COVID-19 Updates

July 27, 2020
• Face Coverings
• Updated Guidance Regarding Positive Cases
• Temporary Assistance Grants
Face Coverings

- CDC recommends that people wear cloth face coverings in public settings and when around people who don’t live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

- Cloth face coverings may help prevent people who have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others.

- Cloth face coverings are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings.

- Cloth face coverings should NOT be worn by children under the age of 2 or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
Face Coverings

This strategy is based upon what is known about the role respiratory droplets play in the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Studies that shows cloth face coverings reduce the spray of droplets when worn over the nose and mouth.
Face Coverings

Wearing cloth face coverings may not be possible in every situation.

Younger children (infants, toddlers, and preschool age children) may be unable to wear a cloth face covering properly, particularly for an extended period of time.
Face Coverings

Wearing of cloth face coverings may be prioritized at times when it is difficult to maintain a distance of 6 feet from others (e.g., during drop off or pick up, or when standing in line at school).

Ensuring proper cloth face covering size and fit and providing children with frequent reminders and education on the importance and proper wear of cloth face coverings may help address these issues.
Face Coverings and Child Development

Children rely on their caregiver’s facial expressions and tone of voice to regulate their response toward people and new situations.

During the current pandemic, how can we ensure that children form healthy interpretations of the world if one of the most expressive parts of the body, the face, is covered by a mask?
Face Coverings and Child Development

- Consider the use of masks with clear plastic screens or plastic face shields
- Consider placing printed photos of various expressions on the bottom of the face masks
- Create visual supports by taking photos of various emotions and expressions of children in your classroom to be used in instructional opportunities
- Over-exaggerate expression in the eyes and forehead
- Speak clearly and loudly, as to not have your sounds and annunciations be muffled by the mask
- If sufficiently socially distanced (six feet away from children), masks may be temporarily removed for instruction
Face Coverings
Are mask still recommended, not required for childcare?

No, the Executive Order that begins on July 27 applies to child care programs making them required and not recommended.

Are Early Education Teachers now required to wear face coverings?

Yes, the Executive Order that begins on July 27 applies to early education teachers, staff, and personnel that are working in a child care setting.
Are child care homes considered a public space?

Yes, during child care hours, child care homes are considered a public space and thus would fall under the Governor’s executive order.

It is important to remember that the purpose of wearing a face covering is to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Within a child care home there may be even less space to practice social distancing making face coverings an even more vital part of the strategy to supporting public health.
How strictly is a licensed center expected to enforce the mask order for children 2 and older? In a scenario where a parent refuses to allow their child to wear a mask or a child refuses to wear mask? Would provider be expected to send the child home?

The Executive Order states 8 years of age and older although some counties and cities have implemented a face mask requirement that may start at 3 years and older. The program will need to follow these requirements.

Families who choose not to adhere to the mask order may not enter a licensed center, home or registered ministry without an approved exemption.
Will OECOSL be enforcing the Governor’s Executive Order during a licensing visit or if they receive a complaint that a child care is not adhering to the Executive Order?

If the employees and volunteers are not wearing masks but the provider does have precautions in place to help prevent the spread of a communicable disease OECOSL will note this in the narrative/note section that will be given to the provider stating that this is a requirement and at our next visit providers will be cited if the issue continues.
Do the teachers, who work in infant and toddler classrooms have to wear masks while they are in their own classrooms (since the children won’t be wearing them)? If so, can they wear face shields instead?

The teacher would need to wear a face covering to slow the spread of COVID-19 even if working in the infant/toddler room. A face shield is acceptable during instruction requiring facial visualization, but a face covering is required for all other times.
Is a child care program that is being held inside a church considered a public place and thus subject to the EO for wearing face coverings.

Yes, a church for the purposes of child care is a public place. When a building is being used for religious assembly, then assembly regulations apply.
Positive COVID-19 Cases

OECOSL updated guidance regarding what to do if there are positive COVID-19 cases.

That guidance can be found at:
COVID-19 Positive Case Procedure

1. Notify OECOSSL licensing consultant
2. Contact local health department
3. Notify parents
4. Follow any recommendations from the local health department
5. Work with families who need support to contact their eligibility office
## Temporary Assistance Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Round</th>
<th>Providers Supported</th>
<th>Amount Spent</th>
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Temporary Assistance Grants
Future

Child Care Closure Assistance Grant

Assistance will be available if a program has closed due to a confirmed COVID-19 case which requires closure of a classroom or facility.

Grants are awarded to programs for the purpose of continuing to regularly pay child care staff and maintain operations for the time period of the required COVID-19 closure.
Child Care Closure Assistance Grant

This grant does NOT provide assistance to providers for CCDF/ On My Way Pre-K funded children.

This should cover the cost of lost revenue during closure from children who are funded through private pay/cash pay.
Child Care Closure Assistance Grant

Eligibility Criteria:

- Providers must have been temporarily closed during the time period of this grant because of a confirmed COVID-19 case of a person affiliated with the facility.
- Providers must be eligible to receive CCDF

For purposes of this grant, total grant awards will be capped at $20,000.
#INCares About Child Care

Leveraging Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) dollars for Indiana child care programs via the Indiana Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) Network
#INCares About Child Care

Programs receiving the grant dollars can use their award for the following expenses:

- Equipment such as individual toys/materials, dividers, furniture, outdoor accommodations, social-emotional support materials
- Supplies/materials to assist with cleaning, safety, or food service
- Staffing to assist with additional cleaning or to maintain smaller ratios
- Professional services to assist with cleaning or installation of requested items
#INCares About Child Care

Coming to your CCR&R at the end of August
Local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Services Provider Map

**Vendor Key**

- **Geminus**
- **Right Steps Child Development Centers**
- **Child Care Answers (CCA)**
- **Chances and Services for Youth (CASY)**
- **4C of Southern Indiana**

**Vendor Information**

**Geminus**
8400 Louisiana Street
Merrillville, IN 46410
Phone: (219) 685-1500
Toll Free: (844) 685-1500
Website: [http://ccrr.geminus.org/CCRR-Index.html](http://ccrr.geminus.org/CCRR-Index.html)

**Right Steps Child Development Centers**
Contact Information:
817 Woodmere Drive
Lafayette, IN 47905
Phone: (765) 742-7105
Toll Free: (800) 932-3302
Website: [http://www.thechildcareresourcenetwork.org](http://www.thechildcareresourcenetwork.org)

**Child Care Answers**
1776 N. Meridian St., Suite A
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Phone: (317) 636-5727
Toll Free: (800) 272-2937
Fax: (317) 687-6248
Website: [http://www.childcareanswers.com](http://www.childcareanswers.com)

**CASY**
Booker T Washington Community Ctr., 2nd Fl.
1101 S. 13th Street
Terre Haute, IN 47802
Phone: (812) 232-3952
Toll Free: (800) 886-3952
Fax: (812) 232-1731
Website: [http://www.casyonline.org](http://www.casyonline.org)

**4C of Southern Indiana**
414 SE Fourth Street, Suite 102
Evansville, IN 47713
Phone: (812) 423-4008
Toll Free: (866) 200-5909
Fax: (812) 423-3399
Website: [http://www.child-care.org](http://www.child-care.org)