September 2, 2020

Dear Provider,

The Early Learning Division (ELD) issued “Health and Safety Guidelines for Child Care and Early Education Operating During COVID-19” on August 14, 2020 and the new requirements went into effect September 1, 2020. ELD’s Director Miriam Calderon also issued an updated Temporary Order to work in conjunction with the new guidelines.

The guidelines include specific requirements for child care providers to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect children, families, themselves and their staff from the virus. The Temporary Order is the legal document that describes the standards and processes for becoming an approved Emergency Child Care (ECC) provider, the requirements applicable to the operations of ECC Facilities, and the consequences for not abiding by the guidelines or the Order.

Much of the Temporary Order is the same or similar to earlier versions that have been in effect since the beginning of the pandemic. This version rearranges for clarity, and eliminates some provisions that duplicate the guidelines. There are some important new elements of the Order, including:

- Incorporates the August 14, 2020 “Health and Safety Guidelines for Child Care and Early Education Operating During COVID-19”.
- States the Office of Child Care (OCC) will accept online CPR training for new providers until July 1, 2021. This is in addition to the guidelines’ provision allowing online CPR for renewing providers.
- Removes requirement that ECC providers prioritize the essential workforce, except in some cases if a county returns to “baseline” status.
- Reinforces that Recorded Programs must submit an application to OCC to operate, and must include an employee list so the OCC can verify each adult in the facility has an approved Emergency Background Check, or is enrolled in the Central Background Registry.

You can find the Order on ELD’s COVID-19 webpage. To request a paper copy, please contact your licensing specialist or send an email to ProviderContact@state.or.us. Translated versions of the Order and this letter will be available by October 1, 2020. If you need assistance in another language, please contact your licensing specialist or the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) for your area.

Thank you for your continued work to serve children and families in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Amy Joyce
Child Care Director
Early Learning Division