

Early Childhood COVID-19 Updates

7.1.2020

Welcome Dr. Jenna Chaisson!

Dr. Jenna Chaisson



The background of the slide is a watercolor-style wash of colors, primarily in shades of teal, blue, and light beige. A large, thin white circle is centered on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the watercolor background.

Agenda

- **General**
- **Early Childhood Updates**
- **Office of Public Health Guidelines for Child Care**
- **Next Steps**

COVID-19 Resources for Early Childhood

The Department has prepared a host of resources and materials to support lead agencies, schools, and child care providers during this uncertain time.

COVID-19 Resources:

- LDOE COVID-19 [landing page](#) and [library](#)
- LDOE Strong Start 2020 [landing page](#) and [library](#)
- COVID-19 [FAQ](#) for early childhood
- [Office of Public Health Guidelines for Child Care](#)
- [Open Child Care Facilities By Parish During COVID-19](#)
- Questions regarding COVID-19, contact LDOECOVID19Support@la.gov



Early Childhood Updates

ECE Updates

CCAP Provider Payments

Providers will continue to receive payments for CCAP based on enrollment and not by attendance until September 30.

CCAP will extend child care payments to providers through September 30. Providers will continue to be paid by enrollment and not by attendance per their center's capacity. In addition, copayments for families will continue to be waived until the end of September.

For questions regarding CCAP, please email the Provider Ticket System at <https://provider.supportsystem.com>

ECE Updates

CCAP Provider Payments

Due to the state's fiscal end of year financial processes and the July 4 holiday, there will be a delay to Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) payments for the week ending June 26. Providers should receive payment for this week no later than July 10.

For questions regarding CCAP, please email the Provider Ticket System at <https://provider.supportsystem.com>.

Strong Start 2020

LaCAP Relief Grants

The Department is preparing to offer a third round of the Louisiana Child Care Assistance Provider (LaCAP) relief grants that child care providers may be eligible for.

As child care providers become operational again, they face increased costs related to increased cleaning and sanitation, required adult-child ratios and group sizes detailed in the [Office of Public Health Guidelines for Child Care](#), and other activities necessary to maintain operations.

To support eligible certified providers for reopening and operational costs, the Department is announcing an upcoming grant opportunity:

- **LaCap Relief Grants Round 3:** Child care assistance providers (Type III centers and certified home-based providers) who become operationally serving children by August 1 may be eligible to receive this grant. More information will be provided in the near future. Application release date is set for early August.

ECE Updates

Louisiana Main Street Recovery Fund

Louisiana's regular legislative session, which ended June 1, has yielded additional federal financial support for small business recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

Last week, Governor Edwards signed [senate bill 189](#), creating the Louisiana Main Street Recovery Fund, a small business set aside of \$300 million of the \$1.8 billion the state received from the federal CARES Act. The program will be administered through the state Treasurer's office, and will provide grants of **up to \$15,000** to eligible for-profit businesses. This includes **all provider types**.

- The Main Street Restoration Program will focus on those businesses that are too small and have not received any federal grants, such as from the Paycheck Protection Program, or received business interruption insurance.
- To receive updates on the LA Main Street Recovery Program when they become available, email msrp@treasury.la.gov. Updates will also be posted on the [State Treasurer's website](#).

Early Childhood Updates

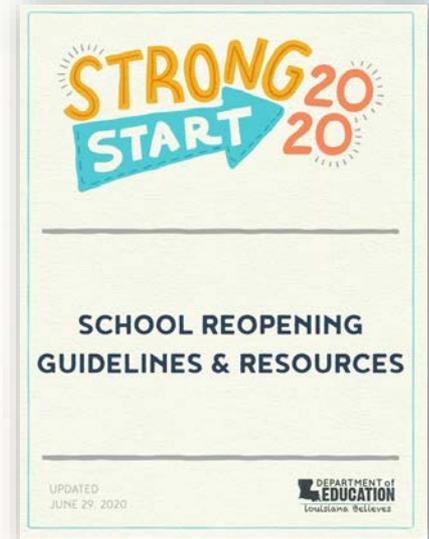
Guidelines and Resources for School Reopening

