



ULSTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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PATRICK K. RYAN
County Executive

CAROL M. SMITH, MD, MPH
Commissioner of Health and Mental Health

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Dear Children's Camp Operator:

On May 19, 2021, [Interim Guidance for Child Care, Day Camp, and Overnight Camp Programs During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#) was released and is now available on the [New York Forward](#) website. This guidance applies to both regulated and unregulated programs for children. It provides requirements and recommendation for children's camp operators and others to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 including physical distancing, face coverings, establishing stable groups of campers, program activities, hygiene, cleaning, and disinfection.

The guidance is organized into two sections. The first section applies to all children's programming and the second section contains additional requirements for overnight children's programming. Additionally, a sample parent/guardian consent form is attached that may be used by children's camps that are arranging for or providing COVID-19 testing of campers.

The best protection against COVID-19 is a combination of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and following all COVID-19 Guidelines from the Department of Health and CDC. On May 12, 2021, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended the use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for individuals 12 years of age and older. The New York State Department of Health **strongly recommends** the full vaccination of all eligible individuals (e.g., 12 years of age and older) who will be working in or attending a children's camp.

If you have any questions regarding the guidance, please do not hesitate to contact this office at 845-340-3010.

Sincerely,

Denise Woodvine
Environmental Health Manager