



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.

April 19, 2021



Guidance: Childcare Programs and Providers

Background

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On March 13, 2020 Marin County Public Health issued a Public Health Advisory that provided guidance for childcare providers to reduce COVID-19 transmission. On July 17, 2020, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and Cal-OSHA released [statewide guidance for childcare programs and providers](#). On July 15, 2020 CDSS issued [guidance for childcare facilities](#). On March 19, 2021, CDSS' Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) issued a Provider Information Notice ([PIN 21-08-CCP](#)), which provided an update on group size and ratios required in licensed and license-exempt child care settings during the COVID19 health crisis.

Marin County is seeing consistent reductions in COVID-19 transmission and increasing COVID-19 vaccination rates. Childcare programs may now operate with staffing and enrollment levels according to their pre-pandemic licensing approvals.

For the purposes of this guidance, "childcare programs" includes childcare centers, child development facilities, family childcare in homes, preschools, afterschool (aftercare) programs, and day camps.

Actions Request of Providers

1. Encourage eligible family members and staff to get vaccinated.
Appointments available at <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/vaccine/signup>.
2. Stay vigilant with infection control and prevention measures.
3. Review and implement [CDPH guidance](#) relevant to your operations including, but not limited to:
 - a. [COVID-19 Update Guidance: Childcare Programs and Providers](#)
 - b. [Blueprint for a Safer Economy Activity and Business Tiers](#)
 - c. [Updated Guidance on Gatherings](#)
 - d. [COVID-19 Guidance: Outdoor Seated Live Events and Performances](#)
 - e. [COVID-19 Interim Guidance: Day Camps](#)
4. Review California Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) Provider Information Notice (PIN 21-08-CCP) issued on 3/19/2021 at <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCLD/PINs/2020/CCP/PIN-20-22-CCP.pdf>
 - a. Group Size
CCLD and Marin County Public Health now allow childcare facilities to operate with staffing and enrollment levels according to their pre-pandemic licensing approvals.
 - i. Keep groups as small as practicable.
Staff may work with more than one group. Assign staff to as few groups as possible to limit staff exposure and prevent spread of COVID-19 across cohorts.

- b. New enrollees
 - i. Newly enrolled children and youth may join a group at any time.
 - ii. Encourage families to limit participating in extracurricular groups. Children and youth should only participate on one athletic team.
- 5. Encourage families to delay travel until fully vaccinated and to follow CDPH Travel Advisory:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Travel-Advisory.aspx>
 - a. Travelers who are not fully vaccinated should get tested with a viral test 1-3 days before travel and get tested 5 days after they return. They should stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
 - b. Travelers who are not fully vaccinated and don't get tested should stay home and [self-quarantine](#) for 10 days after travel.

RESOURCES

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

- COVID-19 Case and Contact Management Within Child Care Facilities (8/25/2020) <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/contact-managementchildcare-facilities.aspx>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Guidance for Schools and Childcare. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>
- Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-child-care.html>
- Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>
- Suggestions for Youth and Summer Camps. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/summer-camps.html>