COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Childcare Programs and Providers

Are childcare workers and children required to wear face coverings?

- All childcare staff are required to wear a [cloth face covering](#). Some counties require children over the age of 2 to wear facial coverings in places of businesses e.g. child care facilities.

What essential protective equipment and supplies do childcare providers need?

- Cloth face coverings, gloves, disinfectant cleaning product are required. Hand sanitizer is optional.

Do childcare providers need to wear gloves?

- Childcare providers must wear gloves for tasks such as serving food, handling trash, or using cleaning and disinfectant products.

What precautions are needed if my child brings personal items to the childcare center?

- All personal items should be labeled and kept in a separate bag to ensure personal items are separate from others.
- Personal toys and blankets should either be sent home with the family each day or washed daily by the provider.

What if cots and blankets are used during nap time?

- For napping, place cots, cribs, and mats 6 feet apart, with heads in opposite directions.
- Use bedding (sheets, pillows, blankets, sleeping bags) that can be washed.
- Keep each child's bedding separate, and consider storing in individually labeled bins, cubbies, or bags.
- Cots and mats should be labeled for each child.
- Bedding that touches a child's skin should be cleaned weekly or before use by another child.

How will they be able to maintain social distancing?

- Arrange developmentally appropriate activities for smaller group activities and rearrange furniture and play spaces to maintain 6 feet of separation, when possible.
- It is important to keep the same children and teacher or staff with each group and include children from the same family in the same group, to the greatest extent possible.
- Children should remain in groups as small as possible. Should these guidelines differ from local health ordinances, follow the stricter guidance.

State-Provided Industry Guidance for Childcare Programs and Providers can be found [here](#).