

# POLICY GUIDANCE ON COVID-19 CHILD CARE INSPECTIONS

May 27, 2020

## PRE-INSPECTIONS

- ▶ New child care programs cannot receive permission to open without a license or a registration, without a pre-inspection.
- ▶ Continue to conduct Pre-inspections, as appropriate.
  - When preparing or scheduling appointments, ask the provider about the current status of potential infectious disease:
  - SCREENING:
    - Has a child, employee or parent dropping off children tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days or displayed symptoms noted below?
    - Are there any current postings for any infectious disease at this time?

### COVID-19 SAFETY QUESTIONS AND SYMPTOMS

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| ▶ Fever or chills                             | ▶ Headache                   |
| ▶ Cough                                       | ▶ New loss of taste or smell |
| ▶ Diarrhea                                    | ▶ Sore throat                |
| ▶ Fatigue                                     | ▶ Congestion or runny nose   |
| ▶ Muscle or body aches                        | ▶ Nausea or vomiting         |
| ▶ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing |                              |
- If the prospective providers answers yes to any of the above questions, do not conduct the visit.
  - Follow up in 7 days to reassess the safety of going to the facility.

## COMPLAINTS

- ▶ The Department has responsibility to assure the health and safety of children in child care settings
- ▶ Upon receipt of a complaint regarding a regulatory violation, conduct the screening noted above.
  - If the provider answers yes to any of the above questions, do not conduct the visit
  - Follow up in 7 days to reassess the safety of going to the facility to evaluate the complaint concerns.
  - If the complaint is in conjunction with a CPS Assessment, please follow CPS guidance

(Continued)

## ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

- ▶ The Department has received a federal waiver that eases expectations of 100% compliance with annual inspections
- ▶ Annual compliance visits shall resume June 1, 2020.
- ▶ When preparing for visits, call ahead and conduct the screening noted above.
  - If the provider answers yes to any of the above questions, do not conduct the visit
  - Follow up in 7 days to reassess the safety of going to the facility.
  - Compliance visits still must be unannounced, however you may inform that you will be out soon, which is why you have called to verify health.

*This guidance is on-going and fluid. Updates will be provided, as necessary.*

