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# Update on Child Care & Early Education Guidance

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020



# Who does the guidance cover?

- All licensed programs, including certified center, certified family, and registered family.
- All child care and preschool provided in public school settings.
- All recorded programs, including school-age.
- Oregon Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-natal to Kindergarten), Preschool Promise, and Baby Promise.
- Oregon Relief Nurseries.
- Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) provided in a child care or early education setting.



# When is the guidance in effect?

Released: August 14

Goes into effect:

September 1, 2020.

-or-

Earlier, if you follow all the guidance.



# Drop-off & Pick-up - current guidance

- Allow parents to stay outside.
- Recommend staggered times.
- Wash hands when going inside.



# Drop-off & Pick-up

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft:

- Parents must stay outside.
- Handwashing/sanitizing outside.
- Parents must wear face covering.
- Revisions make clear required or recommended.

## Additional Revisions:

- For RF and CF, when only one staff present, allows parents to enter home for drop-off & pick-up.
- Handwashing/sanitizing immediately inside allowed.



# Daily Health Checks – current guidance

- Ask if they have a fever.
- Ask if they had contact with a COVID-19 case.
- Ask about symptoms: cough, short of breath, fever.



# Daily Health Checks

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft:

- Requires temperature check for anyone entering.
- Permits a returns for certain symptoms without a 10-day wait with a medical note.
- Record only pass/fail; not details.

## Additional Revisions:

- Allows staff to self-attest for daily health check and temperature (aligns with K-12).



# Recordkeeping – current guidance

## Daily Log:

- Names
- Drop-off and pick-up times
- Hours in care
- Documentation of health checks





# Recordkeeping

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft:

- CF and RF homes log everyone who visits home, all hours.
- Section largely consistent with previous guidance.

## Additional Revisions:

- RF and CF required to log all visitors only during hours when child care children are present.
- Eliminates “hours in child care” because redundant.



# New Section: Family Engagement

## Key Elements in Discussion Draft:

- Inform families of the requirements of operating during COVID-19, how programs are operating differently during this time, and any other program policies that are specific to COVID-19.
- Ensure any information related to the facility and COVID-19 is provided in a manner that families can understand.
- No in-person tours inside facility.

## Additional Revisions:

- Allows parents to enter the facility if they have a concern for the health and safety of their child.
- Allows in-person tours, with precautions.



# Group Size & Stable Groups – current guidance

Stable group size of no more than 10 children:

- **Registered Family:** 1 group of 10 children
- **Certified Family:** 2 groups, no more than 16 children total
- **Certified Center:** 1 group of 10 children per classroom

Provision for additional children in the stable group “team”.



# Group Size & Stable Groups

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft:

Revisions propose returning to maximum group sizes under licensing:

- RF, maximum stable group size is 10
- CF, maximum stable group size is 16
- CC, maximum stable group size is 20 (School-aged: 30)

Revisions maintain requirement for *stable* groups; add clarifying language regarding the implementation of stable groups.

## Additional Revisions:

- Flexibility to support part-time enrollment – more kids on the “team”.



# Personal Protective Equipment – current guidance

- A cloth, paper or disposable face covering is **required** only for staff doing the health check, or that interact with multiple stable groups of children.
- Face coverings are **optional** for other child care workers.
- Children **not required** to wear face covering; children over two years old may do so if parent(s) chooses.



# Personal Protective Equipment for Children and Adults

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft:

- Requires all staff wear face covering at all times.
- Allows use of plastic face shields.
- Requires children Kindergarten and up to wear face coverings.
- Requires clean outer layer for health checks and infant feeding.

## Additional Revisions:

- Face covering does not apply to non-child care areas of RF or CF home.
- Exceptions to Kindergarten and up face covering requirement for children with health condition or disability.
- Clarifies when facial covering required outdoors.
- Clarifies “outer layer” type and frequency.



