March 6, 2020

TO: ALL COMMUNITY CARE LICENSED PROVIDERS

Original signed by Pamela Dickfoss

FROM: PAMELA DICKFOSS
Deputy Director
Community Care Licensing Division

SUBJECT: GOVERNOR’S PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY TO ADDRESS NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

Provider Information Notice (PIN) Summary


On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency ("Proclamation") for California in response to a rising number of cases of COVID-19 in California. The Proclamation permits the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to address the needs of community care facilities, child day care facilities, and residential care facilities for the elderly, within its jurisdiction, allowing for waivers of any provisions of the Health and Safety Code or Welfare and Institutions Code, accompanying regulations, interim licensing standards, or other written policies or procedures with respect to the use, licensing, or approval of licensed facilities.

For purposes of the emergency waiver authority, licensed or approved facilities include: child day care facilities, children’s residential facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, residential care facilities for the chronically ill, adult care facilities, the administrator certification training program, home care services, and the trustline program.
Waivers requested pursuant to the Proclamation will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and if granted, will be posted on the Department's website.

CDSS may permit waivers related to COVID-19 as it deems necessary. For example, waivers may pertain to:

- late payment of fees;
- building and grounds requirements;
- personnel requirements;
- restricting visitors;
- limitations on the license, including limiting admission or capacity during a time period following virus exposure;
- administrator certification training vendor requirements;
- alternate programs, services, procedures, equipment or space; and
- provisions necessary to ensure the ability to continue providing services with a conditional or provisional license.

A request for a waiver should be in writing and include sufficient information to support your request. The request should explain how the health and safety of persons in care will be maintained with the requested waiver. If you would like to request a waiver pursuant to the Proclamation of a State of Emergency, please contact your local Regional Office or other designated CDSS program contact:

- Child Care Regional Offices
- Children's Residential Regional Offices
- Adult and Senior Care Regional Offices
- Home Care Services Bureau

To stay informed on the latest information regarding COVID-19, please continue to monitor the Community Care Licensing Division homepage. This page includes previously released PINs as well as links to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Department of Public Health (DPH), World Health Organization (WHO) and Local County Public Health Departments.

If you have questions regarding this PIN, please contact your local Regional Office or the Home Care Service Bureau.