

CIRCULAR

Date: April 29, 2020

CIRCULAR NUMBER: COVID-19: 2020-77

To: Child care facilities, ELCC program staff

Subject: Guidelines for Child Care Facilities Unchanged

Program(s): All

Type: Policy For Internal Reference Only
 Procedure Information Only

Effective Date Immediately

Topic: Protocols for child care facilities unchanged by new re-opening plans

Today, the Government of Manitoba provided an update on plans to expand services to Manitobans safely, including an incremental re-opening of non-essential businesses as beginning on Monday, May 4.

Based on advice of Manitoba's Chief Provincial Public Health Officer, Dr. Roussin, please be advised that there are **no** changes to the current COVID-19 public health policies and protocols for child care facilities.

To confirm, capacity rules that have been implemented in response to COVID-19 are unchanged. Licensed child care centres can continue to provide services for up to 16 children per centre. Some larger centres with segregated rooms and separate external entrances are able to offer care for up to 16 children per room. Homebased child care providers can continue to provide care to the number of children for which they are licensed.

All families are now eligible to access child care and usage is **not** restricted to critical workers. As such, please continue to direct parents to the online Temporary Licensed Child Care Search tool to help connect Manitobans that will be returning to work, with your facility. You are also encouraged to reach out to your facility families who may be interested in accessing an available temporary space.

- Parents can access this tool at: <https://eswchildcare.ca>
- Facility login can be accessed at: <https://eswchildcare.ca/Identity/Account/Manage>

The Temporary Licensed Child Care Search tool is the only tool being used to match the temporary child care needs of families with facilities during the COVID-19 response.

The Online Child Care Registry remains available for families seeking to plan for longer-term child care after the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information on the Temporary Licensed Child Care Search tool, please review ELCC circular number COVID: 19-56:

https://manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/coronavirus/famcirculars/2020-56_Temporary_Licensed_Child_Care_Search_Tool.pdf.

Please note that child care facilities were sent their unique facility login information by email on April 14. If facilities need this information re-sent, please contact cdcinfo@gov.mb.ca with the subject line "Facility ID Request".

If you have any questions, please email cdcinfo@gov.mb.ca or call Manitoba Government Inquiry at 204-945-3744 or toll free 1-866-MANITOBA (1-866-626-4862). Manitoba Government Inquiry staff are working with the ELCC program, including Child Care Coordinators, to respond directly and refer calls and emails when needed.

Sincerely,

Early Learning and Child Care Program