# Daily Activities – current guidance

- Provide outdoor activities when possible, with no more than one stable group of children in one outside area at a time.
- Cancel or postpone field trips.
- Discontinue use of water or sensory tables.
- Plan activities that do not require physical contact.



# Daily Activities

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft:

- Add detail and clarity regarding required and recommended activities.
- Revisions include language that addresses requirements for other necessary personnel, such as EI/ECSE specialists.
- Field trips allowed if completely outdoors; no transportation.

## Additional Revisions:

- Changes required space between sleeping children to 36" (per OHA).
- Clarifies multiple stable groups outdoors if kept separate.
- Transportation for outdoor field trip allowed if outdoor space not available nearby.





# Handwashing and General Hygiene – current guidance

- Wash hands frequently.
- Hand sanitizer allowed, except when around food and diapering.



# Handwashing and General Hygiene

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft

- Revisions remove references to pick-up and drop-off procedures, which are addressed in another section of the Guidelines.
- Hand sanitizer not allowed when dispensing meds, or assisting with toileting (in addition to existing guidance).

## Additional Revisions:

- No significant changes.



# Food and Nutrition – current guidance

- Stagger mealtimes
- Eliminate “family-style” meals
- Provide bagged or individual meals and snacks



# Food and Nutrition

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft

- Clarifies required versus recommended.
- Allows breastfeeding parents to enter facility.

## Additional Revisions:

- Clarifies role staff in serving from communal dishes.
- Allows parents of children with special feeding needs to enter facility to assisting with feeding.



# Cleaning and Building Maintenance – current guidance

Separate cleaning and sanitation document



# Cleaning and Building Maintenance

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft

- Section remains largely consistent with current guidance.
- Makes Cleaning and Sanitation Schedule a requirement.

## Additional Revisions:

- Adds recommendations on ventilation.



# Responding to Possible & Confirmed Cases – current guidance

- Advise staff not to work and families not to bring their children who have:
  - Recently had an illness with fever or cough.
  - Been exposed to someone with a presumptive case of COVID-19.
- Symptomatic staff/children should stay home 10 days after onset of symptoms and 72 hours after resolution of both fever and cough.
- Exposed staff/children should quarantine for 14 days.



# Responding to Possible & Confirmed Cases

## Key Changes in Discussion Draft:

- This section was consolidated for greater clarity, incorporating sections around planning, what to do when there is a confirmed case.
- The exclusion period following resolution of cough or fever was changed from 72 to 24 hours.
- Section remains largely consistent with current guidance, while adding additional detail on specific required and recommended practices.

## Additional Revisions:

- Adds definition of exposure to COVID-19 (aligns with K-12 guidance).





# New Section: Transportation

## Key Elements of New Content

- Create a transportation plan that:
  - Meets health and safety requirements.
  - Is developed and shared with staff and families.
- Stable transportation groups (may be different from child care stable group).

## Additional Revisions:

- Essentially the same.



# New Section: Professional Development

## Key Elements of New Content

- Ensure staff have resources necessary to access online or remote training.
- All staff must receive training on updated requirements of operation during COVID-19 within 30 days of any updates to the guidance or within 30 days of hire.

## Additional Revisions:

- Clarifies in-person training discouraged; get OK from ELD for in-person training if you want credit.
- Replaced training on COVID with requirement for all staff to review guidelines right away.



# New Section: Health & Safety Planning

## Key Elements of New Content

- Create a COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan for each facility, that includes a focus on training and communication with staff and families.
- Ensure any information related to the facility's COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan is provided in a manner that staff and families can read or understand.

## Additional Revisions:

- Essentially the same.



# Recent developments

- During July, the new case rate rose to 6.9 cases per 100,000 people per day statewide.
- As of August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Early Learning Division is aware of about 60 emergency child care facilities where there has been at least one case of COVID-19 since March.
- On July 28<sup>th</sup>, the Oregon Health Authority released new metrics for schools, including metrics for safe in-person learning in K-3.