

CHILD CARE LICENSING UPDATE

Child Care Licensing Program Mission:

The core mission of the Child Care Licensing Program is to ensure the health and safety of children in care. We strive to provide preventative, protective, and quality services to children in care by ensuring that licensed facilities meet established health and safety standards through monitoring facilities, providing technical assistance, and establishing partnerships with providers, parents, and the child care community.

A Note from Pamela Dickfoss, Deputy Director

The year 2020 has been one of unprecedented upheaval and uncertainty in the child care field. We continue to face a global pandemic, devastating wildfires throughout California, and the reality of racial injustice in our nation. Yet through it all, child care providers have continued to serve California's children. Thank you for your flexibility, hard work, and dedication to the children in your care.

In spite of these historic challenges, we are encouraged by the progress made to improve child care throughout California. These efforts include:

- Collaboration with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the California Department of Education (CDE), and other national, state, and local partners to respond to the COVID-19 health crisis.
- The passage of [Safe Sleep regulations](#), which will help reduce the risk of sleep related deaths in child care facilities.
- Child Care Licensing has been awarded the Environmental Protection Agency's WIIN Grant, which helps create programs that assist public water systems in small and disadvantaged communities meet Safe Drinking Water Act requirements
- We neared the completion of a new field inspection tool which will provide consistency to licensing visits and identify clear expectations for providers.

Many of us are still adjusting to the "new normal" of life during a pandemic. Although we don't know what challenges lie ahead in this upcoming year, I am confident the partnership we have built over the years will continue to ensure the health, safety, and development of California's children.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

[Safe Sleep Regulations](#)

[Winter Reminders](#)

[AB 605 Update](#)

[Child Development Series](#)

[Early Start Program](#)

[WIIN Grant](#)

[Flu Season and COVID-19](#)

[Caregiver Background Check Bureau Update](#)

[New Safe Sleep Regulations](#)

New Safe Sleep Regulations are effective 8/19/2020 and may be viewed by visiting the [Department website](#). These regulations were developed to help reduce the risk of sleep related deaths in child care facilities. Infants are some of the most vulnerable individuals in child care, particularly as it relates to sleep practices. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, approximately 3,500 infants die annually from sleep-related deaths in the United States. There are two main types of sleep-related deaths, Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

What are SUID and SIDS?

Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) is the death of an infant younger than 1 year of age that occurs suddenly and unexpectedly. After a full investigation, these deaths may be diagnosed as suffocation, entrapment, infection, ingestion, metabolic diseases, cardiac arrhythmias, and trauma.

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is one type of SUID. SIDS is the sudden death of an infant younger than 1 year of age that cannot be explained even after a full investigation that includes a complete autopsy, examination of the death scene, and clinical history review.

While SIDS cannot be prevented, child care providers can reduce the risk of sleep related deaths by following these regulations. Please be sure to visit the [Child Care Program's Safe Sleep webpage](#) for resources on how to reduce the risk of a sleep-related death.



AB 605 Update- Single Child Care Center License

The implementation of the Single Child Care Center License regulations has been divided into two phases.

In the first phase, the aim is to establish the new license category while maintaining existing regulatory protections. Draft regulations will be submitted for approval by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) through their emergency regulatory process by the statutory deadline of January 2021. Regulations adopted through the emergency process are considered temporary.

In the second phase, permanent regulations will be proposed to implement the longer-term goals, such as co-mingling, transitioning children, recommended group sizes, etc. This phase aims to align with transitioning all child care center licenses to a single license before January 1, 2024.

Drafted regulations have been reviewed by select stakeholders. Phase two will begin after regulations are implemented following the emergency regulation process.

Early Start Program

Community Care Licensing would like to share important information from the Department of Developmental Services, (DDS), regarding their Early Start Program. This program provides early intervention to infants and toddlers in a coordinated, family-centered system, and it has experienced a decline in referrals since the beginning of the State of Emergency. As we know, early intervention is critical for children to achieve the best possible developmental outcomes. If you know of an infant or toddler that has, or is suspected of having a delay or disability, whose family is needing support, please refer them to their local regional center about possible Early Start services at 1-800-515-BABY, (or 1-800-515-2229). Anyone can make a referral.

Additional Early Start Program information to share with families, colleagues and your communities can be found below:

Early Start Brochure - An easy-to-read brochure that outlines the screening, referral and intake process.

[Healthcare-Provider-Brochure. What is Early Start](#) (English) [\(Spanish\)](#)

The Early Start Community Flyer – An informative flyer for families who may have a concern about their child's development.

[Community Resources Infographic](#) (English) [\(Spanish\)](#)

For more information, visit the [DDS website](#).

Flu Season and COVID-19

With Flu season upon us and the continuing concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic, providers may feel anxious and want to make sure they can keep the children in their care healthy. The [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) has great resources and information on their website. Remember that regular handwashing is a very important part of germ management.

The CDC also has great tips for teaching and reinforcing [handwashing](#) with children including easy to use handwashing pdf documents that are available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). The CDC also has guidance for [wearing face masks](#) to help prevent the spread of COVID.



