

CDE Update: Guidance Regarding Requirements for Reopening, Reimbursement, and Distance Learning

The California Department of Education (CDE) Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD) is currently developing guidance regarding requirements for reopening, reimbursement, and distance learning for California State Preschool Program (CSPP) contractors for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021–22. In the interim, the ELCD is providing the information below in advance of the guidance being released.

Reopening and Reimbursement

CSPP contractors will receive reimbursement when the contractor is either:

- Physically open for all enrolled families by the start date of the agency's approved program calendar.
- Not physically open due to a written state or local public health order related to the COVID-19 pandemic *that is specific to early education or child care*.
 - Unlike FY 2020-21, CSPP programs on Local Education Agency (LEA) campuses will not be reimbursed if they are closed without a written public health order specific to Early Learning and child care, regardless of whether the LEA campus is open or not.
- Contractors that do not reopen by their program start date will not be reimbursed if they are not physically open, unless the program has been closed by a public health order that is specific to early education or child care or the closure is due to other emergency circumstances such as fires, floods or earthquakes.

CSPP contractors who provide services through a family child care home education network must reimburse child care providers for up to 16 non-operational days for closures related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Distance Learning

Contractors must submit a plan for distance learning to the ELCD and provide distance learning opportunities for those families impacted when:

- Programs are closed due to a state or local public health order.
- Program size is restricted due to a local health order.

More information

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued updated COVID-19 Guidance for Childcare Providers and Programs on June 29, 2021. This guidance supersedes the *COVID-19 Update Guidance: Child Care Program and Providers* dated July 17, 2020, and can be accessed via the following web page at www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Child-Care-Guidance.aspx.

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact your assigned Program Quality Implementation (PQI) Office Regional Consultant on the ELCD Consultants Regional Assignments web page at www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/#directory.