

Coronavirus Disease 2019 Outbreak

COVID-19



The Governor's Executive Order on March 23, 2020 does NOT require child care programs to close.

Interim Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance for Child Care Settings

This guidance is intended to help child care facilities make informed decisions about COVID-19 and minimize the risk of exposure to both the staff and the children in their care. To reduce the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission in our community, K-12 public schools in Maryland were closed by order of the Governor for at least two weeks, effective March 16, 2020. Child care centers and family child care homes have the option to remain open.

The same steps that a child care facility would take to prevent the spread of any other respiratory illness, such as flu, will also reduce the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission. Precautions that both staff and children should take include:

- Stay home when sick.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (about as long as it takes to sing "Happy Birthday" twice). In addition to usual handwashing, make sure to wash hands:
 - before and after eating meals and snacks
 - after blowing noses, coughing, or sneezing or when in contact with body fluids
- Follow standard handwashing guidance

for adults and children.

- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- Provide supplies including handwashing stations with soap and water, paper towels, and lined trash cans.
- Except for diapering or eating, preparing, or serving food, hand sanitizing products with 60% alcohol may be used in lieu of handwashing when outdoors if hands are washed upon returning indoors. Hand sanitizer must be stored out of reach of children when not in use.

When Someone is Sick

- Children and staff should remain home if sick.
- If a child or staff member develops the following symptoms, send them home as soon as possible:
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath
- While waiting for a sick child to be picked up, caregivers should stay with the child in a room isolated from others. If the child has symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath), the caregiver should remain as far away as safely possible from the child (preferably, 6 feet). If facemasks are available, wear a facemask.
- Ensure that the facility has flexible sick leave and absentee policies that do not encourage people to come in while sick.

Screening Criteria

- Conduct a Daily Health Check and ask children and staff:
 1. If they have had close contact (defined by the CDC as being within 6 feet of someone for 10 minutes or more) with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19.
 2. If anyone in their household has symptoms of respiratory illness (fever, cough, shortness of breath).
- Consider screening children and employees for fever, cough or shortness of breath upon arrival each day.
- People with a temperature greater than 100.4 F should be sent home until they have had no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications (e.g., Advil, Tylenol).
 1. Anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 should remain isolated until at least 7 days after symptom onset AND ≥ 72 hours after symptom resolution (absence of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication and improvement in respiratory symptoms) unless otherwise instructed by their local health department.
- For infants and young children, temperature can be taken by axillary (under the arm). For children over age four, temperature can be taken orally (under the tongue). Individual plastic covers should be used on oral thermometers with each use or thermometers should be cleaned and sanitized after each use according to the manufacturer's instructions. Another option for children ages six months and older is an ear or forehead thermometer with a disposable cover that is changed after each reading. Temperature should not be taken rectally in a child care setting.

Additional Exclusion Criteria

- Follow standard exclusion criteria for illness.
- Anyone who has had close contact (defined by the CDC as being within 6 feet of someone for 10 minutes or more) with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 should remain home for 14 days after their last contact with the COVID-19 patient.
- If someone in their household has symptoms of respiratory illness, consider asking them to remain home until at least 7 days after symptom onset AND ≥ 72 hours after symptom resolution (absence of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication and improvement in respiratory symptoms).
- Recommend exclusion for children or staff who are considered high-risk, including older adults or people who have serious chronic medical conditions including:
 - Heart disease
 - Diabetes
 - Lung disease such as asthma
 - Compromised immune systems

Limit Chances for Exposure

- Have parents drop off children outside the classroom. Staff should meet children as they are dropped off.
- Only staff needed to maintain ratio compliance should be inside classrooms.
- Cancel or postpone any planned field trips or outings to areas with large crowds of people.
- The CDC recommend cancelling or postponing any events of 50 people or more. For events with under 50 people in attendance, please refer to the guidance for group gatherings.





Helping the Community

- Children of healthcare workers and other key personnel may be in attendance during periods of school closure, even if they are school age. This will ensure that healthcare workers can continue to provide care community during the outbreak.
- Teacher-to-child ratio should be based on the age of the youngest child present.
- Ask these children to bring schoolwork and/or age-appropriate entertainment (e.g., books, toys) with them.

Clean Thoroughly

- Follow regular cleaning protocols and use an EPA-registered disinfectant that is active against coronaviruses. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the day and at night.
- Keep a designated bin for separating mouthed toys and maintain awareness of children's behaviors. When a child is done with a mouthed toy, remove it, place it in a toy bin that is inaccessible to other children, and wash hands. Clean and sanitize toys before returning to children's area.
- Clean and sanitize all toys at the end of the day.
- Consider removing soft toys that cannot be easily cleaned during the coronavirus outbreak. Soft toys that are machine-washable should be washed often at the warmest temperature recommended on the label and dried thoroughly.