Winter Reminders

With the cold weather arriving, it is common to have a fire in the fireplace and heaters turned on. Please remember that all fireplaces, wood burning stoves, and open-faced heaters need to be made inaccessible to children in care. Please refer to the Title 22 regulations below for specific facility types.

[Child Care Centers 101239\(c\)](#)

Fireplaces and open-faced heaters shall be made inaccessible to children to ensure children's safety.

[Family Child Care Homes 102417\(g\)\(1\)\(2\)](#)

Fireplaces and open-face heaters shall be screened to prevent access by children. The home shall contain a smoke detector device which meets standards established by the State Fire Marshal. Gas heaters shall be properly vented and permanently installed.

Carbon monoxide detectors are also required in all child care facilities as detailed by the following links:

[Child Care Centers 1596.954](#)

[Small Family Child Care Homes 1597.45](#)

[Large Family Child Care Homes 1597.46](#)

Child Development Series- Three to Twelve Months

Infants between three and twelve months of age undergo many changes in the way they interact with others and express themselves. Infants begin to sit on their own without support, sit down from a standing position, throw objects, crawl and then walk. Caregivers and child care providers can assist in this time of physical development by giving infants a safe space to crawl, walk and explore their environment.

Infants at this age are increasing their abilities to relate to others, including longer eye contact and smiling. Infants learn about themselves through their interactions with others and are interested in those around them. Their primary way of communication is crying, which is a signal for hunger, sleepiness and discomfort. It is important for caregivers and child care providers to spend time with infants aside from feeding and diapering. Reading and playing with age appropriate materials is critical during this time.

Brain development between three and twelve months of age is still rapid. Infants are beginning to reach for objects with one hand, develop hand-eye coordination, recognize familiar people and objects at a distance, watch the path of an object as it falls, and explore the environment by shaking, banging and throwing objects. Frequent communication can help foster brain development as infants become more independent.

These milestones are described in more detail in the CA Department of Education's [Ages and Stages](#) resource and the [Milestone Tracker](#) from the Centers for Disease Control.

WIIN Grant

Child Care Licensing has been awarded an [Environmental Protection Agency's WIIN Grant](#) for over 6 million dollars, to create programs that assist disadvantaged communities in meeting Safe Drinking Water Act requirements. CDSS, in partnership with R&R agencies, will conduct outreach and inform child care centers about the lead testing program, process and funding eligibility. The goals are to reduce children's exposure to lead in water in child care centers, conduct outreach to both centers and parents about safe drinking water, and help centers develop and implement Corrective Action Plans for remediation to eliminate lead in child care centers. This grant in combination with the California Budget Act of 2018 (SB 862, Chapter 449, Statutes of 2018) allocation of 5 million dollars to the State Water Resources Control Board will help meet the lead testing mandates outlined in [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 2370, Chapter 676, Statutes of 2018](#).

For more information please refer to [PIN 20-01-CCP](#) and [PIN 20-12-CCP](#).

Caregiver Background Check Bureau- Update

The Caregiver Background Check Bureau (CBCB) has changed its name to the Caregiver Provider Management Bureau (CPMB) and is pleased to announce the launch of the background check system, Guardian, set to go live January 2021.

Guardian is a tool to assist agencies and applicants in the background check process. Guardian ensures background checks are completed faster and more efficiently, while making the process easier for applicants and agencies to request exemptions.

For additional information regarding Guardian, please visit the [Guardian Webpage](#).

Helpful Reminders and Information

- Please remember to check out new PINs: [Provider Information Notices](#).
- Latest Recalls from the [U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission](#).
- [Regional Office Locations and Numbers](#)
- [Short Child Care Videos](#) addressing common questions on licensed care for families and providers.
- [Free Online Mandated Reporter Training](#).
- [Resources for Preventing Suspension and Expulsion in Child Care Settings](#).- Provides resources for dealing with challenging behaviors.
- [California Teaching Pyramid Website](#)- Provides information and resources to support children's Social and Emotional Development.
- [Healthy Schools Act Training, Department of Pesticide Regulation](#).
- [California Resource for Power Outages and Fire Recovery Resources](#).
- [California Poison Control System \(CPCS\)](#)
- [Kids Specialty Plate](#)



Are you interested in becoming part of the Child Care Licensing team?



Please apply at [CalCareers](#)

- Information on how to apply for a state job can be found at the [Cal Careers Website](#).

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Centralized Complaint & Information Bureau (CCIB)	1-844-538-8766
---	----------------

Child Care Advocate Program	1-916-654-1541
-----------------------------	----------------

Child Protective Services	1-916-875-5437
---------------------------	----------------

California Poison Control System	1-800-222-1222
----------------------------------	----------------

Caregiver Background Check Bureau	1-888-422-5669
-----------------------------------	----------------

CA Child Care Resource and Referral Network	1-415-882-0234
---	----------------

Program Administrator:
Shanice Orum

Assistant Program Administrators:
Chana Wynne-Swan- Region One
Robert Garza- Region Two
Maria Hendrix- Region Three
Maria Valencia- Region Four