

Quarterly Update

WINTER 2018

CHILD CARE LICENSING UPDATE

Child Care Licensing Program Mission:

The Child Care Licensing Program licenses and monitors Family Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers in an effort to ensure that they provide a safe and healthy environment for children who are in day care.

A Note from Pamela Dickfoss, Deputy Director

Now that we enter a new year, we can reflect on the events we experienced throughout 2017. Those that work directly with children should be proud of their role in helping them to develop into positive, healthy members of society. With our success, came many challenges that included the most devastating fires in California's history. As a result many childcare facilities were either evacuated or closed down and there was concern child care needs would not be met across counties. To ensure continuity of care we worked with licensees and offered program flexibility to meet those needs.

Despite the tremendous stress and grief that licensees suffered during this unprecedented disaster, many continued to provide quality care for families impacted by the fires. Our program is thankful for the swift follow up and empathy received from the community.

Community support was critical in minimizing the hardship on families, while still upholding health and safety for vulnerable populations. It is important to note that licensing will reach out during disasters to determine the impact to the child care facilities. The purpose of this communication may be to determine the facility

status (i.e. evacuation, closure, shelter in place, etc.), evaluate the health and safety of staff and children in care, and assess the availability of, and access to child care in the community. The efforts on the part of licensees, program staff, and stakeholders show an encouraging partnership as we move forward into 2018.

In this new year, we will continue our large group stakeholder meetings and plan to host local regional office meetings with licensees. The purpose of these local more intimate meetings is to strengthen relationships between the regional office and licensees. They are an opportunity to receive updates on Provider Information Notices (PIN) and other important licensing requirements. Please continue to stay connected with your regional office and look for the local meeting schedule.

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Disaster Preparedness

In the recent months, we have had many wildfires throughout the state. In addition to wildfires, there are many other different types of disasters that we may encounter such as earthquakes, flooding and other natural or man-made hazards.

All child care providers need to be prepared and be ready for any type of disaster or hazardous situation. There are many ways you can be more prepared in case of emergency.

Requirements:

- Create a disaster or emergency plan for your home or day care facility.
- Practice your emergency plan with your daycare children and staff every six months.
- Don't forget to include a plan for infants or those with special needs.
- Have updated contact information for parents/guardians.

Best Practice:

- Build emergency kits - enough for children in your care and staff.
- Have a backup plan if your relocation site is impacted by the emergency.
- Understand "911" protocol and procedures.

For more information, please visit the [My Hazards Website](#) created by The California Office of Emergency Services to inform public and providers of the natural hazards in their location.

The following resources can assist providers and families after a fire:

[CDPH-Safely clean up ash](#)
[FEMA Child Care Assistance Fact Sheet](#)
[Cal Fires Updates](#)

Please remember that licensed providers *must* have a disaster plan in place and are required to practice emergency drills with the daycare children and staff.

IMPORTANT: Kidde Fire Extinguishers Recalled

There was a safety recall on Kidde fire extinguishers with plastic handles and push button indicators due to failure to discharge and nozzle detachment that was released by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission on November 2, 2017.

A Provider Information Notice - [PIN 17-11-CCL](#) was also recently released to notify the public.

To find specific fire extinguishers recalled and additional information regarding the recall, visit the [Consumer Product Safety Commission's website](#) .



Safe Sleep for Infants

Infants are at an increased risk of dying from sleep-related causes in child care settings. About one in five sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) deaths occur while an infant is being cared for by someone other than a parent. In addition, many of those occur on the first day or in the first week of child care. The causes of SIDS are unknown. A potential contributing factor in these deaths may be when an infant is placed to sleep on their tummy or side when they are used to being on their back for sleep at home.

Safe sleep practices in California child care homes and centers may help to reduce the risks of SUIDs (sudden unexpected infant deaths), including SIDS, suffocation, and other deaths that may occur in infants aged 0 to 12 months.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) published [guidelines](#) for safe sleep practices for infants in child care settings and also has many [resources](#) available on their website.

Child care homes and centers are encouraged to incorporate the guidelines provided by the AAP in writing a policy that describes the practices the provider will use in the child care home or center for safe sleeping environments for infants. See the following guidelines:

- Back to sleep for every sleep. Place infants from 0 to 12 months old for sleep in cribs and on their backs (fully on their backs) for **every** nap or sleep time.
- A safe sleep environment is one in which there is a firm crib mattress covered by a tight-fitting bottom sheet in a crib that meets the standards and guidelines reviewed and approved by the [U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission](#) (CPSC).
- Infants should not nap in car seats, bean bags, swings or any equipment that is not in compliance with the CPSC safety standards.
- Loose bedding, such as sheets, blankets and pillows, should not be used. Sleep clothing, such as sleepers, sleep sacks, and wearable blankets, are good alternatives to blankets.
- Toys, including mobiles, should not be placed in cribs
- Keep the room at a temperature that is comfortable for a lightly clothed adult.
- In child care centers, napping infants are required to have supervision in all napping areas. For babies who are learning how to turn over, child care providers should monitor the babies and turn them onto their backs until they are adept at turning back and forth themselves.
- Providers should provide supervised tummy time daily for all babies when babies are awake to help them develop their strength and muscles.
- Teach all staff, substitutes, and volunteers about safe sleep practices and be sure to review those practices often.
- Talk with families about the importance of sleep positioning and encourage them to follow these guidelines at home.

