



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of the Secretary

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Licensed Daycare and Early Learning Centers in Louisiana

From: Alexander Billioux, M.D., Assistant Secretary, Louisiana Department of Health

Date: March 15, 2020

Re: Daycare and Early Learning Centers may stay open for now

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Governor Edward's proclamation which referenced school closures from March 13, 2020 to April 13, 2020 does affect those programs administered by the Louisiana Department of Education, but not affect daycares and early learning centers run by private entities. These facilities and programs can continue unless otherwise informed as the situation progresses.

We do, however, encourage the following guidance for all privately administered Daycare Programs and Early Learning Centers:

- Encourage children who can stay home to do so.
- Children and Staff should be encouraged to wash their hands frequently.
- Limit child grouping.
- Encourage frequent environmental cleaning.
- Any child with fever or cold symptoms should not participate in these programs for the duration of their illness. Only well children should attend.
- Staff members in high-risk (elderly, those with medical conditions) should be encouraged to stay home.

For information regarding coronavirus 2019/COVID 19, please visit the LDH website and CDC website: <https://www.ldh.la.gov/coronavirus> and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

You can also call 211 for general information regarding coronavirus 2019.