

Subject: COVID-19

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2020

In the past few weeks, many cities and counties have issued stay at home orders to slow the spread of COVID-19. Many of these orders provide exemptions for child care providers who are providing care for children of essential business and emergency personnel. If your city/county has issued a stay at home order, it is very important that you read and comply with the order in your city/county. Depending on the order, licensed child care providers should not utilize the emergency school closing rule unless the care complies with the number and group size requirements outlined in the order. All staff/child ratios and group sizes required by licensing rules are still in place and must be complied with.

For specific information, these orders can be found at <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/59135fbe6eb24581b8d5dd78964ec1e4>. The cities/counties that have issued stay at home orders will be listed on the left side of the page, or you can click on the county in red on the map. Once you click on the county, you will see information, including the begin and end date of the order and a link to see the order. Please read the information in the order carefully. Also, please be aware that not every county or city has a stay at home order.

If you have any child care specific questions please send via email to childcare@health.mo.gov.

Thank you for all that you are doing to assist children and their families during this time. Be safe and stay well.