

## Child Care Transportation Best Practices During Transitional Pandemic Period

*\*This document was updated to reflect rules changes effective August 9 and August 25, 2020*

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends programs consider cancelling large gatherings and events to assist in limiting your group's interactions outside of the immediate group.

Child care providers should follow all guidelines and recommendations set by the Governor of Ohio and the Director of Ohio Department of Health regarding any field trips.

**Field trips** are discouraged at this time. **Routine trips** are permitted with the exceptions noted in the next section for Temporary Pandemic School-Age Child Care Centers\*.

- Ratio must be maintained at the routine trip destination.
- If your program decides that you will take the children on routine trips, you are encouraged to establish best practice strategies to ensure the safety of the children and staff.

### ***\*Temporary Pandemic School-Age Child Care Center Requirements***

- Routine and field trips are not permitted except for in the following instances:
  - The center provide transportation or walk with the children to and from the children's homes, the children's school, or to and from another licensed program.
  - Children in care are permitted to leave the licensed location to go on routine walking trips when the program uses an approved off-site play space.

### ***Face Covering Requirements***

Please reference the [Facial Coverings for Transitional Pandemic Child Care](#) technical assistance document for when face coverings are required when transporting children.

### ***Things to Consider:***

- Is the routine trip necessary?
- Is it feasible to stagger the trip to reduce/limit interaction?
- How could you ensure your vehicle is sanitized before and after transport?
- How will you ensure a safe distance between the children while being transported?
- Can you maintain appropriate social distancing and hygiene while on the trip? How will you monitor distance between children?
- On a routine walking trip, will children be exposed to others along the way? How will this be monitored?
- Is the JFS 01234 "Child Enrollment and Health Information for Child Care" form updated, including emergency contacts information, for each child on the trip?
- How will you incorporate symptom checks into the transportation routine upon children's arrival for the day?
- Will hand sanitizer be available for children and staff before getting on and exiting the vehicle?
- Do you have hygiene stations set up at the entrance of the program so that children and staff can clean their hands before they enter from their routine trip?
- How will you train your staff on health and safety protocols?