



Ned Lamont
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Lt. Governor

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



Connecticut Office of
Early Childhood

Beth Bye
Commissioner

DATE: May 22, 2020

TO: Providers of Services to Young Children

FROM: Beth Bye, Commissioner

RE: Cononavirus Memo #23
Access to Testing for OEC Funded Providers

The Office of Early Childhood in collaboration with the State's Unified Command, is making testing available to direct care providers funded by the OEC including Home Visiting, Birth to Three, School Readiness, Child Day Care, State Head Start, Smart Start and Care 4 Kids.

Individuals from qualifying OEC funded locations may request testing by emailing the Office of Early Childhood at OEC.CovidTesting@ct.gov.

Those individuals from OEC funded programs eligible for testing include:

First priority to persons with one or more of these symptoms:

Fever of 100 degrees or higher;
New cough within last 14 days;
Shortness of breath

Second priority to persons with one or more of the following risk factors:

Exposure to or contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days;
Immunosuppressed;
Pregnant

The Office of Early Childhood will provide an individual who qualifies for testing with instructions on how to access the drive up testing site in New Haven. Individuals will be provided with a test date by the OEC; no appointments are necessary but approval for testing on a given day is required. Test recipients must bring their personal identification and some form of work identification, employment verification or the OEC email confirming the testing approval. Testing uses Abbott swab tests and provides results on-site shortly after the swab is taken.

As a reminder, [OEC's memos](#) provide guidance on health and sanitation practices during the COVID-19 emergency.

If a child or staff member who has been present in the program is diagnosed with COVID-19, the child care provider must notify their local health department, the CT Department of Public Health, families and staff of the child care program about the exposure. More information is available in [Memo #6 REVISED, Message Regarding Child Care](#).

We hope this opportunity will help ensure a healthy and safe experience for OEC providers.

Phone: (860) 500-4412 · Fax: (860) 326-0554
450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 301
Hartford, Connecticut 06103
www.ct.gov/oec
Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer