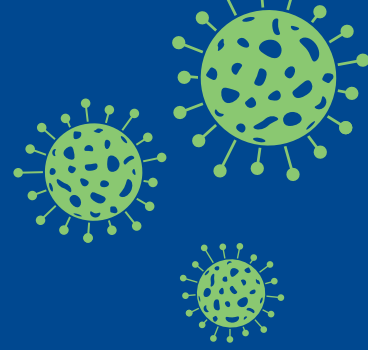


CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS **DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK**



As a private business, you may want to consider the following when making an evaluation as to whether or not to remain open or to close during this health crisis. Child Care Aware of America has created an [infographic](#) to help with the decision process. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website has [extensive information and resources](#) for how child care providers can plan, prepare and respond to the coronavirus disease.

Evaluate Your Staffing Plan and Risk

- Do you or any of your staff have a chronic health condition or are in a higher risk category because of being 65 years and older or because of a serious underlying medical condition like heart disease, diabetes or lung disease?
- Do you or any of your staff have a suppressed immune system due to cancer treatment or taking immune-suppressing medication?
- Have you or any of your staff travelled within the last 14 days from another country designated by the CDC as having a Level 2 or Level 3 [travel health notice](#)?
- Have you or any of your staff travelled from a location in the U.S. with widespread COVID-19 community spread within the last 14 days?
- Should you or anyone on your staff should be self-quarantined because they have been in close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days?
- Do you have staff who are of child-bearing age and may be pregnant?
- Could you stagger shifts and limit staff-to-staff exposure?
- Do you have an essential vs. nonessential staff plan?
- Can you provide social distancing opportunities for your staff?

Attendance

- Do you have children enrolled in your program who are not attending?
- Can you keep children in small groups (no more than 10 children clustered in an activity)?
- Can you offer child care for health care workers and emergency responders, including those working non standard hours?

Operations

- What would the impact be on your business if you were to close?
- Would you offer refunds to families and, if so, how would you handle the refund process?
- Is there a viral outbreak, epidemic or pandemic clause in your child care contract?
- Can you maintain staff: child ratios if a child becomes ill and needs to be separated from other children in care until they are picked up by a family member?
- Can you maintain staff: child ratios if a staff member becomes ill and needs to leave?
- Does your sick leave policy need to be updated?
- Does your insurance include loss of income coverage if your business operations are interrupted by a viral outbreak, epidemic or pandemic?

Health Procedures

- Can you safely take the temperature of every staff and every child 1-2 times a day (i.e., do you have single use thermometers and/or the capacity to sanitize thermometers between uses?)
- Can you limit entry of parents and other family members into the child care area?
- Are your staff and families aware of COVID-19 symptoms and are they self-monitoring?
- Do you have the resources to provide adequate supplies for good hygiene, including clean and functional handwashing stations, soap, paper towels, and alcohol-based hand sanitizer (60-95% alcohol).
- Can you shift away from family-style meal procedures to staff-only served meals and beverages?
- Can you increase your program's cleaning and disinfection routine to multiple times per day, while being careful with children in the near vicinity?