

Pandemic Programs

Temporary Licensure

1. What is a temporary pandemic child care center license?
 - a. A temporary pandemic child care center license is a short-term license to provide child care services to children whose parents are employed by providing health, safety and other essential services as defined by the director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services in consultation with the director of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency.
2. How do programs apply for a temporary pandemic child care license?
 - a. The child care center shall submit the [JFS 01258 "Application for Temporary Pandemic Child Care Center License"](#) to ODJFS at ODJFS_Childcare@jfs.ohio.gov.
 - b. If the program is not currently operating as a licensed child care center, it shall also comply with a pre-licensing inspection.
 - c. If the program is currently operating a licensed child care center, a pre-licensing inspection is not required.
3. What are the licensing requirements for a pandemic child care center?
 - a. Please refer to [rule 5101:2-12-02.1 Temporary Pandemic Child Care Center License](#).
4. What are ratio and group size requirements for pandemic programs?
 - a. Please see Appendix A to 5101:2-12-02.1 Temporary Pandemic Child Care Center License.
5. Are pandemic programs required to sign a provider agreement with ODJFS?
 - a. Yes, pandemic programs must sign a provider agreement and the contract for Pandemic Programs in order to receive reimbursement for care non-PFCC children.
6. Will PFCC families be charged their copayment?
 - a. There will be no copayments.
7. What program types may be a pandemic?
 - a. Only new and existing child care centers may be a licensed pandemic child care center. Family child care homes are not eligible to be a pandemic provider.

Cleaning, Sanitizing, & Illness

1. What bleach water guidelines should child care programs follow?
 - a. The sanitizing requirement in Appendix A to rule 5101:2-12-13 (centers) and Appendix A to rule 5101:2-13-13 (family child care) directs the program to follow the instructions of the commercial product. This was changed in 2016 because there are now so many types of bleach on the market with verifying degrees of strength (i.e. "normal bleach" vs concentrated bleach).
2. Can a program use the recommended hand wipes?
 - a. Please refer to the Handwashing and Sanitizing rules, 5101:2-12-13, Appendix B (centers) and 5101:2-13-13, Appendix B (FCC).

3. Can the program have its own policy on when they send a sick child home, and can the program take temperatures of every child before they enter the program?
 - a. Programs can create their own policies above rule requirements. Rules state minimum requirements to follow. Reach out to your specialist for guidelines on what is appropriate.
4. What about children who attend that are unknowingly infected with the virus?
 - a. Follow the CDC recommendations on preventative measures and report to your local health department if you become aware a child was in contact and/or now has the Coronavirus.
5. We do not have milk due to lack of availability. What should we do?
 - a. We recognize supplies may be limited; therefore, we ask that you do the best you can with the supplies you have.

Authorization, Payment, & Absent Days

1. Will I need to close my JFS licensed program in order to receive a temporary pandemic license?
 - a. No, you can be awarded a temporary pandemic license while still having a JFS licensed program open.
 - b. It is highly advised that you submit an application for a temporary pandemic license ASAP.
2. Are children required to be authorized to pandemic programs?
 - a. No, children will not be authorized to pandemic programs.
3. How do providers determine which children are eligible to attend pandemic programs?
 - a. Parent's must complete the [JFS 01259 "Pandemic Child Care Center Child Enrollment Addendum"](#) and providers will determine eligibility. Providers can use verbal attestation for income and identity but must verify that the parent is an employee recognized on the essential list established by ODJFS and EMA, both in position and category of service.
4. How do pandemic programs report the number of children served?
 - a. Programs will report all children enrolled on the spreadsheet attached to the to the approval letter. Spreadsheets along with enrollment forms and verifications of the parent's employment as a health, safety or essential services should be e-mailed to ODJFS to OFA_Data_Reporting@jfs.ohio.gov.
5. Should pandemic programs report absent days?
 - a. No. Absent days will not be required.
6. How is attendance recorded?
 - a. Pandemic programs must keep written attendance.
7. If I am a licensed program with a provider agreement and am now a pandemic program, will I receive both the PFCC closed program payments and the pandemic payments?
 - a. Yes, programs will receive both payments: the payment for pandemic programs and the payment they would receive as a closed ODJFS program.

- b. A temporary pandemic child care will only get paid for children who are not authorized for PFCC. PFCC children will be paid for under the closed program pandemic payment.
- 8. What if I serve more than the anticipated number of children originally agreed upon (or reported)?
 - a. Programs will email an updated spreadsheet of children with the JFS 01259 for ODJFS to approve to PandemicChildCare@jfs.ohio.gov.
- 9. What reimbursement rate will be paid to pandemic programs?
 - a. Programs will be reimbursed for non-PFCC children at a 5-star center rate for their payment category. See below.

| County Category 1 | | County Category 2 | | Category 3 | |
|--|----------|--|----------|--|----------|
| Brown, Champaign, Crawford, Defiance, Fayette, Fulton, Gallia, Guernsey, Hocking, Mercer, Muskingum, Paulding, Putnam, Ross, Scioto, Tuscarawas, Van Wert, Vinton, Williams, Wyandot | | Adams, Allen, Ashland, Ashtabula, Athens, Carroll, Clark, Clinton, Columbiana, Coshocton, Darke, Erie, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Highland, Holmes, Huron, Jackson, Lawrence, Licking, Logan, Madison, Meigs, Miami, Morrow, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Preble, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Shelby, Stark, Union, Washington, Wayne | | Auglaize, Belmont, Butler, Clermont, Cuyahoga, Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Geauga, Greene, Hamilton, Harrison, Jefferson, Knox, Lake, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Marion, Medina, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Noble, Ottawa, Portage, Summit, Trumbull, Warren, Wood | |
| Weekly Rate | | Weekly Rate | | Weekly Rate | |
| Infant | \$201.20 | Infant | \$231.11 | Infant | \$294.84 |
| Toddler | \$173.35 | Toddler | \$211.32 | Toddler | \$264.02 |
| Pre-school | \$154.39 | Pre-school | \$184.72 | Pre-school | \$230.97 |
| School Age | \$86.35 | School Age | \$105.61 | School Age | \$131.22 |

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