



GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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May 02, 2022

DPHSS Guidance Memorandum 2022-12

RE: Minimum Requirements and Recommendations for Businesses, Childcare Facilities, and Other Entities in Accordance with Executive Order 2022-13

This guidance document (the "Memorandum") rescinds the Department of Public Health and Human Services ("DPHSS") Guidance Memorandum 2022-11 Amendment 2, pertinent to the operations of the Government of Guam, island businesses, schools, sporting and non-sporting events, funeral services, places of worship and its ceremonies, and graduations, during the public health emergency in Guam first declared in Executive Order 2020-03, due to the dangers posed by the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). DPHSS issues this Memorandum pursuant to the *Islan Guåhan Emergency Health Powers Act*, in particular, 10 GCA §19601, which provides that DPHSS shall use every available means to prevent the transmission of infectious disease and to ensure that all cases of contagious disease are subject to proper control and treatment.

This Memorandum is effective at 12:01 AM on May 3, 2022, which is 28 days after the official designation of Guam as a Low Level of Risk region pursuant to the CDC Community Levels metrics, as certified by DPHSS Director and accepted by the Governor of Guam pursuant to Executive Order No. 2022-09, issued on March 29, 2022, and furtherance of Executive Order No. 2022-13, issued on May 2, 2022.

Congregations and social gatherings shall be permitted for both indoor and outdoor activities without numerical limitations, and individuals will no longer be required to wear masks in public settings.

Stricter policies may be implemented by businesses or other entities, including, but not limited, to mask wearing, vaccination requirements, physical barriers, social distancing, and limited occupancy, subject to local and federal law. This information is not intended to serve as legal advice and should not be construed as legal advice.

A. Definition

"Childcare Facility" shall mean any facility with a Sanitary Permit or license for home operation by DPHSS, for which the primary function is to provide care and supervision to children for all, or part, of a twenty-four (24) hour day, whether or not the facility is operated for profit.

B. Recommendations

1. Individuals are encouraged to practice COVID-19 mitigation measures, such as mask wearing and social distancing, based on their personal level of risk. Individuals who are not vaccinated or boosted are at an increased risk of infection, hospitalization, and death as a result of COVID-19. Such individuals are encouraged to get vaccinated immediately before engaging in activities in congregate settings where mask use is compromised.
2. Cleaning and Disinfection, Handwashing, and Signage

All entities are encouraged to:

- a. Conduct thorough daily cleaning and disinfection of surfaces, including chairs and furniture, using disinfectant cleaning supplies. CDC guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting can be found at the website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>. Highly touched surfaces, shared objects, and equipment must be cleaned and disinfected between each use (e.g., door handles, tables, counters, desktops, keyboards, toilets, telephones, etc.). Consider using a checklist to ensure thorough cleaning and disinfection of high touch surfaces, equipment, and common areas of the facility.
- b. Ensure that toilet facilities and handwashing sinks are thoroughly and frequently cleaned and disinfected.
- c. Use commercial-grade, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered household disinfectant (<https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/about-list-n-disinfectants-coronavirus-covid-19-0>). If unavailable, bleach solutions can be used, if appropriate for the surface, by mixing 5 tablespoons (1/3 cup) of bleach (5% - 6% hypochlorite concentration) per 1 gallon of water, or 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water.
- d. Provide and maintain adequate materials and supplies to help prevent transmission, such as handwashing supplies, or hand sanitizers containing at least 60% alcohol for use by employees, patrons, guests, volunteers, and other attendees.
- e. Practice handwashing and respiratory etiquette (covering coughs and sneezes) to keep from getting and spreading infectious illnesses. Effective handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is recommended. If handwashing is not possible, use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol. Hand sanitizer is not a replacement for proper handwashing with soap and water.
- f. Signs should be posted at the entrance and throughout the facility that promote behaviors that prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19, which are to be communicated through images and pictures for patrons, guests, employees, and other persons to observe.
- g. Individuals are discouraged from entering establishments, and/or participating in social gatherings, if they tested positive for COVID-19 and are infectious, or if they are

waiting for COVID-19 test result, showing COVID-19 symptoms, or a close contact with a person who has tested positive for, or who has symptoms of, COVID-19.

C. Childcare Facilities

All childcare facilities must comply with the requirements of the Division of Environmental Health's *Rules and Regulations Governing Child Care Facilities*, which includes:

1. Maintenance of proper staff to children ratio; and
2. At nap time, ensure that children's naptime mats (or cribs) are spaced two (2) feet apart, and place children head to toe in order to further reduce the potential for viral spread.

D. Screening Testing for Kindergarten to Grade 12

1. Screening testing is part of a layered prevention strategy that will identify persons who are infected but without symptoms. It will also lead to early detection and intervention of COVID-19 cases. DPHSS has developed a guidance document for screening testing (DPHSS Guidance Memorandum 2021-27 Rev01), which schools are highly encouraged to follow.
2. Schools must work with parent(s)/legal guardian(s) in obtaining consent for minors for the screening testing program.
3. School students, teachers, and staff identified during screening testing as positive for COVID-19 will be reported to DPHSS.
4. The school contact tracing team will support DPHSS in case investigations.
5. DPHSS will provide guidance to schools on mitigation strategies and testing protocols in response to positive cases identified during screening testing.

This Memorandum is subject to change in the event of an unanticipated deviation from the anticipated sustained reduction in local metrics.

For further questions, please contact the Division of Environmental Health at (671) 922-2533 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except on government recognized holidays, or email, dphss-deh@dphss.guam.gov.


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