



DAY CAMP AND OVERNIGHT CAMP GUIDELINES

RESTORE ILLINOIS

A Public Health Approach To Safely Reopen Our State

PART OF PHASE 4 OF RESTORE ILLINOIS PLAN

APPLICABLE TO EACH REGION UPON TRANSITION TO PHASE IV | UPDATED ON MAY 18, 2021

The Revitalization Phase of the Restore Illinois public health approach to reopening the Illinois economy includes larger gathering sizes, additional businesses reopening and increased capacities. We must all continue to social distance, frequently wash our hands and cover our faces to maintain progress in overcoming COVID-19.

This document is applicable to camps that are not licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS):

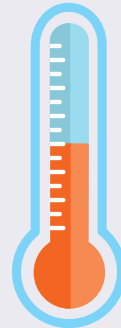
- Examples of camps include (non-exhaustive): recreational day camps, educational day camps, religious day camps, park district camps, YMCA camps, Boy Scout camps
- **Note:** overnight camps are permissible provided the mitigation measures identified in this document are followed
- **Note:** organizations that operate across multiple workplace environments should refer to applicable Phase IV guidelines for guidance on those workplaces
- **Note:** As of May 14, 2021, camp building capacity limits are determined by a space's ability to accommodate social distancing, when possible for unvaccinated individuals. Within each cohort of campers, and when unvaccinated persons are masked at all times, social distancing of 3 to 6 feet is allowable. Group sizes should be 30 participants or fewer. Capacity restrictions and group sizes will be reassessed on an ongoing basis throughout Phase IV

All businesses may reopen if the following requirements are met:

GENERAL HEALTH

i. Minimum guidelines

1. All employees who can work from home should continue to do so
2. Employers should actively encourage sick employees to stay home
3. Employers should encourage staff to [vaccinate](#)
4. Unvaccinated employees and campers should wear properly fitting face coverings, fitting snugly over their nose and mouth at all times indoor, and outdoors when unable to maintain at least 3 to 6 ft. distancing (cloth masks preferred; 3 feet allowable when campers are with cohort members only). Exceptions may be made where accommodations are appropriate – see [IDHR's guidance](#)
 - a. For overnight camps, campers who stay in a cabin, bunkhouse, or similar defined space are considered a "household cohort" and do not need to wear masks or physically distance when they are together without non-household cohort members nearby
 - b. Unvaccinated campers and staff should wear masks at all time except when they are part of the household cohort and sleep in the same space as campers
 - c. When different unvaccinated household cohorts are using shared indoor or outdoor spaces together during the day or night, continue to monitor and enforce mask use, physical distancing, and healthy hygiene behaviors for everyone
5. Social distance of at least 6-ft. should be maintained between unvaccinated non-household individuals unless participating in activities permitted under Phase IV guidelines
6. Employers should provide hand washing capability or sanitizer to employees and if applicable, customers
7. Frequent hand washing by employees, and an adequate supply of soap/ paper towels and/or disinfectant/ hand sanitizer should be available



HR AND TRAVEL POLICIES

i. Minimum guidelines

1. All employees and workers who perform work at the worksite (such as temporary or contract workers) should complete health and safety training related to COVID-19 when initially returning to work. Resources to design a training are posted on the [DCEO Restore Illinois guidelines website](#)
2. Employees should follow [CDC travel guidance](#) to protect themselves and others during business travel
3. Employees should not report to, or be allowed to remain at, work if sick or symptomatic (with cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever of 100.4 degrees or above, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other [CDC-identified symptoms](#)), and sick or symptomatic employees should be encouraged to seek a COVID-19 test at a state or local government testing center, healthcare center or other testing locations
4. Employers should clearly explain all paid leave policies and make workers aware that they may be eligible for benefits if they are sick or symptomatic
5. Employers should be aware that the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and provisions of state law prohibit employers from retaliating against workers for raising safety or health concerns



ii. Encouraged best practices

1. Provide reasonable accommodation for COVID-19-vulnerable employees including, but not limited to, work from home (if feasible), reduced contact with others, use of barriers to ensure minimum distance between others whenever feasible or other accommodations that reduce chances of exposure

