

Quarterly Update

SUMMER 2019

CHILD CARE LICENSING UPDATE

Child Care Licensing Program Mission:

The core mission of the Child Care Licensing Program is to ensure the health and safety of children in care. We strive to provide preventive, protective, and quality services to children in care by ensuring that licensed facilities meet established health and safety standards through monitoring facilities, providing technical assistance, and establishing partnerships with providers, parents, and the child care community.

Note from Pamela Dickfoss, Deputy Director

As we move to annual inspections, we are pleased to [announce the opening of five additional Child Care Regional Offices \(Spanish version\)](#). These additional offices in Oakland, Sacramento, Monterey Park, Riverside, and San Diego will enhance our services to licensees and the families they support.

Going forward, we are focused on increasing technical assistance for all early care and education providers. Our goal is to work with licensed facilities during inspections to proactively prevent health and safety noncompliance. In addition, we plan to expand direct assistance, training, and the sharing of resources to help providers ensure the highest standard of care for our children.

To support these goals, beginning in the summer of 2019, we are implementing a new team of four Technical Support Program (TSP) Analysts to join our existing Advocacy Program (four Child Care Advocates) and establish the *Child Care Advocacy and Technical Support Unit (CCATS)*. These new Child Care TSP Analysts will focus on providing on-site direct technical assistance to licensees and their staff.

The CCATS unit is currently in the process of developing technical support and consultation services for child care licensees. As the program develops, the TSP Analysts will supply direct consultation and training to support early learning and care facilities in areas such as:

- How to work effectively with licensing as a resource
- Most commonly cited licensing deficiencies
- Maintaining compliance with health and safety regulations
- Preventing common risks to children in care
- Resources to improve quality of care

The Child Care Advocates will continue to provide services statewide, including sharing information about the state’s licensing role, connecting providers to childcare resource and referral agencies, and coordinating health and safety complaints and concerns.

For more information about our new TSP Analyst Program under the Child Care Advocacy and Technical Support Office, please visit the [Child Care Advocacy and Technical Support Program website](#).

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Water Safety

With the arrival of warmer weather, providers will be spending more time outdoors in or around water with the children in their care. Playing in the water is a fun summer activity but can also be dangerous. Drowning is the leading cause of death for children. It can occur quickly, silently, and in as little as two inches of water.

Here are several things you can do to be prepared and proactive about water safety:

- Never leave a gate to the pool open.
- Teach kids to stay away from pool and hot tub drains.
- Empty and turn over wading pools as soon as the kids are out.
- Make sure that pool fences are at least 5 feet high and separate the pool from the house and yard. Gates must swing away from the water and close and latch automatically.

More information may be found at the following links:

[What to Do in a Water Emergency](#)
[Child Care Water Safety Video](#)

Requirements for pool fencing and other water safety guidelines may be found in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations in [Sections 101216.6](#), [101238](#), [101238.5](#), [101416.8](#), and [102417](#).



Recent Provider Information Notices (PINs)

All providers should be aware of recent PINs that have been posted to the CCL Website. These PINs provide information on Immunization requirements, free indoor radon test kits, the Fisher Price and Kids II infant equipment recall, and the openings of the new regional offices.

[PIN 19-08-CCP](#) California Department of Public Health New Pre-Kindergarten (Child Care) and School Immunization Requirements ([Spanish](#))

[PIN 19-07-CCP](#) Free Indoor Radon Gas Test Kits ([Spanish](#))

[PIN 19-06-CCP](#) U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Fisher-Price and Kids II Infant Equipment Recall ([Spanish](#))

[PIN 19-05-CCP](#) Notification of New Regional Offices Effective April 2019 ([Spanish](#))

Kaitlyn's Law

Heatstroke is one of leading causes of non-crash-related fatalities among children, according to the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration \(NHTSA\)](#). The [National Safety Council](#) noted that there were 52 child deaths in hot cars in the United States in 2018, the highest number on record. Parked cars can act like greenhouses, with temperatures inside rising by as many as 20 degrees in the first 10 minutes. Cracking the windows open will not prevent heat stroke; keeping the car running with a child inside is not a safe plan either.

