



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Early Learning Division
Office of Child Care



June 5, 2020

To: Child care providers and the families they serve

RE: When children and staff must be removed from child care during the COVID-19 crisis

Under the [Statewide Guidance](#) issued May 16, 2020 by the Oregon Health Authority and Early Learning Division, the following requirements apply for those who are sick, or have a diagnosed or presumptive case of COVID-19:

1. If a child or staff member is sick with an illness that includes cough, fever, or shortness of breath:
 - This child or staff member should be sent home and tested for the coronavirus.
 - If the test is positive or if the child or staff member is not tested, they must stay home for at least 10 days, and until 72 hours (3 days) after resolution of their symptoms.
 - If the coronavirus test negative, the child or staff member may return 72 hours (3 days) after resolution of their symptoms.
2. If a child or staff member is exposed to a person who tests positive for the coronavirus or has a presumptive case of COVID-19:
 - This child or staff member must quarantine for 14 days with no symptoms – this is the time it takes to see if symptoms arise (incubation period for COVID-19).
 - If COVID-19 symptoms develop during that 14 days, the child or staff member should consult a doctor and follow the directions above. (The child or staff member may now have a presumptive case of COVID-19.)
3. If a child or staff member is exposed to a person who is in or enters quarantine for COVID-19, but the child or staff member does not have any symptoms:
 - Exclusion from child care is NOT required. Children cannot be denied care because of the fear of transmission of COVID-19.
 - Consult with a local public health authority with any concerns. A directory of local public health authorities in Oregon can be found [here](#).
4. Important definitions:
 - “Presumptive case of COVID-19”: when you have been exposed to someone with a positive coronavirus test AND you have symptoms of cough, fever, or shortness of breath.
 - “Quarantine: when you stay away from other people for a period of time when you may become sick with an infection, even if you have no symptoms.
 - “Fever free”: A temperature less than 100.4° Fahrenheit AND not using fever-reducing medicine (e.g. Tylenol).

We are providing this information to help ensure Emergency Child Care providers know the requirements, and parents are aware that the exclusion of a child from care is based on state requirements rather than provider choice.