

## Child Care Licensure - Frequently Asked Questions

Week of April 27 – May 1, 2020

Q: Does the director designee have to take the mandatory training?

A: Yes, all owners, directors, and director designees must take the 3 mandatory trainings. Those consist of Child Care Regulations, Directors Orientation, and Playground Safety.

Q: I have a question about the CCAIR program. How do I find out more info?

A: Please contact MDHS at [www.mdhs.ms.gov/ccair](http://www.mdhs.ms.gov/ccair) or 601-359-4516.

Q: If a facility becomes an emergency site (CCAIR trained) during COVID-19 could this increase their capacity?

A: Becoming a CCAIR trained site does not mean your capacity will increase. If you have a question about adding additional space to your capacity, please contact your licensing official.

Q: Will testing be provided when childcare facilities open back up?

A: Tests are done at private provider offices and are also available through drive-thru testing sites in some areas. If a parent, child, or staff are showing symptoms they should call their local physician for testing information. Facilities are encouraged to do a screening process for staff and children upon arrival at the facility. Guidelines for the screening process are on the CDC webpage:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html>

Q: Will a facility still receive a license without an inspection?

A: Child Care Licensure will issue a license to facilities as they are needed. Inspections will be conducted when operations return to normal business activities.

Q: Can childcare facilities operate the same beginning on May 1st?

A: We are unsure of what the pandemic holds for the upcoming weeks. As information is received concerning childcare centers it will be sent out to providers.

Q: Will there be a Child Care Regulation, Director Orientation, and Playground Safety course via online training since in person training is not being done?

A: Unfortunately, we are not doing any online training currently. It is something we want to offer in the future, but we are very early in the planning stage.

Q: Where can a potential employee go to get fingerprinting done for a background check?

A: Continue to check with local law enforcement offices to see if they are available to do fingerprints

Q: Do you know of any grants for small businesses that we could apply for?  
Please visit the following web pages for information:

COVID-19 and State Child Care Assistance Programs

<https://www.clasp.org/publications/fact-sheet/covid-19-and-state-child-care-assistance-programs>

Forgivable loans for childcare providers through the CARES Act

<https://www.clasp.org/publications/fact-sheet/forgivable-loans-child-care-providers-through-cares-act>

Q: If I signed up for the training that was to be offered in March to satisfy my requirements and they were canceled due to COVID-19, what should I do when MSDH starts offering training again?

A: Please continue to check our website for available training. It will be on our training calendar and you may register online.

<https://msdh.ms.gov/WebCalendar/mainCal.cfm?ThisDate=%7Bd%20%272020%2D04%2D24%27%7D>

Q: How can we get additional masks/PPE?

A: Contact your county Emergency Management Director. Refer to the MS Emergency Management Agency for additional information.

<https://www.msema.org/county-ema/>

Q: I have 2 shifts per room. How do I begin and end with the same caregiver? We are open 12-hours per day.

A: You can have a morning caregiver and an afternoon caregiver. We recommend they stay the same in each classroom each day. Children must also stay in the same classroom from the time of arrival to the time of departure.

Q: I understand the 10-person rule, but how should I implement it?

A: Children must not be mixed on playgrounds or for mealtimes due to concerns for the health and safety of having more than 10 in a group during the current emergency.

Q: If we combine classes because there are not enough children, would it have to be the same combination of children in the same classroom each day?

A: We do not recommend combining classrooms at any point during the day.

Q: We need cleaning and disinfectant supplies such as hand sanitizer, hand soap, disinfectant spray, and bleach. How can we get these if stores are limiting their purchase?

A: We suggest contacting the store manager and telling them you are a childcare provider and need these products to continue operation in a safe, healthy manner. The link below is a letter that you may also provide to suppliers and businesses.

<https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/MDHS-Letter-of-Support.pdf>