In partnership with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) and the Resilient Louisiana Commission, the Louisiana Department of Education released guidance for how [schools across the state can reopen for the 2020-2021](#) school year by taking actions to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

[Strong Start 2020: Guidelines and Resources for School Reopening](#) is available now on the LDOE website and includes a number of guidelines and best practices for districts including the following:

- Bus capacity and student group size
- Student symptom monitoring
- Face coverings
- Food prep and meal service

**These guidelines apply to public and non-public school facilities. Licensed centers should continue following the [Office of Public Health Guidelines for Child Care](#).*



Early Childhood Updates

OPH Guidelines for Child Care

On June 22, Gov. Edwards announced Phase 2 will be extended for another 28 days and will reevaluate in two weeks using the White House's reopening strategy.

- The Office of Public Health and the Department of Education developed required and suggested [guidelines](#) for child care centers to use as they reopen, informed by the latest guidance from the CDC. The guidelines have been updated as of today.
- The [Office of Public Health Guidelines for Child Care](#) apply to **all phases** of Reopening Louisiana. More specific questions are answered in the [FAQ document](#).
- These guidelines may change depending on the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) and Office of Public Health updates and as the state changes phases.



Early Childhood Updates

OPH Guidelines for Child Care

*In Appendix 3 of the [Office of Public Health Guidelines for Child Care](#), guidance for Implementing Social Distancing for Indoor groups and Outdoor groups applies to **all phases** of Reopening Louisiana.*

APPENDIX 3

IMPLEMENT SOCIAL DISTANCING STRATEGIES

	PHASE I	PHASE II	PHASE III
Group size	• See chart below.	• See chart below.	• See chart below.
Ratios	• See chart below.	• See chart below.	• See chart below.
Indoor groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be in rooms enclosed by walls or partitions • Cannot convene in shared indoor spaces unless the space is cleaned and disinfected before and after each group's use 	• Same as Phase I	• Same as Phase I
Outdoor groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be separated, but do not require a physical barrier • In swimming pools, groups must be separated by lane lines or ropes 	• Same as Phase I	• Same as Phase I

- Children and staff must pass singly through entry and exit points
- Ensure that children's naptime mats (or cribs) are spaced out as much as possible, ideally 6 feet apart. Place children head to toe in order to further reduce the potential for viral spread.
- Cancel or postpone special events such as field trips, festivals, holiday events, and special performances.

Early Childhood Updates

OPH Guidelines for Child Care

Type II and Type III centers must adhere to the following [guidance](#) for maximum group sizes and ratios permissible. During Phase III, ratios and maximum group size returns to normal for all age groups.

TYPE II AND TYPE III

NORMAL			PHASE I		PHASE II		PHASE III	
Ages of Children	Ratio	Maximum Group Size	Ratio	Maximum Group Size	Ratio	Maximum Group Size	Ratio	Maximum Group Size
Infants under 1 year	5:1	15	4:1	5 Including adult	5:1	15	Return to Normal	Return to Normal
1 year	7:1	21	7:1	10 Including adult	7:1	21		
2 years	11:1	22	9:1		11:1	22		
3 years	13:1	26	9:1		13:1	25 Including adult		
4 years	15:1	30	9:1		15:1			
5 years	19:1	38	9:1		19:1			
6 years and up	23:1	46	9:1		23:1			

Early Childhood Updates

OPH Guidelines for Child Care

Type I centers must adhere to the following [guidance](#) for maximum group sizes and ratios permissible. During Phase III, ratios and maximum group size returns to normal for groups of children younger than 6.