HEALTH MONITORING

i. Minimum guidelines

1. Employers should encourage employees planning to enter the workplace to self-screen prior to coming onsite and not to enter the workplace if any of the following are present :
 - a. any symptoms of COVID-19,
 - b. fever equal to or higher than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit,
 - c. under evaluation for COVID-19 (e.g., waiting for results of a test to confirm infection)
 - d. diagnosed with COVID-19 or test positive for SARS-CoV-2 and not yet cleared to discontinue isolation
 - e. are identified as a close contact to a confirmed case and not yet released from quarantine
2. Employers should post information about the symptoms of COVID-19 in order to allow employees to self-assess whether they have any symptoms and should consider going home
3. Employers may also consider conducting in-person screening of employees upon entry into the workplace to verify no presence of COVID-19 symptoms. Employers should ensure personnel performing in-person screening activities are appropriately protected against exposure to potentially infectious workers entering the facility.
 - a. Resources outlining screening program best practices are posted on the [DCEO Restore Illinois guidelines website](#)
 - b. If employee shift is greater than 5 hours, employers should also consider conducting mid-shift screening to verify no presence of COVID-19 symptoms (in person preferred, though virtually is permitted)
4. If an employee reports having any COVID-19 related symptoms, employers should encourage the employee to seek testing for COVID-19 and contact their health care provider. Employees who test positive for COVID-19 should isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days after symptom onset AND for 24 hours with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medication, AND improvement of symptoms
 - a. Employers may use the [COVID-19 interim exclusion guidance decision tree for individuals in pre-K, K-12 schools, and day care programs](#) for further guidance on isolation, testing, and return-to-work protocols
5. If more than one employee reports having any COVID-19-related symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19, employers should notify their local health department immediately to report a possible outbreak and discuss outbreak response actions needed
6. If an employee is identified as being COVID-19 positive by testing, CDC cleaning and disinfecting should be performed [CDC guidelines](#)
7. All persons, except for those fully vaccinated or within 90 days of a lab-confirmed COVID-19 illness, identified as [close contact](#) should be placed in quarantine as determined by the local health department. Employers should notify employees who have been exposed. Employers should not identify an employee who tested positive by name
8. Any employee who has had close contact with any other person who is diagnosed with COVID-19 should seek testing for COVID-19 and quarantine for 7-14 days in accordance with CDC guidelines and as indicated by the local health department. All other employees should be on alert for symptoms of fever, cough, or shortness of breath and taking temperature if symptoms develop



DISINFECTING/CLEANING PROCEDURES

i. Minimum guidelines

1. Cleaning and disinfecting of premises should be conducted based on the risk of transmission from contaminated surfaces, according to the CDC
2. Clean common areas (e.g., restrooms, cafeterias) and surfaces touched by multiple people (e.g., entry/exit doorknobs, stair railings) with soap or detergent at least once per day
 - a. If one space is used by multiple groups at different points in time, all common areas and high-touch surfaces should be disinfected between groups
 - b. Consider more frequent cleaning or routine disinfection (in addition to cleaning) in circumstances that may increase the risk of infection from contaminated surfaces, such as:
 - i. High COVID-19 transmission in the community (i.e., ≥ 100 new cases of COVID-19 per 100,000 population in the past 7 days, as defined by the CDC; see IDPH county-level transmission data)
 - ii. Low number of people wearing masks (e.g., young children)
 - iii. Infrequent hand hygiene
 - iv. Occupancy by populations at increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness (e.g., older adults, people with certain underlying medical conditions)
3. If there has been a sick person or someone suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 in an indoor space within the last 24 hours, disinfect common areas and high-touch surfaces with a surface disinfectant approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency after cleaning with soap and detergent
4. Camp coordinators should make hand sanitizer and/ or handwashing stations available to participants for each separate participant group
5. Minimize sharing of objects between non-household individuals. If objects are to be shared, employees should regularly clean and sanitize equipment at least once per day, and as much as possible before and after use and between groups (see [EPA approved list of disinfectants](#))
6. All required disinfecting, cleaning, and sanitizing activities to be conducted by employees should be within their normal workday or during otherwise compensated time



ii. Encouraged best practices

1. Keep participant personal belongings separated and in individually labeled storage containers, cubbies, or areas. Belongings are taken home each day to be cleaned
2. Provide adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (art supplies, equipment, etc. assigned to a single participant)
3. Assign any shared equipment to one household for length of day camp if practical

