April 29, 2021

Guidance: Childcare Programs and Providers

Update

On April 23, 2021, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) updated industry guidance on day camps and other supervised youth activities. CDPH Interim Guidance on Day Camps (July 29, 2020) is no longer applicable.

Guidance for day camps and other supervised youth activities does not apply to childcare or youth sports. Those sectors must follow the applicable guidance for childcare and youth sports.

Background

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, 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.

Day camps and other supervised youth activities – updated April 23, 2021

Day camps and other supervised youth activities must follow these specific portions of the K-12 school guidance:

- Layers of safety
- Confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case response
- Closures
- Testing

Post the checklist for day camps and other supervised youth activities in your facility to show employees, youth, and families that you’ve reduced the risk and are open for operation.
Actions Request of Providers

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 Industry Guidance: Private Venues and Events
   e. COVID-19 Guidance: Outdoor Seated Live Events and Performances
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)


• Guidance for Operating Childcare Programs During COVID-19. (3/12/2021)  

• Cleaning and Disinfecting your Facility (4/5/2021)  

• Guidance for Operating Youth and Summer Camps (4/24/2021)  