



STATE OF DELAWARE

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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JOHN CARNEY
GOVERNOR

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March 19, 2020

Delaware Child Care Providers

Re: Child Care Guidance during COVID-19 State of Emergency response

Dear Child Care Provider:

On March 12, 2020, Governor John Carney issued a State of Emergency in response to the novel COVID-19 public health threat. Subsequently, on March 19, 2020, Governor Carney issued [Executive Order 38](#), acknowledging the need to temporarily expand access to child care as well as delegate authority to the Department of Services for Children, Youth & Their Families to suspend or modify the state's child care rules and regulations as needed. Our goal is to continue to support the vital work of caring for and educating Delaware's children. The health and safety of our child care professionals, families and children remain our top priority.

As such, we are writing to provide updates and inform you of guidelines during the COVID-19 emergency. We are following the recommendations from the [Delaware Department of Public Health](#) and the [Center for Disease Control](#).

Attached to this letter you will find:

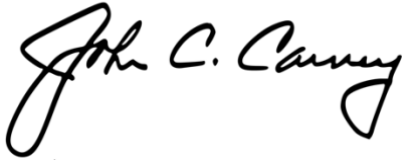
- Guidelines relating to child care program attendance, payment, and closure;
- Executive Order 38 to meet the child care needs of essential personnel and have the ability to adjust to changing child care trends;
- Executive Order 38 Guidelines indicating suspended and modified regulations;
 - Child care programs can choose to follow Executive Order 38 guidelines that suspend or modify existing particular DELACARE: Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers and Regulations for Family and Large Family Child Care Homes. All other regulations remain in effect.
 - Delaware Stars verification visits have been suspended until further notice.

As decisions evolve as this unprecedented situation continues to unfold, you will receive:

- Ongoing communication including updates and guidelines to support your work with children and families
- Communications on any changes or suspensions to current DELACARE regulations and Executive Order 38 Guidelines to ensure the health and safety of children of all ages who need care due to the State of the Emergency.

We value your commitment to children and families during these uncertain times. Please visit mychildde.org for the most updated information.

Sincerely,



John C. Carney
Governor of Delaware



Kara Odom Walker
Secretary of Dept. of Health and Social Services



Susan Bunting
Secretary of Dept. of Education



Josette Manning
Secretary of Dept. of Services for Children, Youth
and Their Families

Enclosure(s)