California [SB 255 \(Chapter 855, Statutes of 2001\)](#), or Kaitlyn's Law, prohibits leaving a child six years of age or younger inside a motor vehicle without the supervision of someone 12 years or older 1) when there are conditions that present a significant risk to the child's health or safety, or 2) when the vehicle's engine is running, or the vehicle's key is in the ignition. This law, signed in 2001, was named after [Kaitlyn Russell](#), a nine-month old who died after being left in a parked car for over two hours.

Licensed child care providers are prohibited from leaving children in parked cars by Title 22 Regulations. ([Section 102417\(k\)](#) for Family Child Care Homes and [Section 101225\(e\)](#) for Child Care Centers.)

July 31st is National Heatstroke Prevention Day. Caretakers, parents, and providers transporting children are encouraged to review [these tips to avoid child heatstroke](#) and learn more by taking the free online training course on [Children in Hot Cars](#). All individuals should act when they witness a child who is unresponsive in a car by calling 911 and getting the child out of the car. Good Samaritan laws protect those who help in emergencies.

Please take some time to get informed with the following resources for preventing heatstroke:

- [Preventing Heatstroke: What to Do If You See a Child Alone in a Car](#)
- [Steps to Prevent Heatstroke](#)
- [Where's Baby: Look Before You Lock](#): NHTSA educational campaign.

Safe Surrender Law

The Office of Child Abuse Prevention, within the Department of Social Services, provides information and resources on its [website](#) regarding the Safely Surrendered Baby Law. The law was first created in January 2001 and was permanently signed into state law in January 2006. The law's intent is to save the lives of newborn infants at risk of abandonment by encouraging parents to safely surrender their infant. Parents can do this within 72 hours of birth with no questions asked. [Safe Surrender sites](#) typically include hospitals and fire stations, as well as, other locations that have been approved by the board of supervisors or fire agency in each county. They are identified with a sign showing the image below.



Window Covering Safety- Got Kids? Go Cordless!

The US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is urging providers and consumers to switch to cordless window coverings to reduce the risk of strangulation among infants, toddlers, and young children. The CPSC issued a [voluntary safety standard](#) regarding window coverings, which took effect on December 15, 2018. While this standard is not a state licensing requirement, providers should be aware of the risk and follow the guidelines as best practice.

Best practices to save a life:

- Move cribs, beds, furniture, and toys away from window cords.
- Make pull cords as short as possible and keep dangling cords out of reach.
- Permanently anchor continuous-loop bead chains and cords to the floor or wall.

For more information, visit the [Window Covering Safety Council](#).

Healthy Schools Act

Do you have something to say about the Healthy Schools Act? Now is your chance to voice your comments via a new [email account](#). The Healthy Schools Act (HSA) is a set of nine requirements that California licensed child care centers must comply with when they use any kind of pesticide on school grounds, including antimicrobial pesticides, like bleach and disinfectant wipes. Family Child Care Homes are exempt from this law but should consider all recommendations as best practices.

Throughout 2019, the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) School and Child Care Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Team is asking for input about the HSA. Sharing your real-world experiences will help them write a better report and give practical recommendations.

[Assembly Bill 2816 \(Chapter 720, Statutes of 2018\)](#) directs DPR to write a legislative report that evaluates and provides recommendations for the HSA. The report is due to the Legislature by

January 1, 2021. The new [Healthy Schools Act Legislative Report webpage](#) has more information about this law.

For information on the HSA history and requirements, visit the DPR's [School & Child Care IPM website](#). Thank you for your participation, and for all that you do to protect the health of California's children!

Be Prepared for Fire Season

In 2018, California had over 8,500 wildfires and the highest amount of burned acreage recorded in the state's history. The largest fire was the Ranch Fire, which engulfed 410,203 acres; the most destructive and deadly was the Camp Fire, which destroyed over 150,000 acres, including over 18,000 structures, 33 child care facilities, and took 85 lives. With the increased rain this last season, new vegetation can dry up in the summer heat and be added fuel for fires.

