



STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DATE: March 16, 2020

TO: Providers of Services to Young Children

FROM: Beth Bye, Commissioner

RE: Coronavirus Memo #7
Child Care Waivers

The Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC) provides the following information in response to the many questions and concerns that it is receiving pertaining to the COVID 19 situation.

In an effort to support programs that choose to remain open, the Commissioner has granted the below waivers of licensing requirements during the period of the current declared state of emergency. **These waivers will cease when the declared state of emergency ends.**

- Licensed youth camps may extend their operating days under the terms of their current license to operate during the period of the declared state of emergency provided such additional operating dates are reported to the OEC [*CT General Statutes Section 19a-420(1)*]
- Health and immunization records on file prior to the declared state of emergency for children enrolled in licensed child care centers, group child care homes, family child care homes and youth camps which expire during the declared state of emergency are acceptable. Health and immunization records for children that have been attending a legally operating child care program or school that has been temporarily closed due to COVID 19 virus are not required provided the parent attests in writing that the child is up-to-date with physical examination and immunizations and provides information regarding any disabilities and/or special health care needs [*Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("Regulations") Section 19a-79-5a(a)(2), 19a-79-6a(e), 19a-87b-7(a)(1), 19a-87b-10(b)(2), 19a-87b-10(k), 19a-428-3(a)*]
- Staff training including first aid, CPR, C4K health and safety, and administration of medication training for licensed child care centers, group child care homes, family child care homes and youth camps that expire during the declared state of emergency will fulfill the training requirements [*Regulations Section 19a-79-3a(b)(7), 19a-79-4a(e)(2), 19a-79-4a(e)(1), 19a-79-4a(g), 19a-79-9a(b), 19a-79-13(b), 19a-87b-6(c), 19a-87b-17(b), 19a-87b-18(b), 19a-428-2, 19a-428-5(a), 19a-428-6(a)(2), 19a-428-7(b) and health and safety requirements for C4K providers*]

- The requirement for staff acting as Director who are due to complete 3 credits in the administration of early childhood education programs or educational administration during the period of the declared state of emergency has been waived [*Regulations Section 19a-79-4a(d)(1)*]
- Head teacher requirements for licensed child care centers and group child care homes have been waived [*Regulations Section 19a-79-4a(c)(1)*]
- Required health consultant visits for child care centers and group child care homes may be conducted over the phone [*Regulations Section 19a-79-3a(b)(4) and (c)(1), 19a-79-4a(h)(2)(H), 19a-79-11(f), 19a-79-12(b)(1)*]
- Annual consultant reviews and agreements for child care centers and group child care homes that expire during the declared state of emergency are acceptable [*Regulations Section 19a-79-4a(h)*]
- Staff physicals for child care centers, group child care homes and youth camps that expire during the declared state of emergency are acceptable [*Regulations Section 19a-79-4a(a), 19a-428-3(a)*]
- Provider, staff and household member medical statements/health records for family child care homes that expire during the declared state of emergency are acceptable [*Regulations Section 19a-87b-6(b), 19a-87b-7(a), 19a-87b-8(a) and (b)*]
- Water test results for child care centers and group child care homes that expire during the declared state of emergency are acceptable [*Regulations Section 19a-79-7a(c)(3)*]
- Rabies certificates for family child care homes that expire during the declared state of emergency are acceptable [*Regulations Section 19a-87b-9(n)*]

Any additional waivers granted will be communicated to programs and will be posted on the OEC website.

Thank you for your continued efforts to protect the health and safety of Connecticut's children.