FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR COVID SAFE PRACTICES FOR SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS

What does the 5:1 ratio mean for my program?
A: Group sizes are not to exceed five children or youth. If programs have multiple groups of five, they should be in separate classrooms. Group sizes may increase as the public health order is modified.

What does it mean to not mix groups?
Groups of five children and their adult teacher or leader should remain the same throughout the duration of the program. This includes during meals, outdoor activities, and pick up or drop off times. This helps reduce COVID-19 transmission as well as supports contact tracing.

How far in advance before the start of the program should staff be tested for COVID-19?
A. Staff should be tested within a 72-hour period before the start of the program even if individuals have been tested previously. People must be retested if they come in contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19.

How can I get my staff tested?
A. Contact the New Mexico Department of Health (DOH) at 1-855-600-3453 or contact your area Public Health Office to get information about testing clinics and events in your area. DOH can schedule a testing event for your organization if appropriate.

Can my sports program offer back-to-back sessions of groups of five children or youth at the same location?
A. Back-to-back sessions are permissible if the spacing allows groups to avoid interacting with each other. Pick-up and drop-off procedures should ensure that groups do not mix.

Can daily temperature checks of children be conducted by parents prior to arriving at school and/or camp?
A. Parents may take their child’s temperature prior to arriving at the program. If the child has a temperature greater than 100.4°F or has COVID-19 related symptoms, they must stay home. Temperature checks taken by program staff should be done with a touchless thermometer. Individuals with a temperature greater than 100.4°F or with COVID-19 related symptoms should be sent home. Please reference CDC guidance for temperature checks.

What should I do if a staff person or child attending my program tests positive?
All health and safety concerns should be reported immediately to the New Mexico Department of Health so they can implement contact tracing. Advise sick individuals not to return until they have met CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation. Provide information on how to prevent infecting other family members and when their children can return.

Do children or youth exercising or playing outdoors need to wear masks?
A. Children and adults must wear masks at all times even when engaging in activities outdoors.
What is the definition of local geographic area?
A. Participants and staff should avoid traveling great distances to attend a program. Individuals may travel outside of their county of residence if they live in within 50 miles of the program location.

How can I access my test results?
A. Visit the New Mexico Department of Health website at https://cvresults.nmhealth.org/ and provide your name, date of birth and the date of your test. If your results are in, you will be able to access them.

Important Websites and Phone Numbers
All Together New Mexico – COVID-19 Safe Practices Guidance
New Mexico Department of Health COVID Hotline: 1-855-600-3453 (Available 24/7 in English and Spanish)
New Mexico Department of Health: http://cv.nmhealth.org/
Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA): Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Cleaning and Disinfection Guidelines: Guidelines for Cleaning and Disinfection Community Facilities
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2
Other Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Resources:
  1. CDC Print Resources in multiple languages
  2. CDC Frequently Asked Questions
List of Suppliers: COVID-19 Emergency Supply Collaborative