Be Prepared

- Stay informed about the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in children and adults. Children typically have milder disease than adults.
- Plan ahead in case the facility needs to close:
 - Determine how staff will communicate with staff and parents.
 - If a patient with COVID-19 was in the building, the facility may need to close briefly (2-5 days) for cleaning and disinfection.
 - If COVID-19 is circulating in your community, the facility may receive direction from local public health officials to close for a longer period of time.
 - The facility may need to close if child care cannot safely be provided due to a high number of staff being out of work.

For more information, please see the following sources:

- ◇ [Maryland COVID-19 website](#)
- ◇ [CDC COVID-19 website](#)
- ◇ [CDC's environmental cleaning guidance](#)
- ◇ [CDC guidance for schools and child care facilities](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

What Marylanders Need to Know About COVID-19



Governor Hogan declared a state of emergency to **expand the state's ongoing, coordinated response.**



Practice good hygiene with frequent handwashing, covering coughs, and staying home when sick.



All levels of government have been **actively and aggressively preparing** for all possible scenarios.



Symptoms of COVID-19 include **fever, cough, shortness of breath, and difficulty breathing.**



Stay informed by reputable sources. Marylanders can visit health.maryland.gov/coronavirus or dial 2-1-1.



If you are experiencing the above symptoms, **contact your healthcare provider for guidance.**

Provided by Maryland's Office of the Governor in coordination with the Maryland Department of Health.



Complete the Survey

Do you need additional resources for your child care program during the State of Emergency?

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), Division of Early Childhood (DEC), Office of Child Care (OCC) is working diligently to provide guidance and resources that will assist you in your efforts for children and families during this health crisis.

We are working to coordinate and provide resources for county-led child care programs set up to meet the needs of the community during the pandemic. Please complete this short survey so we can provide you with critical resources and help meet the needs of your community.

Thank you for all you do for Maryland children and families!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/32CL6Q7>



**MARYLAND
FAMILY
NETWORK**

Maryland Family Network's LOCATE: Child Care is surveying the child care workforce in Maryland to determine availability of providers who are still operational during the COVID-19 pandemic. You will be contacted by phone, or you can complete a LOCATE: Child Care form online at <http://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/for-child-care-providers/provider-questionnaires/>.

You can also contact the LOCATE: Child Care Provider Line at 866.752.1614. Please help us now and let us know of vacancies you may have at this time.

Child care providers are essential to our economy and to keeping our communities safe and healthy. Thank you for all that you do for Maryland's children.



MARCH 23, 2020

Coronavirus emergency launches one-month special enrollment period.

As part of the state's overall response to the coronavirus, and in an effort to prioritize health and safety, Maryland Health Connection opened a new special enrollment period for uninsured Marylanders.

What you need to know

When will the special enrollment period begin?

The coronavirus emergency special enrollment period will begin Monday, March 16, and end Wednesday, April 15. Coverage will begin April 1, 2020, regardless of when a health plan is selected during that time period.

How do I enroll?

To enroll, you can visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov or download the free "Enroll MHC" mobile app. When enrolling, you should request or select "Coronavirus Emergency Special Enrollment Period."

This enrollment period is for new enrollments of uninsured Marylanders who are eligible, not an opportunity for currently enrolled consumers to change plans.

Can I get help enrolling?

Free consumer assistance is available by calling 855-642-8572 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Deaf and hard of hearing use Relay. Help is available in more than 200 languages.

We encourage you to follow the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) for all health-related coronavirus questions.

What do I need to apply:

- Birthdates
- Social Security numbers (or document numbers for legal immigrants)
- Proof of citizenship or immigration status
- Tax returns for previous years
- Employer and income info (pay stubs, W-2 forms)
- Policy numbers for any current health insurance
- Information about any job-related coverage you or someone in your household is eligible for

Is Coronavirus covered under a Maryland Health Connection plan or Medicaid?

Yes. Health insurance companies are required to waive cost-sharing, including lab fees, co-payments, coinsurance, and deductibles for any visit to test for coronavirus at a doctor's office, urgent care center, or emergency room.

Can I qualify for the Coronavirus Emergency Special Enrollment Period even if I'm not sick?

Yes. All eligible, uninsured Marylanders may qualify for this emergency special enrollment period.



