



COVID-19 Mitigation Policy

To reduce or lower the transmission, infection, and disease severity of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), Early Learning Ventures (ELV) will provide training and technical assistance to each Child Care Partnership (CCP) program around developing and implementing site-specific policies related to COVID-19 mitigation. ELV will support its CCP programs with creating and implementing mitigation policies that:

- Are specific to the child care program and its COVID-19 community level.
- Can be scaled up or down based on the impacts or risks of COVID-19 in the community.
- Uses multiple strategies at the same time and a layered approach. Strategies for everyday operations and COVID-19 prevention can include but are not limited to:
 - Staying up-to-date on vaccinations
 - Staying home when sick
 - Maintaining proper ventilation
 - Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
 - Cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting high-touch surfaces regularly
 - Masking according to public health guidance
 - Testing (both diagnostic and screening)
 - Management of cases and exposures
 - Considerations for high-risk activities

ELV will ensure its CCP programs develop policies that address and take into consideration the following:

- Mitigation strategies
- Recommendations or requirements from local public health authority
- COVID-19 community levels
- COVID-19 vaccination
- Prioritizing strategies for the population and communities served, people with disabilities, people considered high-risk, equity, availability of resources, and pediatric-specific considerations
- Response to changing conditions
- Additional precautions related to local conditions and factors
- Communication plan for staff and families

This policy is not meant to address COVID-19 vaccination and exemption status. For more information on the standard related to vaccination and exemption, please refer to Head Start Program Performance Standard [1302.93 Staff health and wellness](#).

Resources:

- Caring for Our Children (CFOC) – [9.2.3 Health Policies](#)
- Caring for Our Children (CFOC) – [9.2.4 Emergency/Security Policies and Plans](#)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – [COVID-19](#)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – [Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning](#)
- Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center (ECLKC) – [Mitigating the Spread of COVID-19 in Head Start Programs](#)
- Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center (ECLKC) – [Supplementary Information on Establishing an Evidence-based COVID-19 Mitigation Policy](#)