

# COVID-19 Updates for Child Care Providers

June 30, 2020



**Welcome to today's webinar.**  
**Please remember to mute your phone and computer upon entry.**  
**We will begin shortly. Thank you!**



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Washington State Department of  
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

# Virtual Meeting Protocols

## Audio and Video Connection

- Throughout the webinar, please mute yourself unless you are speaking or responding to a question.
- We have Q&A portions dedicated throughout the meeting, but feel free to use the chat box to post questions or comments at any time.
- If for any reason you place the call on hold and music begins to play, your call will be disconnected. You are more than welcome to rejoin the meeting once you are available again.
- Individuals using a webcam or video option will be displayed throughout the meeting.

*If you have any questions or technical difficulties, please contact us via the chat box or at [dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov).*

# COVID-19 Updates for Child Care Providers

Nicole Rose, Director, Eligibility and Provider Supports

Travis Hansen, Senior Child Care Administrator

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# Agenda



- Subsidy Updates
- Updated Department of Health (DOH) Child Care, Youth Development, and Summer Day Camps During the COVID-19 Outbreak
  - Group Size
  - Face Coverings
- Responses to Questions Received



# Subsidy Policy Updates

## Enrollment based payments continuing through August 2020:

- Licensed providers can continue to claim for their child care subsidy payment based on enrollment rather than attendance through August 2020.

## Effective July 1, 2020:

- **Waiving family co-payments:** Effective July 1, 2020, DCYF will no longer waive family co-payments. Providers will need to resume collecting co-payments in July 2020.
- **WCCC Approved Activities:** Effective July 1, 2020, families who apply or reapply for WCCC will need to meet eligibility requirements for WCCC, including participation in an approved activity. This change does not impact families who applied prior to July 1, 2020.
  - Families may reapply online at [www.washingtonconnection.org](http://www.washingtonconnection.org) or by calling the Child Care Subsidy Contact Center at 844-626-8687.
- **School Age Authorizations:** No changes to school age child care authorizations at this time.

Please contact the Child Care Provider Line with questions: 1-800-394-4571 or [providerhelp@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:providerhelp@dcyf.wa.gov).

# What Do I Follow?

Governor Executive Order

HAVE TO DO THIS

Governor Mandates

Tribal Governance

WA Department of Health Mandates

Local Health Jurisdiction Mandates

Employer Required Mandates (L&I)

School Guidance (OSPI) For public schools

Licensing Standards (DCYF) For licensed programs

HAVE TO DO THIS

WA Department of Health Guidance

Local Health Jurisdiction Guidance

L&I Guidance

Best Practice for School Age Children

Best Practice for Young Children

TRY TO DO THIS

- Tribal Nations are sovereign and not subject to State Executive Orders.
- Other resources for health guidance may be found with Center of Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Alignment across organizations takes time and conversations. Information is updated regularly to adapt to the progressive changes as we work through COVID-19 response strategies.

# Updated DOH Guidance Updates

- Recent research suggests wearing a face covering can significantly reduce the incidence of COVID-19. Until a vaccine or cure is developed, face coverings and physical distancing will be two of our best defenses.
- DOH has released updated guidance on child care, youth development, and summer day camps. Read the full document here: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/DOH-OSPI-DYCF-SchoolsChildCareGuidance.pdf>



# Updated DOH Guidance: Group Size and Distancing

- Group sizes should total no more than **22** people, regardless of what county or phase you are in. This count includes each child, youth and adult.
  - Example: 2 adult staff + 20 children = max group size
- Do not combine groups, including at opening and closing, and keep staffing the same within each group every day.
- If you can, keep the same groups from day-to-day to reduce the number of children, youth and staff from multiple households who are interacting.



# Updated DOH Guidance: Reducing Transmission

- Increase space between cribs and mats to 6 feet. Children should sleep head-to-toe.
- Outdoor play should occur in staggered shifts, or keep two or more groups 6 feet apart using cones, flags, tables or other boundaries.
- Eliminate family style and buffet meals – food and plates/utensils shouldn't be shared.
- Avoid transportation if possible. If you must provide transportation, create space between riders as much as possible, keep windows open and disinfect after each trip.



# Updated DOH Guidance: Other Highlights

- Removes play structure restrictions.
  - Guidance for cleaning outdoor areas added.
    - Outdoor areas, like playgrounds, generally require normal routine cleaning, but do not require disinfection.
    - Do not spray disinfectant on outdoor playground equipment. It is not an efficient use of supplies and is not proven to reduce risk of COVID-19 to the public.
    - High-touch surfaces made of plastic or metal, such as grab bars and railings, should be routinely cleaned.
- Updated resource section.
- **Reminder: physical distancing, cohorts, hand hygiene, ventilation and other practices are essential in reducing the transmission of the virus.**



# Updated DOH Guidance: Face Coverings

- Face covering guidance updated throughout, and refers back to Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) guidance.
- Staff must wear cloth facial coverings when not working alone, unless their exposure dictates a higher level of protection under L&I safety and health rules and guidance. This includes:
  - Family Homes with only one adult working.
  - Staff working outside with children, if they cannot maintain physical distancing.
  - Families and guardians who enter facility to drop off and pick up kids.
- Clear face shields can be used instead of cloth face covering.

# Updated DOH Guidance: Face Coverings

## *If you are...*

- Caring for children ages 5+ and the child is...
  - Inside → face coverings are required.
  - Outside → face coverings are *not* required if physical distancing can be maintained. Staff must wear face coverings outside if they cannot maintain physical distancing.
  - Meal times → face coverings are *not* required.
  - Nap times → should not wear a face covering.
  - Children with special conditions (respiratory, deaf or hard of hearing, advised by a medical, legal, or behavioral health professional not to) → should not wear a face covering.



# Updated DOH Guidance: Face Coverings

## *If you are...*

- Caring for children under 5 years and the child is...
  - Younger than 2 → these children *should not* wear a face covering.
  - 3 and 4 → face coverings are optional, *not* required.
  - Children with special conditions (respiratory, deaf or hard of hearing, advised by a medical, legal or behavioral health professional not to) → these children should not wear a face covering.
- Caring for children of different ages in a single group...
  - Staff and children ages 5 and up must wear face coverings.



## **Lauren Jenks**

Assistant Secretary, Environmental Public Health Division  
Department of Health

## **Ryan Allen**

IH Technical Policy and Lab Manager, Labor & Industries



# Questions? Feedback?



# Thank you!

**Contact:**

[dcyf.covid-19@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:dcyf.covid-19@dcyf.wa.gov)

