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# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



Connecticut Office of  
Early Childhood

Beth Bye  
Commissioner

DATE: May 22, 2020 REVISED June 2, 2020, REVISED July 28, 2020, REVISED Sept. 8, 2020  
**REVISED September 21, 2020**

TO: Providers of Services to Young Children

FROM: Beth Bye, Commissioner

RE: **Conoravirus Memo #23 REVISED**  
Testing for Early Care and Education Providers

It is important that providers of services to young children, including child care and youth camp personnel, OEC funded Home Visiting providers and Birth to Three providers have access to testing for COVID-19 so that we can safely manage the delivery of our critical services to young children and their families. The State of Connecticut provides guidance and access to testing for those who need it, focused on high-risk populations, those with symptoms or exposure, and those who are directed by their primary care physician to obtain a test. This comprehensive information is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Covid-19-Knowledge-Base/COVID-19-Testing>. Start by reviewing this site for guidance.

### When to Get Tested

- Any child care or youth camp staff member, OEC funded Home Visiting provider or Birth to Three provider who experiences symptoms should contact their primary care provider, if they have one, and seek testing. Many testing sites can provide an order for the test on-site.
- Anyone with a known exposure to someone with documented COVID-19 should be tested, and should quarantine for 14 days. Close contact is defined as anyone who has been within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Current guidance calls for testing of asymptomatic adults in high risk communities or certain high risk congregate settings. The State’s testing program also offers free testing in the Connecticut cities that saw high incidence of COVID-19 in the Spring of 2020.

### How to Get a Test

- Go to the following site to access free testing at one of more than 100 sites in Connecticut. [ct.gov/prioritytesting](https://portal.ct.gov/prioritytesting)
- Testing sites can be located at 211 ([www.ct211.org/covidtesting](http://www.ct211.org/covidtesting)), and residents of those cities and towns identified as high risk are encouraged to avail themselves of the testing program.
- A primary care provider can order a COVID-19 test for an individual in their community. The primary care provider can also monitor the individual’s symptoms and virus if the test is positive.
  - This will be covered by public and private insurance.
- If an individual does not have a primary care provider, or insurance, the individual can still get tested for COVID-19. There are community health centers across the state that can administer a test and may be taking new patients for other medical care. The community health centers offer on-site

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health evaluations as well as on-site COVID-19 testing. <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Family-Health/Community-Health-Centers/Community-Health-Centers-in-Connecticut>

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

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

We thank you for your help to ensure a healthy and safe experience in child care and youth camps.

Expired