For more information please refer to additional resources provided by The California Childcare Health Program sponsored by the University of California, San Francisco, such as a [Fact Sheet](#) and [Health and Safety Notes](#) which can be shared with staff and parents, and a [sample safe sleep policy](#). Also visit [California Department of Public Health's](#) website.

Legislation

Assembly Bill (AB) 752 (2017)

Effective January 1, 2018, California State Preschool Programs licensed by the Department of Social Services and contracted through the California Department of Education must complete a documented process for children exhibiting persistent and serious challenging behaviors as an attempt to reduce/eliminate expulsions and unenrollment from facilities due to behavioral matters. The Licensing Program Analyst (LPA) will review the steps taken by the facility in addressing this behavior in addition to their methods to limit and/or prevent future incidents. Upon review of the response to incidents that occur in the facility and the resources provided for the child including an Individualized Education Program (IEP), the LPA will determine whether the facility acted appropriately or whether there was a violation of California Code of Regulations, Title 22 or the California Health and Safety Code requiring a citation or civil penalty.

Senate Bill (SB) 401 (2017)

Effective January 1, 2018, child care facilities located in state office buildings with 700 or more employees will no longer have an indoor space limitation of 2,100 square feet. This limitation restricted day care centers to provide care for a maximum of 60 children. Instead, the indoor space limitation has been removed and the permitted capacity will be determined based on the indoor activity space and outdoor activity space requirements in Title 22, California Code of Regulations.

Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Care

As of January 1, 2018, counties choosing to participate will begin implementing the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program (Bridge Program). Senate Bill 89 (2017) allocates \$15.5 million for the Bridge Program for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

The Bridge Program consists of three components:

1. Emergency Child Care Vouchers: Eligible families may receive time-limited vouchers or payment for child care costs for foster children ages birth to 12 years old, children with exceptional needs, and severely disabled children up to age 21.

2. Child Care Navigator: The navigator, provided by the local Resource & Referral agency, will assist with finding child care providers, completing applications, as well as other services.

3. Trauma-informed care training and coaching: Child care providers will receive training (such as infant and toddler development care practices) and coaching to assist them in caring for the needs of each child.

Additional information is located at the Department of Social Services [website](#).

Integrated Pest Management Updates

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has adopted new rules to further protect young students from pesticide exposure. Beginning January 1, 2018, the use

of agricultural pesticides near public K-12 schools and licensed child day care facilities has new restrictions. Family day care homes

do not fall under this regulation. The new regulation does the following:

- Prohibits many agricultural pesticide applications within a quarter mile of schools and child day care facilities during Monday through Friday between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Requires California growers to provide annual notification to schools and child day care facilities of the pesticides expected to be used within a quarter mile of these schools and facilities in the upcoming year. The notifications must be provided by April 30 of each year.

The regulation is designed to encourage greater communication between growers and schools or child day care facilities. The new rules are also expected to help schools and child day care facilities respond to potential



New System News

The Child Welfare Digital Services (CWDS) is developing the Child Welfare Services-New System (CWS-NS) to gradually replace the “legacy” databases currently in use.

The Certification, Approval, and Licensing Service (CALs) of the New System will provide an integrated, user-friendly statewide database for use by Counties and the Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD).

This system will eventually be adapted for the Adult and Senior Care Program and the Child Care Program as well. For more information:

pesticide incidents and concerns from parents. It is important to note that the annual notifications are informational only. Schools or child day care facilities are not required to distribute the annual notifications to others or take any actions based on the information.

In December 2017, DPR sent a letter and [fact sheets](#) to the approximately 2000 child day care facilities that are within a quarter mile of an agricultural field. They will receive one or more annual notifications. Please contact your county agricultural commissioner if you believe that your child day care facility is within a quarter mile of an agricultural field and you did not receive the letter. Please see the contact information for each [county agricultural commissioner](#).

If you have questions about the new regulation please visit our [Website](#).

- Reach out to the CWDS CALS Team with questions or ideas directly at: CWDSCALS@osi.ca.gov.
- Stay informed: [Subscribe](#) to the CWDS Stakeholders mail list.
- Visit the website: <https://cwds.ca.gov/>. (“[Dashboard](#)” has links to each team’s work; “[For Stakeholders](#)” has links to events including the Monthly Solutions Demos, Quarterly Stakeholder Forums, Reports, and much more.)
- Following CWDS on social media, including: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), and [GitHub](#).



Child Welfare Digital Services

Management Information

Carla Masuret, Child Care Program Office

Carla has been promoted to be the manager for the System and Administrative Support Unit as of October 2017. Prior to this position, Carla was the lead Child Care Program Trainer for 5 years.



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

Please apply at: <https://jobs.ca.gov/>

Reminders

- Please remember to check out new PINS: [Provider Information Notices](#)
- Latest Recalls from the [U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission](#)
- Link to the [Child Care Videos](#)
- [Mandated Reporter Training](#)
 - [Implementation Plan](#)

IMPORTANT INFO AND 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
Caregiver Background Check Bureau	1-888-422-5669
CA Child Care Resource and Referral Network	1-415-882-0234

Notes and Credits

The Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) publishes the Child Care Quarterly Update for the benefit of Licensees, Parents, and Stakeholders.

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