

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are the ratios for programs opening?
[COVID-19 Updated Guidance: Child Care Programs and Providers](#), supersedes PIN 20-06-CCP and states that “children should remain in groups as small as possible. Should these guidelines differ from local health ordinances, follow the stricter guidance.” Providers should consult their [local public health department’s guidance](#) for any group size requirements. If there is no group size requirement in their county orders, providers should try to keep children in groups as small as possible.
Staffing ratios have returned to standard licensing numbers. When referring to group size of 10, we are referring to 10 children within a group, not including the staff/teacher.
 - Infant Centers - [Title 22 Regulations, Section 101416.5](#)
 - Infant Centers with a Toddler Component - [Health and Safety Code, Section 1596.956](#)
 - Preschool Centers - [Title 22 Regulations, Section 101216.3](#)
 - Preschool Centers with a Toddler Component - [Health and Safety Code, Section 1596.955](#)
 - School-age Centers - [Title 22 Regulations, Section 101516.5](#)
 - Family Child Care Homes - [Title 22 Regulations, Section 102416.5](#)
2. Are adults/staff counted in the group size?
PIN says do not include teachers: “group size do not include the teachers”
When referring to group size of 10, we are referring to 10 children within a group, not including the staff/teacher.
3. Is it required for children and adults to wear masks?
Children under age of 2 are not required to wear masks, 3 and over are required to wear masks at this time.
Facial covering should never be used on children under the age of two. **On June 18, 2020, CDPH issued [Guidance on the Use of Face Coverings](#), which broadly requires the use of face coverings in California when in public or common spaces.** However, this exempted all child care facilities. [COVID-19 Updated Guidance: Child Care Programs and Providers](#) outlines facial coverings are required for Child Care Workforce. For the **most current** guidance for children in care regarding wearing face coverings, please refer to your [local county public health department](#). For additional information please see CDPH- [Face Coverings Guidance](#) and the CDC - [Use of Cloth Face Coverings](#)
4. What in the health & safety guidelines have changed, if any after COVID?
[PIN 20-06](#) New guidance is supposed to come out, but for now, default back to old PINs regardless of the date indicated as end date on PINs.

5. Are there additional licensing forms needed to be collected from families?
At this time, we recommend that you review your policy/contract. If there is anything new that needs to be added or changed within your policy or contract, you need to provide written info to your families/parents/guardian as well as submitting an updated copy to your local child care regional office. Again, we recommend you contact your [local regional licensing office](#) for further guidance.

6. Do you have to close if you have an infection?
If a licensee has been impacted by an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 or exposed, please adhere to CDPHs guidelines and contact your [local public health department](#), 1-800-564-8448, report the incident to your [local regional licensing office](#), and communicate to your families.

7. How many infections before you have to notify families?
As soon as you have **one** positive case you have to notify everyone: families, staff, OC Public Health, Licensing

For further information, we want to direct you to the [California Department of Social Services \(CDSS\)](#) webpage. You can find guidance provided by the [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\)](#), the [Center for Disease Control](#) and the [World Health Organization](#). The information below is based on guidance supplied by these agencies. CDSS and [Community Care Licensing](#) encourages you to visit these sites frequently as information changes. Additionally, please review, [COVID-19 Updated Guidance: Child Care Programs and Providers](#).

Additionally there are [resources for schools and childcare programs](#) on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention webpage. The Department will also communicate all new information to providers through Provider Information Notices (PINs). Please [sign up to be notified of new PINs here](#) and [visit the Department's website for the latest PINs](#).

For specific COVID-19 questions, please contact your [local county public health department](#). Please also sign up for the [latest county alerts](#).

(Information Gathered 7/2/2020 by calling Analyst on Duty: Stacey. Written correspondence from The Child Care Advocates)