

TO: Licensed youth camp programs

FROM: Office of Early Childhood (OEC) – Youth Camp Licensing

DATE: July 8, 2025

RE: Updates to statutes and regulations concerning youth camps

The OEC posts [Youth Camp Statutes and Regulations](#) on the [Licensing for Youth Camps](#) section of the OEC website. There you'll find the statutes revised to January 1 of odd numbered years, which should be read in conjunction with Public Acts that have been enacted since the last revision date. The most recent update includes statutes revised to January 1, 2025, and a summary of the major changes impacting licensed youth camps is listed below:

1. **CGS 19a-421(e)(3)**: The Commissioner has the discretion to refuse to license, or to suspend or revoke a license, if the person who establishes, conducts or maintains a youth camp held a license for a youth camp in another state that was revoked by such state's licensing authority.
2. **CGS 19a-426**: The Office shall inspect facilities to be operated for an original license, and again not later than 72 hours after the licensee commences operations. If violations are cited and the office approves a corrective action plan (CAP), the office shall conduct a follow up visit within 72 hours of approving the CAP until the office has determined that the licensee is fully compliant with the provisions of the CAP.
3. **CGS 19a-426**: The Office shall give priority for conducting inspections to applicants for an original license and those youth camps that operate for a single week. Inspections for youth camps that operate for a single week must be conducted no later than 48 hours after commencement of operation.
4. **CGS 19a-430**: established the Youth Camp Safety Advisory Council within the OEC to provide advice to the Commissioner on matters relating to safety issues at youth camps. The Council includes 12 individuals appointed by the Legislature, the Governor, and the Commissioner of OEC who serve a 3-year term. The Council meets quarterly.
5. **CGS 31-23(b)(1)**: A minor who has reached the age of 15 may be employed or permitted to work as staff member at a youth camp, or as a lifeguard during school vacations for limited hours and must be supervised by an employee who is at least eighteen years of age.

6. **CGS 31-23(b)(2)(B)**: Each person who employs a fifteen-year-old as a staff member at a youth camp, or as a lifeguard, shall obtain a certificate stating the minor is fifteen years old or older unless the minor is employed by a municipality.
7. **CGS 10-193(a)(2)**: The superintendent of schools shall furnish to any person desiring to employ a minor fifteen or older a certificate showing the minor is fifteen or older.

In addition, since such time that DPH updated the regulation concerning emergency distribution of potassium iodide, the changes have been incorporated in the final regulations for youth camps. These regulations are authorized under CGS 19a-131K pertaining to responding to public health emergencies and apply to programs located within a ten-mile radius of the Millstone Power Station in Waterford, CT during a public health emergency declared by the Governor. The key changes are:

1. Facilities are required to notify all current and new families, and all current and new employees, of the statutory requirement to provide KI and then secure written permission or objection to administer it. Ingestion of KI is voluntary.
2. Facilities are required to have a designated staff person to be responsible for storing and distributing KI.
3. Facilities are required to follow current FDA guidelines and dosage instructions which are subject to change: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/bioterrorism-and-drug-preparedness/potassium-iodide-ki>

An updated permission form can be found on our website under First Aid/CPR/Medication Administration: [KI-Permission-form-and-fact-sheet.pdf](#).