

CIRCULAR

Date: July 14, 2020

CIRCULAR NUMBER: COVID-19: 2020-104

To: All licensed child care facilities, ELCC Program staff

Subject: **Transportation in Early Learning and Child Care**

Type: Policy For Internal Reference Only
 Procedure Information Only

Effective Date: Immediately

Topic: Transportation in Early Learning and Child Care

As noted in the updated Coronavirus (COVID-19) Early Learning and Child Care Practice Guidance (June 2020), which was sent to facilities on June 25, 2020, field trips and outings are permitted provided that enhanced planning takes place to ensure current health guidelines can be met.

In addition, facilities must organize appropriate methods of transportation, in accordance with the facility's policy on transportation of children and *The Highway Traffic Act*. Facilities must continue to follow all guidelines for field trips and outings and ensure diligence with safety measures, caution and enhanced supervision at all times when caring for children on outings and field trips.

A Public Health Fact Sheet has been developed to address transportation to schools; however, the same guidelines apply to child care facilities choosing to use transportation for field trips or outings. For group transportation, physical distancing needs to be maintained.

Child care facilities should refer to the transportation guidelines on the Department of Education's website at <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/support/transportation.html> when planning any transportation of children. Additional general transportation advice is available at <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/infomanitobans/transportation.html>.

Please note that if current health guidelines cannot be met, facilities should not be considering group transportation at this time.

Early Learning and Child Care Program