STAFFING AND ATTENDANCE

i. Minimum guidelines

1. For indoor facilities, capacity should be determined by a space's ability to accommodate 6-feet of social distance.
2. Camp coordinator should maintain groups sizes of 30 participants or fewer
 - a. If practical, camp coordinator should maintain ratio of at least 2 adults per group
 - b. If not practical, camp coordinator may assign 1 floater employee per every 2 groups
3. Multiple groups of 30 participants or less are permitted in one area so long as:
 - a. Facilities allow for social distancing of all participants and employees
 - b. 30-feet of distancing is maintained between groups, and
 - c. Areas for each group are clearly marked to discourage interaction between groups
 - d. Each group stays separate and does not mix with other groups
4. Groups should be static, with no mixing of employees or participants between groups for the duration of the camp, including during sleeping arrangements
 - a. Exception may be made if there is a floater employee per every 2 groups
 - b. If the camp runs on an alternating day/ shift schedule, group leaders/ employees may lead 2 groups across days/ shifts maximum
5. Camp coordinator should assign employees to a designated specific group of participants
6. Camp coordinator should designate pool of substitute employees to replace employees as needed
 - a. Substitute employees should be used for full days only – no part-time substitutions are allowed
7. Camp coordinator should evaluate common areas/ break rooms to allow for social distancing of 6-feet when possible by removing/ decommissioning furniture or staggering break times. This guideline is not intended to diminish employees break time requirements contained within a collective bargaining agreement.
8. Camp coordinator should design a plan to allow for social distancing within the workplace and, if needed, designate employee(s) to monitor capacity limits and social distancing
9. Meal times represent one of the highest-risk setting within the camp. Camps offering meal service should follow the [indoor and outdoor dining guidance](#)
10. Camps offering overnight tent camping should ensure that participants use individual tents or share tents only with members of the same household. Tents for participants in the same group should be clustered in an area and separated from another group by at least 30 feet
11. Camps offering overnight camping with bunk houses or cabins should follow these additional precautions:
 - a. For bunk beds, position the head of the camper in the top bunk opposite the position of the camper in the bottom bunk
 - b. For side-by-side beds, position the head of the camper in one bed opposite the position of the camper in the adjacent bunk
 - c. For end-to-end beds, position the toes of each camper close to the other camper's toes
 - d. Campers should use the same bed each night
 - e. Keep windows open to increase ventilation, when possible



ii. Encouraged best practices

1. If eligible, staff and volunteers, campers, and family members should get fully vaccinated for COVID-19 before traveling to camp.
2. If practical, participants from the same household should be placed within the same group
3. Use static cohorts or pods to limit possible COVID-19 exposure
4. If indoors, day camp coordinator should designate room or space for each group to use for duration of the day camp
5. Stagger shift start and end times to minimize congregation of employees during changeovers
6. Employees should be regularly monitored for symptoms and, when possible, tested weekly for COVID-19, except for individuals who are fully vaccinated
7. For camp sessions that last at least one week, screening testing of unvaccinated campers and staff should be done 3-5 days after arrival at camp
8. Employees should supervise young children when using sanitizer
9. Participants/ employees should wear colors corresponding with their group to make social distancing easier to manage/ enforce
10. When possible, unvaccinated staff and participants at overnight camps should quarantine for 14 days before arrival at camp that includes physical distancing, mask wearing when not at home, avoiding unnecessary travel, and refraining from indoor social gatherings with people outside of their households.. Camp organizers should request that unvaccinated campers, their families, and camp staff follow CDC guidance for travelers in the 14 days before camp arrival to reduce exposure to COVID-19.
11. When possible, unvaccinated staff and campers should be tested for COVID-19 3-5 days after arrival at camp.
12. When possible, unvaccinated staff and campers should provide proof of a negative viral test taken no more than 1-3 days before arriving at camp. Camp organizers should delay arrival for campers or staff with confirmed positive test results.
13. All unvaccinated staff and participants should be reminded to adhere to social distancing, face covering use, hand hygiene, and other mitigations during travel to the overnight camp



