your healthcare provider, call the customer service number on your insurance card, or click here to view websites of major healthcare providers in Orange County.

The following types of testing sites are available:

- **Drive Thru Testing Clinics, Urgent Cares, and Labs.** Many locations are now available for testing. They will utilize your health insurance with NO COPAY, and some - for example, CVS - will provide FREE testing for people without insurance. Contact them first to verify any costs and to make an appointment.

- **OC COVID-19 Testing Network for those with Symptoms.** If you have symptoms of COVID-19 or someone in your household has COVID-19, and you **cannot get a test through your healthcare provider**, you can get a FREE medical assessment (check-up) and a test through the OC COVID-19 Testing Network. These are community health centers that offer testing and care, even if you don't have health insurance.

- **OC COVID-19 Testing Super Site for those with symptoms or meet other California Department of Public Health (CDPH) criteria.** This site offers appointment-based drive-thru COVID-19 testing for individuals who cannot get a test through their medical provider and have symptoms or meet CDPH criteria such as being a healthcare worker, first responder, and other essential worker; or had close contact to someone with COVID-19.

- **State of California OptumServe Testing Sites.** These sites provide FREE testing with a brief medical screening to people who cannot get a test through their healthcare provider. These sites only offer testing and do not have a medical provider on site. These sites are recommended for people without symptoms (asymptomatic)-such as healthcare workers, first responders, and other essential workers; and those who have had close contact to someone with COVID-19. Register for testing through OptumServe Testing or call (888) 634-1123 if you do not have internet access.
OC Healthier Together COVID-19 Community Toolkit:
http://www.ochealthiertogether.org/tiles/index/display?alias=covidtoolkit

- Multilingual resources about COVID-19 prevention, symptoms, quarantine, isolation, and other topics
Guest Speaker

Diana Torres
Program Administrator III
Children’s Home Society of California
Children’s Home Society of California (CHS) is the Resource and Referral Agency for Orange County.

- CHS holds the database for referrals to Orange County child care.

- CHS provides parents with referrals for child care when they call our Resource and Referral hotline during operating hours: Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Parents can also search our child care database through our website, 7 days a week/24 hours a day. [https://www.chs-ca.org/for-families/child-care-referrals](https://www.chs-ca.org/for-families/child-care-referrals)

- CHS hosts a variety of no-cost informative workshops for child care providers and parents.

- CHS maintains communication with child care providers and strives to provide timely information through our website, email blasts, monthly newsletters, and direct outreach. Providers must keep current contact information on file with CHS and update their information by calling the Resource and Referral hotline at (714) 543-2273, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or by emailing ReferralsOC@chs-ca.org.
Resource and Referral

MyChildCare.ca.gov

- Children’s Home Society of California (CHS) contacts Orange County child care providers with email addresses on file with CHS, by sending an email twice a week requesting information regarding provider updates and changes in vacancies.

- CHS staff update provider information in the CHS database.

- Information from the CHS database is uploaded to My Child Care twice a week on Tuesday and Friday.

- Providers who do not see their updated information on My Child Care are encouraged to contact the Resource & Referral department at CHS to ensure the email address on file is current. CHS Resource & Referral is available at (714) 543-2273, Monday to Friday between 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Funds for Cleaning and Supplies for Child Care Providers (CSCP)

- The California Department of Education (CDE) released funds on 4/30/20 to support cleaning and supplies for child care providers (CSCP) in response to the state of emergency resulting from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

- These funds are available through Children’s Home Society of California (CHS) for eligible Orange County providers operating Early Learning and Care (ELC) programs.

In order to be eligible to receive CSCP funds, providers must:

1. Be currently open or intend to reopen during the period of the COVID–19 state of emergency to serve children of essential workers, at-risk populations, and children with disabilities or special health care needs where the child’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) includes ELC services.

2. Self-certify using the State of California Provider Self-Certification Form, that is available on the CHS website (https://www.chs-ca.org/for-providers/cleaning-supplies). If the provider is not open at the time of self-certification, the form must include the expected day of reopening.

3. Receive CSCP funds from only one R&R during the initial distribution of CSCP funds.
The funds will be disbursed to providers to assist them in purchasing the following items that will help ensure the health and safety of the child care providers, children, and families:

1. Cleansers and sanitizers, masks, gloves, and other cleaning equipment
2. Labor costs associated with additional time for cleaning or cleaning service
3. Supplies including instructional materials necessary to implement social distancing and other reasonable health and safety costs associated with responding to COVID-19 state and local health guidance
4. Awards for CSCP funds shall be made on a first-come, first-service basis, and allocated based on the capacity of the child care provider and per-child funding amount of $65.89. For licensed providers, capacity will be the licensed capacity or the total number of children served, whichever is larger. For license-exempt providers: centers will be reimbursed based on their capacity and for license-exempt homes, reimbursement is based on the number of children receiving subsidized care.
Resource and Referral

- Essential Supply Distributions
  - The Emergency Child Care Task Force has been coordinating supply distributions for child care providers.
  - These supplies are available to child care providers that are open or plan to reopen soon.
  - To receive invitations for supply distributions, providers must add their name to the “open provider” list on the Early Childhood Orange County website. The list is updated each Friday. Please complete the Orange County COVID-19 Child Care Questionnaire at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSebyWyz0XdPAq1KLpUfvD_u-3rCZWamq51I4Qrw0_JXNsJejw/viewform
  - Next Distribution will take place at Pretend City Museum August 28th and 29th
Licensing staff partners with several local, state, and non-state stakeholders.

Child Care Licensing values collaboration and understands the importance of frequent communication.

- Child Care Providers United Union
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
- Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (R&Rs)
- California Department of Education (CDE), Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD). Local Child Care and Development Planning Councils
- Local First Five California (F5CA) California Fire Resources
- Local Education Agency (LEA)
- Department of Developmental Services Regional Centers
- Local Police Department
Reminder

- Providers please contact the Local Health Department the Child Care Regional Office and families in your program of any suspected or confirmed outbreak of COVID-19.

- CCL will continue to provide updated guidance as needed and will continue to provide additional important information on the CCLD Website.
Additional Resources

- **California Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources**: Official website for California Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response daily updates and resources.

- **California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA)**: This guidance contains information for child care programs on ways to update their IIPPs to include information on employee training and preventing the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace. This is mandatory in most California workplaces since COVID-19 is widespread in the community.

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**: This information is intended for child care programs that remain open and should be used in conjunction with CDC’s guidance for administrators of child care programs and K-12 schools. This guidance does not supersede applicable federal, state, and local laws and policies for child care programs.
Additional Resources

- **California Department of Education (CDE):** Information and resources regarding CDE's COVID-19 response efforts, including the guidance document for safely reopening schools for the 20-21 school year.

- **California Department of Pesticide Regulation:** Information regarding best practices per Caring for Our Children (CFOC) National Health and Safety Performance Standards Guidelines for Early Care and Education. Be sure to always follow child care licensing requirements.

- **California Department of Public Health:** General information and guidance on COVID-19 updated frequently.
Questions

- Community Care Licensing Division Child Care Offices
  744 P Street, MS: T9-15-48
  Sacramento, CA 95814
  (916) 651-6040 FAX: (916) 651-0531

- Coronavirus General Question Inbox:
  CCLCOVID-19INFO@dss.ca.gov

- Child Care Assistance
  (800) 543-7793