TYPE I

NORMAL			PHASE I		PHASE II		PHASE III	
Ages of Children	Ratio	Maximum Group Size	Ratio	Maximum Group Size	Ratio	Maximum Group Size	Ratio	Maximum Group Size
Infants under 1 year	6:1	18	4:1	5 including adult	6:1	15	Return to Normal	Return to Normal
1 year	8:1	24	8:1	10 including adult	8:1	21		
2 years	12:1	24	9:1		12:1	22		
3 years	14:1	28	9:1		14:1	25 including adult		
4 years	16:1	32	9:1		16:1			
5 years	20:1	40	9:1		20:1			
6 years and up	25:1	50	9:1	25:1		24:1	50 including adult	

Early Childhood Updates

OPH Guidelines for Child Care

Q. What should one do if a staff member or child becomes sick?

APPENDIX 2

PLAN ISOLATION STEPS IF A CHILD OR STAFF MEMBER BECOMES SICK FOLLOWED BY CLEANING AND DISINFECTING PROCESSES.

- Have an isolation room or area (such as a cot in a corner of the classroom) that can be used to isolate a sick child.
- Follow CDC guidance on how to [disinfect your building](#) if someone is sick.
- If a sick child has been isolated in your facility, clean and disinfect surfaces in your isolation room or area after the sick child has gone home.
- If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member:
 - » Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
 - » Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas.
 - » Wait up to 24 hours, or as long as possible, before you clean or disinfect to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting.
 - » Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms and common areas.
 - » If more than 7 days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary. Simply continue routine cleaning and disinfecting.
 - » Follow [CDC Guidance](#) on home isolation.

Early Childhood Updates

OPH Guidelines for Child Care

Q. Can we have field trips?

A. Field trips are still prohibited by OPH.

Q. Do staff and children have to wear masks?

A. Staff must wear masks. Children can wear masks but not required. Children under 2 years old **MUST NOT** wear a mask.

Q. Do we need to continue to screen children before they enter the center?

A. Yes, children and staff must be screened (i.e. temperature checks, etc.) before entering the center.

Q. How should we handle if we provide transportation on buses/vans to and from school?

A. We are working with OPH on guidance and update soon.

Q. What happens if I am having trouble getting the Fire Marshal and Sanitarian out to my center for my license renewal?

A. We are working closely with LDH (sanitarian) and the Fire Marshal to prioritize renewals. Please contact Licensing for any specific center concerns.

Early Childhood Updates

2019-2020 Performance Ratings

*To issue 2019-2020 Performance Ratings, the Department will compare sites' results based on CLASS observations that took place this year with results from last year, and **will use the higher of the two.***

- Section 523 of [Bulletin 140](#) provides flexibility in how Performance Ratings are issued for “severe impact sites,” including those impacted by extended closures and reductions in group size and attendance.
- Based on Bulletin 140 policy, all sites **can opt into** receiving a 2019-2020 Performance Rating, in order to be eligible for CCAP Bonus Payments and School Readiness Tax Credits in 2021.
 - The Department will compare each site’s Performance Score based on 2019-2020 observations with the 2018-2019 Performance Score, and **will use the higher of the two.**
- **Next Steps:** The Early Childhood Team will be reaching out with more information for lead agencies and sites in the coming weeks. No action needs to be taken by sites or lead agencies at this time.

ECE Updates

Teachstone Professional Development

Teachstone is hosting a new trauma-informed CLASS® professional development series to support the social and emotional development of our youngest learners.

Supporting Teachers and Young Learners as They Return to Classrooms: Interactions at the Heart of Healing

Grounded in research and using the foundations of CLASS®, this webinar explores how to support children’s social-emotional development and learning as they transition back to classrooms. Recording available [here](#).



Interactions at the Heart of Healing: CLASS®-based Strategies for Supporting Teachers and Children

This webinar will examine the impact of recent events on educators and children and share CLASS®-based strategies to support teachers and students as they transition back to classrooms.

When: Thursday, July 2 at 1:00 p.m.

Additional professional development opportunities can be found within Teachstone’s new trauma-informed CLASS® professional development series, [Interactions at the Heart of Healing](#).

Next Steps

Next Steps

Guidance and Communications

- All guidance will be linked here, including these slides:
<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/covid-19>
- Email any questions to LDOECOV19Support@la.gov
- Check the [ECE FAQ](#) and the [School System FAQ](#), which are updated frequently
- **Please email any closures as soon as possible to the support inbox.**