EXTERNAL INTERACTIONS

i. Minimum guidelines

1. Before allowing external supplier, volunteer, or visitor to enter, or while requiring them to wait in a designated area, day camp coordinator should ask whether external supplier, volunteer, or visitor is currently exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms
 - a. If practical, day camp coordinator should take external supplier, volunteer, or visitor temperature using thermometer (infrared / thermal cameras preferred, touchless thermometers permitted)
2. Suppliers, volunteers, or visitors who are not fully vaccinated should wear face coverings over their nose and mouth when entering premises (exceptions can be made for people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a face covering)
3. Volunteers should abide by static classroom guidelines applied to employees with no mixing between groups for the duration of the day camp/ volunteer period
4. Camp coordinator should keep log of all external visitors who enter premises
5. Family-style meals are not permitted and groups utilizing indoor facilities for meals should be staggered and sanitized in between uses
6. Reusable dishware, except for refillable water bottles, will not be allowed. All dishware should be single use and disposed of after each use

ii. Encouraged best practices

1. Limit contact between visitors, camp participants, and employees
2. Participant meals brought from home should be in single-use containers to be thrown out after each meal
 - a. If meals are stored in a communal refrigerator, they should be spaced apart and handled only by an employee
3. Provided snacks should be pre-packaged and only handled by staff utilizing safety guidelines
4. Parents dropping off or picking up kids should wait at designated drop-off/ pick-up areas and arrive during designated time window
5. If practical, meals should be eaten outside



CUSTOMER BEHAVIORS

i. Minimum guidelines

1. Unvaccinated participants should wear face covering over their nose and mouth when indoors, and outdoors when unable to maintain 6 ft. distance, except for when eating, drinking, or swimming (exceptions can be made for people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a face covering)
2. Before being granted entrance to camp, employees should ask whether participant is currently exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms. If a participant does have symptoms, they should wait to enter premises until they have had no fever for at least 72 hours, other symptoms have improved, and at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared
 - a. If practical, camp coordinator should take participant temperature using thermometer (infrared / thermal cameras preferred, touchless thermometers permitted)
3. If a participant does contract COVID-19, they should remain isolated at home for a minimum of 10 days after symptom onset (or 10 days after positive test if asymptomatic) and can be released after feverless and feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 24 hours
4. Camp coordinator should maintain attendance log of participants
5. If the Camp coordinator is providing participants with transportation to and/or from the camp program:
 - a. Interior of vehicle should be sanitized before and after use by participants
 - b. Camp coordinator should provide hand sanitizer at the entrance of the vehicle
 - c. All riders should wash or sanitize hands prior to boarding the vehicle
 - d. Participants, employees, and drivers should wear face coverings when in the vehicle
 - e. Unvaccinated participants should maintain social distance from non-household members while in the vehicle
 - i. Unvaccinated participants should sit one to a seat unless sitting with one additional household member
 - ii. If practical, unvaccinated participants should sit in staggered rows (one participant per seat, per row)
 - f. If a rider in the vehicle is identified as being COVID-19 positive by testing, cleaning, and disinfecting should be performed according to [CDC guidelines](#)
 - g. There should be a supervisor to oversee participants on the bus (can be bus driver)

ii. Encouraged best practices

1. Enrollment in camp should be coordinated in advance and completed online/through the phone whenever possible
2. If eligible, staff, volunteers, campers, and family members should get fully vaccinated for COVID-19 before traveling to camp.
3. Unvaccinated campers and their families should follow CDC guidance for travelers in the 14 days before camp arrival to reduce exposure to COVID-19.
4. Unvaccinated campers should engage in a two-week prearrival quarantine that includes physical distancing, mask wearing when not at home, avoiding unnecessary travel, and refraining from indoor social gatherings with people outside of their households.



5. Unvaccinated campers should provide proof of a negative viral test taken no more than 1-3 days before arrival at camp. Delay travel to camp if test results are positive for COVID-19.
6. When possible, unvaccinated staff and campers should provide proof of a negative viral test taken no more than 1-3 days before arriving at camp. Camp organizers should delay arrival for campers or staff with confirmed positive test results.
7. If practical, employers should take participant temperature using thermometer (infrared / thermal cameras preferred, touchless thermometers permitted)
 - a. Temperatures should be made available to participants upon arrival to camp. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4°F or above will not be permitted to remain on site
8. Participants should sanitize hands regularly

If you have questions or need additional support:
Please call our hotline at 1-800-252-2923
or e-mail us at ceo.support@illinois.gov
or return to illinois.gov/businessguidelines

Additional Resources:

- [CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)
- [CDC Workplace Decision Tool](#)
- [IDPH Releasing COVID-19 Cases and Contacts from Isolation and Quarantine](#)
- [IDPH Testing Guidance](#)
- [IDPH FAQs](#)
- [Symptoms of Coronavirus](#)
- [IDHR FAQ for Businesses Concerning Use of Face-Coverings During COVID-19](#)
- [CDC Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#)
- [CDC Guidance on Cleaning Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes](#)
- [EPA Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)