Transitional pandemic rules are child day camp requirements established as Ohio transitions out of temporary pandemic child care for the COVID-19 pandemic. Approved day camps must follow all approval requirements in addition to the following exceptions and additions outlined in the transitional rules. Also, day camps must follow all guidelines set by the Governor of Ohio or the Director of the Ohio Department of Health.

This document summarizes the transitional rules, best practices, and any associated tips.

*Please note that “employee” includes all administrators, employees, and child day camp staff members (CCSM).

**Updated ratio:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
<th>Maximum Group Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School-Age</td>
<td>1:9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rule Reminders:**

- Updated ratio and group size limitations must always be followed, including during trips, when outdoors and during mealtimes.
- All rules regarding lead counselor, junior counselor, counselor-in-training and employee requirements must still be followed.
- All rules regarding background check requirements must still be followed.

**Best Practices:**

- Review back-up staffing plan that ensures background check requirements are followed.
- Maintain stable grouping:
  - Same group of children each day.
  - Same day camp staff member with same children each day.
  - Keep siblings together, when possible.
  - Keep children whose parents/guardians have the same employer together, when possible.
  - Groups should not be combined at times when fewer children are present, even if appropriate staff/child ratios are maintained.
Handwashing:

**Transitional Rule:**
- Employees and children shall wash hands using soap and water or use hand sanitizer:
  - Upon arrival, and prior to leaving for the day.
  - After toileting.
  - After contact with bodily fluids.
  - After handling pets, pet cages or other pet objects that have come in contact with the pet before moving onto another activity.
  - Before eating or preparing food.
  - Before and after completing a medical procedure or administering medication.
  - When visible soiled. (must use soap and water).
- Employees shall also wash hands:
  - After breaks and upon returning from outside.
  - After assisting a child with toileting.
  - After cleaning up spills or objects contaminated with bodily fluids.
  - After cleaning and sanitizing or using any chemical products.
  - Before serving or feeding a child.
  - Before and after completing a medical procedure or administering medication.
- Children shall also wash hands using soap and water or use hand sanitizer at the following times:
  - After returning inside after outdoor play.
  - After water activities.
- Day Camps may use non-permanent sinks to meet the handwashing requirements.

**Best Practices:**
- Employees and children should frequently wash their hands.
- Teach employees and children appropriate handwashing practices.
- Require anyone entering the day camp to wash and/or sanitize their hands.
- Wash hands carefully with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Wash hands after coughing, sneezing, or using a tissue.
- Wash hands after water activities.
- Provide a hand washing/sanitizing station at the day camp’s entrance.

**Tips:**
- Create a sanitation backpack that includes items such as cleaner, sanitizer, gloves, paper towels, and/or a small trash bag to take when you are caring for the children outside.
- Please see “Portable Sinks in Child Care” for additional information at: [http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/CoronavirusAndChildcare/](http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/CoronavirusAndChildcare/).
- Communicate with families about the new handwashing practices in place in the program so they can reinforce with their children as well.
- Display handwashing posters to encourage proper washing, available on the provider pandemic page: [http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/CoronavirusAndChildcare/](http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/CoronavirusAndChildcare/).
- Require employees to watch a video on proper handwashing: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LWmok9avzr4&feature=youtube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LWmok9avzr4&feature=youtube).
Screening:

**Transitional Rule:**
- Take the temperatures of all employees and children prior to or as soon as they arrive each day.

**Rule Reminder:**
- Day camps may not use mercury thermometers.

**Best Practices:**
- Incorporate social distancing while screening or use physical barriers to minimize exposure.
- Ask parent/guardian to confirm the child does not have shortness of breath or cough.
- Provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for employees who conduct screening.
- Consider also screening any visitors to your program.
- Request parent/guardian wear a mask at arrival and screening.
- Request that children not eat, drink, or have physical activity immediately prior to screening.
- Teach employees how to:
  - Take a temperature.
  - Read a thermometer.
  - Sanitize a thermometer.
  - Properly put on and take off PPE.
- Modify drop off and pick up to ensure social distancing. Examples:
  - Stagger times.
  - Curbside drop-off and pick up.
  - Request same parent/guardian drop off and pick up child.
  - Provide physical guides (6 ft apart), such as tape on ground, for waiting in line.

**Tips:**
- Ask parents/guardians to conduct ‘pre-screening’ (checking the child for COVID-19 Symptoms). Ask parents/guardians if the child has been in contact with a person who had COVID-19) for a 2-week period before attending camp daily.
- Communicate with families about the new temperature screening process you have in place. Have them talk with their child prior to arrival about this new process.
- Talk with the children during the day about the new temperature taking process that will happen every day when they come.
# Exclusion:

## Transitional Rule:
- Immediately send home any child or employee who has a temperature of 100°F or higher.
- Individuals sent home shall not return until they have been fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication for at least 24 hours.
  - If the individual who had the fever has had known contact with someone confirmed or probable to have COVID-19, they must complete isolation or quarantine procedures for COVID-19 in coordination with the local health department prior to returning to the camp.
- Above requirements also apply to anyone whose temperature is taken after arrival.
- If employee or child enrolled in the day camp tests positive for COVID-19, they must complete isolation or quarantine procedures for COVID-19 in coordination with their local health department prior to being permitted to return to the program.

## Rule Reminder:
- If a child meets exclusion criteria after arrival at camp, they must be properly supervised (within sight or hearing) until they are taken home.

## Best Practices:
- When a child meets the COVID-19 exclusion criteria:
  - Isolate the child in a separate room or space until parent/guardian takes them home.
  - Put a mask on the child, if possible.
  - Staff supervising the child should wear a mask and protective clothing and should wash hands often.

## Tips:
- Review and test emergency contact numbers.
- Communicate with families about the program’s isolation and discharge process.

## Notification:

## Transitional Rule:
- In addition to the serious incident requirements in rule 5101:2-18-10, if employee or children test positive for COVID-19, day camps shall:
  - Notify ODJFS by the next business day in OCLQS as a serious incident, and
  - Notify their local health department by the next day.

## Best Practices:
- Work with the local health department to determine next steps to protect the children and employees in your program. This may include notifying families and deep sanitation of the program.
Tip: If a child or employee tests positive for COVID-19, use the JFS “Sample Parent Communication for Positive COVID-19 Test” in the Transitional Pandemic Child Care Toolkit: http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/CoronavirusAndChildcare/.

Dividers:

Transitional Rule:
- Day camps that need to divide a room into smaller spaces to serve multiple groups of children may use dividers if they meet the following requirements:
  - At least 6 feet high.
  - Made from nonporous material or material which may be sanitized.
  - Meet requirements set by:
    - Department of Commerce.
    - Local building department.
    - State Fire Marshal.
    - Local fire safety.

Best Practices:
- Please see “Using Dividers to Create Separate Spaces in Child Care Settings” at: http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/CoronavirusAndChildcare/.

Please find additional best practices and tips at: http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/CoronavirusAndChildcare/.