Promote healthy handwashing habits.



Contacting the Division of Early Childhood during COVID-19 Crisis

Licensing Region 1 - Anne Arundel

Office phone 410-573-9522
Office e-mail occ1aa.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Renee Woodard 410-573-9522
renee.woodard@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 2 - Baltimore City

Office phone 410-554-8315
Office e-mail occ2bci.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Sherry Tsigounis 410-554-8316
Sherry.Tsigounis@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 3 - Baltimore County

Office phone 410-583-6200
Office e-mail occ3bco.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Amber Riley 410-583-6204
Amber.Riley@Maryland.gov

Licensing Region 4 - Prince George's

Office phone 301-333-6940
Office e-mail occ4pg.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Danita Moore 301.333.6961
danita.moore@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 5 - Montgomery

Office phone 240-314-1400
Office e-mail occ5mont.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Carl Eggleston 240.314.1400
carl.eggleston@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 6 - Howard / Carroll

Office phone 410-750-8771
Office e-mail occ6how.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Sharon Afework 410-750-8779/7940
Sharon.afework@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 7 - Garrett/Allegany/Washington

Office phone 301-791-4585
Office e-mail occ7wash.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Dolres Harmon 301-791-4586
dolores.harmon@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 8 - Kent/Talbot/Dorchester/ Queen Anne's/Caroline

Office phone 410-819-5801
Office e-mail occ8talb.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Sandy Klunk 410-819-5801 ext. 102
sandy.klunk@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 9 - Somerset/Wicomico/ Worcester

Office phone 410-713-3430
Office e-mail occ9wic.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Suzanne Ruark 410-713-3430 x 3435
suzanne.ruark@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 10 - Calvert/Charles/St. Mary's

Office phone 301-475-3770
Toll free 1-800-874-6797
Office e-mail occ10stm.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Susan Copsey 301-475-3770 Ext. 102
susan.copsey@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 11 - Harford/Cecil County

Office phone 410-569-2879
Toll free 1-800-343-0955
Office e-mail occ11harf.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Beth O'Connor 410-569-8065
katherine.oconnor@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 12 - Frederick

Office phone 301-696-9766
Office e-mail occ12fred.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Janet Speak 301-696-9766
Janet.Speak@maryland.gov

Licensing Region 13 - Cecil

Office phone 410-549-6489
Office e-mail occ13carr.msde@maryland.gov
Manager Sharon Afework 410-750-8779/7940
Sharon.afework@maryland.gov



Teleworking

MANDATORY TELEWORK FOR NON-ESSENTIAL STATE EMPLOYEES:

On March 12, 2020, Governor Hogan directed the Department of Budget and Management to implement a period of mandatory telework, beginning Friday, March 13, across state agencies for all non-essential state employees.

We are out of the office but available to assist you!

MARCH 23, 2020

Child Care Credential Program

Phone 1-866-243-8796 option 4
email cccredential@conduent.com

Credentialing Branch

Branch email
credentialocc.msde@maryland.gov
Angeline Bishop-Oshoko 410-746-5937
Angeline.Bishop-Oshoko@Maryland.Gov

Child Care Scholarship Program

Phone 1-866-243-8796
Fax (410) 229-0053
Email ccscentral@conduent.com

Collaboration and Program Improvement Branch

Branch email
collaboration.programimprovement@maryland.gov
Levette Trusty-Woodham 410-767-0583
levette.trusty-woodrum1@maryland.gov

Early Learning Branch

Zina Spriggs 410-767-7798
zina.spriggs@maryland.gov

Office of Child Care

Tara Bartosz 410-767-7823
Tara.Bartosz@maryland.gov

Division of Early Childhood

Sharon Brooks 410-767-0335
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Stay Informed on Social Media



State & Department of Health

<https://www.facebook.com/statemaryland>
<https://twitter.com/statemaryland>
<https://twitter.com/MDHealthDept>



Maryland Health Connection

<https://www.facebook.com/MarylandConnect>
<https://twitter.com/marylandconnect>



State Department of Education

<https://www.facebook.com/MdPublicSchools>
<https://twitter.com/MdPublicSchools>



Division of Early Childhood

<https://www.facebook.com/MdEarlyChildhood>
https://twitter.com/MD_Early_Ed



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.facebook.com/CDC>
<https://twitter.com/CDCgov>

COVID
CORONAVIRUS
DISEASE
19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)



You can help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses with these actions:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose & mouth.
- Wash hands often with soap & water for at least 20 seconds.



www.cdc.gov/COVID19

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