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# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



Connecticut Office of  
Early Childhood

Beth Bye  
*Commissioner*

Date: April 29, 2020

To: Municipal Chief Executive Officers

From: Beth Bye, Commissioner, Office of Early Childhood

Re: Guidance for Unlicensed Camps During COVID-19 Pandemic

The Office of Early Childhood recognizes the various challenges faced by the many different forms of child care in Connecticut during the COVID-19 pandemic. Although our office typically only provides oversight and supports to licensed child care providers and youth camps, and those that receive state funding, this message is intended to provide guidance to all unlicensed camps.

It is important for unlicensed camps to note that Governor Lamont's Executive Order No. 7Q applies to all child care operations, including those that are exempt from licensing requirements. This order requires that all child care operations, including camps limit group sizes of children, seek approval from the Office of Early Childhood if caring for more than thirty children, and comply with enhanced health practices in order to limit the spread of COVID-19. Please review the text of this executive order at the link below.

[Executive Order No. 7Q](#)

In addition, the Office of Early Childhood has issued guidance to camps and child care programs related to operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. While some of this information is only relevant to licensed camps, it may serve as a helpful resource to unlicensed camps as well, and also includes links to additional resources from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the CT Department of Public Health. In particular, OEC Memo #18 "Youth Camp Guidance" and OEC Memo #6 "Message Regarding Child Care" contain information that may be helpful to inform decision making for camps.

[OEC Memo # 18 Youth Camp Guidance](#)

[OEC Memo # 6 Message Regarding Child Care](#)

During these unprecedented times, it is important that new channels of collaboration are developed to support the state's emergency response. Child care is a critical part of that effort and the Office of Early Childhood wishes to support all forms of child care throughout the state. Guidance and requirements are rapidly changing to appropriately respond to the current circumstances. Additional information will be shared as recommendations are updated and so we encourage camps to visit our website regularly.

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