**ELRC Kick-Off Meetings Fall 2020**

Please note: There are active hyperlinks included in this document that you may find helpful.

**Recent announcements from OCDEL Bureau of Certification:**

[**Updated 9/29/2020 – Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities Operating During the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic**](https://files.constantcontact.com/3e3d36fe201/9e191dcc-625d-4aa3-898a-e2849342ec5e.pdf)

Provides up to date operational guidance for childcare based on new information and guidelines from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

* Chart defines a COVID-like illness.
* Resources for signage for handwashing and face coverings.
* Dealing with confirmed or probable COVID-19 cases and exposure to COVID-19 (all facility persons, household members residing in a GCCH/FCCH and children at a childcare facility.
* Areas used by the person who tested positive for COVID-19 must be closed for a period of 24 hours following the confirmed positive case.
* The operator must inform parents of enrolled children and facility persons when there is an exposure or confirmed case of COVID-19.
* The facility must report exposures and positive COVID cases to Department of Health, certification representative and online COVID Data collection tool.
* Symptom-based strategy for exclusion and return to care. Timeframes have been updated.
* Persons must complete quarantine timeframe even if there is a negative test result.

[**Writable Health and Safety Plan Template**](https://files.constantcontact.com/3e3d36fe201/d998057e-8485-43b6-942a-3fd19afd9e1b.docx)

[**Licensed Facility COVID Data Collection Tool**](https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Update-to-Launch-of-the-Licensed-Facility-COVID-Data-Collection-Tool.html?soid=1112117859299&aid=kMNo5IotDcE)

Please continue to report COVID exposures and positive COVID cases to your certification representative AND submit the same report using the online COVID Data Collection Tool.

* + The [Licensed Facility COVID Data Collection User Guide and FAQs](https://files.constantcontact.com/3e3d36fe201/cf0284f2-d403-41a0-83d8-ebfe3e81b8be.pdf) provides information on how to use the new tool.
	+ If you have not received an access email, or have received incorrect information to access your account email RA-ocdchildcarecert@pa.gov.
	+ If you did received an access email, but are having difficulty creating your account email RA-unifiedsecurity@pa.gov.

[**Revised 8/20/2020 - Suspension of Regulatory Requirements for Certified Child Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic**](https://files.constantcontact.com/3e3d36fe201/d05f9977-6fa6-4526-bf2a-0b65f0c34892.pdf)

If there are specific questions about suspended regulations, we can provide guidance as needed.

[**Annual Licensing Inspections during COVID-19 Pandemic**](https://myemail.constantcontact.com/An-Important-Message-from-The-Bureau-of-Certification--DHS-Guidance-for-Annual-Licensing-Inspections-during-COVID-19-Pandemic.html?soid=1112117859299&aid=7kvSGfPTzsA)

Certification representatives may use alternative techniques to complete annual renewal inspection including but not limited to videotelephony and file-sharing. Certification representatives will contact you to provide an overview of plan for annual inspection.

[**OCDEL COVID-19 FAQS**](https://secureservercdn.net/198.71.233.197/69d.231.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Certification_Citation_FAQ_07.20.2020-FINAL.pdf)

This announcement outlines OCDEL guidance as it relates to COVID-19.

[**National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR) FAQs**](http://keepkidssafe.pa.gov/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/c_291807.pdf)

As of July 1, 2020, all current employees are required to have a complete NSOR background clearance on file. If there is not a complete NSOR on file and the staff person does not fall under a [provisional hire waiver](https://files.constantcontact.com/3e3d36fe201/486e4aaa-f83b-4994-89bf-44d59c239bda.pdf), they will not be permitted to work in a childcare position until the complete clearance is obtained.

**Upcoming:**

New Regulations – Estimated date of release October/November 2020. OCDEL will be hosting provider training. Please watch for the announcement and attend the trainings to get the most up-to-date information about new regulations.