There are several things you can do to prepare yourself for if a fire threatens your home or center:

- Practice evacuating your facility with your children. Everyone in the home/center should be aware of what to do in case there is a need to evacuate. Staff must be well equipped and ready to provide necessary assistance to each child in care. For more information on preparing your home/center, go to [Preparing Your Home for Wild Fires](#).
- Have an emergency plan for where you would relocate children, if necessary. Plan two ways out of your neighborhood in case a fire threatens one of your evacuation routes.
- Prepare an emergency kit with all important documents, medications, personal identification, and responsible party contact information.
- Make sure that fire suppression systems, along with required smoke detectors, and carbon monoxide detectors are always in place and working.
- Create a defensible space around your facility by clearing away dead branches, wood piles, and vegetation from your roof, patio furniture, and recreation equipment.
- Monitor the [Cal Fire](#) website to be aware of fires that may be near you.
- Notify your Licensing Program Analyst as soon as possible if you do have to relocate. Have a current [LIC 9040](#), Child Care Facility Roster, available to assist in tracking who is in care and where they have been relocated.
- Be prepared if California's investor-owned electric utilities, such as Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison, or San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E), shut off electric power to protect public safety. See PIN [18-09.1-CCLD](#) and [18-10-CCLD](#).

Community Care Licensing tracks fires that may pose a danger to our facilities on a 24-hour a day basis, seven days a week. By notifying us if you need to relocate, we can assist you to ensure that your staff and children are safe and get the services they need.

Mandated Reporter Training- Update

The free online [mandated reporter training](#), developed by the Office of Child Abuse and Prevention, now includes two parts. Part One is the General Training, which includes an overview of the California Child Abuse & Neglect Reporting Act, and Part Two is specific to Child Care Providers. Both these training options include many helpful videos and resources.

While we encourage everyone to take the training, a certificate is required when the online training is available in your primary language. We hope to see a Spanish version of the online training available before the end of the year.

Fun Summer Recipe- Watermelon Popsicles

Nothing tastes better on a hot day than an ice-cold popsicle. If you are you looking for a healthier alternative to all the sugar, artificial colors, and additives found in store-bought popsicles, make your own healthier popsicle by following this easy fruit popsicle recipe:

What you will need:

Set of popsicle molds

2 cups of cubed, seedless watermelon*

1 cup unsweetened apple juice

Instructions:

1. Put the watermelon and unsweetened apple juice into a blender
2. Blend the ingredients until they are smooth
3. Freeze
4. Enjoy!

*You can substitute other fruits for the watermelon.

New Inspection Process Project Updates

The Child Care Inspection Tool Pilot began in mid-May and will end in mid-August. These tools focus inspections on three priority areas: prevention, enforcement, and compliance. The Child Care Inspection Tools organize requirements into domains, or subject areas, such as Care and Supervision, Physical Plant, Staffing Ratio and Capacity, etc. For more information on the domains and the inspection tools, please visit our [website](#) and see [PIN 19-01-CCP \(Spanish\)](#).

The Department has partnered with California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) to complete an in-depth analysis of the Child Care Inspection Tool Pilot. After the pilot, the Department and CSUS will convene a workgroup with subject matter experts to refine the Child Care Inspection Tools and findings will be posted on our [website](#). Thank you to the pilot participants and the many internal and external stakeholders who have provided comments and feedback.

Management Information

Promotions:

Trevino Cochran promoted from LPA in the El Segundo Office to LPM I in the Monterey Park Southwest Office, effective 3/18/19.

Maria Mueller promoted from LPA to LPM I in the Santa Barbara Office, effective 4/8/19.

Retirements:

Patty Gutierrez, LPM I retired from the Santa Barbara Office on 4/6/19.

Are you interested in becoming part of the Child Care Licensing team?



Please apply at: [CalCareers](#)

- Information on how to apply for a state job can be found at the [Cal Careers Website](#).

Helpful Reminders and Information

- Please remember to check out new PINS: [Provider Information Notices](#).
- Latest Recalls from the [U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission](#).
- [Regional Office Locations and Numbers](#)
- [Short Child Care Videos](#) addressing common questions on licensed care for families and providers.
- [Free Online Mandated Reporter Training](#).
- [Resources for Preventing Suspension and Expulsion in Child Care Settings](#).
- [Healthy Schools Act Training, Department of Pesticide Regulation](#).

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Centralized Complaint & Information Bureau (CCIB)	1-844-538-8766
Child Care Advocate Program	1-916-654-1541
Child Protective Services	1-916-875-5437
Caregiver Background Check Bureau	1-888-422-5669
CA Child Care Resource and Referral Network	1-415-882-0234

Program Administrator:

Shanice Orum

Assistant Program Administrators:

Robert Garza- North

Maria Hendrix- South

Maria Valencia- South