

ADVICE ON WASHINGTON STATE PHASE 2 OPERATING GUIDELINES: IN-HOME CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

On June 9, 2020, Governor Inslee released operational and safety guidelines for how nannies, sitters and in-home child care providers can begin providing services to parents and families. Unfortunately, many of these guidelines are extremely difficult for a family and care provider to implement and could have a negative impact on the relationship between the provider and children in their care.

The Nanny Parent Connection team has carefully reviewed the operational guidelines published by Governor Inslee and has created this informational resource on how care providers and families can interpret these guidelines. Please make sure to read the important legal disclaimer at the end of this document.



CREATE A SAFETY PLAN

Parents must adopt written procedures for care provider safety. We suggest that the family print out this document and post it in their home. Parents and provider should discuss this plan and make any changes on a weekly basis.



HAND WASHING

Provider, parents, and children should wash their hands regularly, before and after going to the bathroom, before and after eating and after coughing, sneezing, or blowing their nose. Parents should supply hand sanitizer with at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol alcohol in the home.



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT

Care provider and parents should discuss the use of PPE by the provider, parents, and any older children in the household and agree to a plan. We suggest that parents and providers should wear face coverings when interacting with one another during the workday but that the provider can remove the covering when interacting only with the children (especially infants). Parents and provider should attempt to maintain a six-foot distance when interacting. Children under two are not advised to wear facial coverings.

DAILY HEALTH SCREENING

Prior to the care provider arriving to work each day, parents and care provider will report to one another if:

- anyone in their respective households has a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher;
- anyone is reporting fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle aches, or new loss of taste or smell symptoms;
- anyone has come into contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19

If any of the above occurs or if the children, parents or providers develop any of the above symptoms during the workday, child care for that day will be immediately canceled and will not resume until safe to do so as mutually determined by both provider and parents.

CLEANING OF THE HOME AND VEHICLE

Parents will ensure that their home is frequently cleaned and sanitized with a particular focus on commonly touched surfaces (faucets, door knobs, toilet handles, etc.). If the provider will be driving the children in a vehicle owned by the family, parents will ensure that hand sanitizer is available in the vehicle and that commonly touched surfaces (steering wheel, door handles, etc.) are cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis.

PARENTS WILL INFORM CARE PROVIDERS ABOUT THEIR RIGHT TO REMOVE THEMSELVES FROM THE WORKPLACE IF THEY DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS SAFE, AS WELL AS THEIR POTENTIAL FOR ACCESS TO LEAVE OR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS IN THESE SCENARIOS.

The content provided on this document is for informational purposes only and shall not be construed as providing legal advice. You should contact legal counsel to obtain advice with respect to any questions or issues you may have. The opinions expressed in this document are strictly those of the Nanny Parent Connection team.