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State Superintendent of Schools

To: Licensed Child Care Providers, Essential Personnel Child Care (EPCC), and Essential Personnel School Age (EPSA) Providers

From: Steven R. Hicks
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Division of Early Childhood

Subject: Child Care Operating Procedures during COVID-19 Pandemic

Date: June 11, 2020

MSDE is providing this clarification on child care operating procedures in Maryland. All parents are now eligible to access child care services. All child care providers may reopen, as long as they follow all health department protocols listed on the MSDE website and adhere to class size restrictions. In order to reopen, providers must contact their licensing specialist and complete a *Child Care Verification of Reopening* form.

Class sizes in child care centers for three and four year olds are now expanded to a maximum of 15 individuals per classroom with a ratio of no more than 1:14. This is a temporary relaxing of the regulations for this age group only. All other ages must adhere to current regulation.

Family child care and large family child care programs are limited to the number of children for which they are licensed at one time and no more than 15 persons total including residents. Family child care programs may serve different children on different days. If they are licensed for evening care and weekends, they can serve additional children in the evening shift, however they must clean and disinfect thoroughly between shifts.

Please continue to review our FAQs and resources on our website at <https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/>.

Thank you for your continued service as essential persons providing child care for Maryland's families.