



COVID-19 Illness & Tuition Payment Policies

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Tender Years, Inc. will continue to refer to our existing policies regarding illness and tuition. These policies are supplemented by our COVID-19 policies and procedures, which are detailed on our website at <https://www.tenderyears.com/covid19/>. For your convenience, we have compiled and listed below the relevant policies from the Tender Years Parent Handbook and our COVID-19 response, along with some additional notes for clarification. If you have questions, please reach out to your center's director.

ILLNESS

Existing Policy:

Tender Years, Inc. does not have the capability of providing care for sick children. Families should not bring children to the Center when they are ill. Childcare staff will deny care to any child who arrives exhibiting symptoms of illness such as fever, vomiting or diarrhea. Children may be excluded from care until they are symptom free for 24 hours or until a qualified health care professional notifies the program, in writing, that the child may resume attendance.

COVID-19 Supplement:

Please see below.

EXCLUSION & FEVER POLICY

Existing Policy:

Exclusion is recommended and the parent must be notified to come and pick up their child when:

- The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in activities as determined by the staff of the childcare program.
- The illness results in a greater need for care than the staff of the program determine they can provide without compromising their ability to care for other children.
- The child has any of the following conditions, unless a health professional determines the child's condition does not require exclusion:
 - Fever of 100.4°F tympanic (in the ear) or temporal (forehead scan) with behavior change or other signs and symptoms (such as sore throat, rash, vomiting/diarrhea).
 - A temperature of 100.4°F in a child 4 months or younger should be medically evaluated (an infant younger than 2 months with a fever should seek medical attention within an hour).
- Diarrhea - stool that cannot be contained by a diaper or controlled by a toilet trained child.
- Vomiting more than 2 times in the previous 24 hours.
- Abdominal pain that continues for more than 2 hours.
- Mouth sores with drooling.
- Rash with fever or behavioral changes.
- Pink or red conjunctiva.
- Impetigo, until 24 hours after treatment has been started. Strep throat, until 24 hours after treatment has been started.
- Head lice or nits, until after the first treatment and the child is nit-free.
- Appears to be severely ill.
- Respiratory distress.



COVID-19 Supplement:

As previously noted: In addition to the symptoms listed in the existing policy, children with other COVID-19 symptoms (including cough, shortness of breath, chills or repeated shaking with chills, new loss of taste or smell, cold or flu symptoms, or a fever of 100.4°F or higher), will not be permitted to attend, and should see their healthcare provider for evaluation. Due to the nature of COVID-19, children must be symptom-free for at least 24 hours before they are permitted in the center.

Children who are presenting symptoms associated with COVID-19, and who are not currently quarantined or in close contact with someone exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, may return to a facility when:

- Symptomatic child who is not tested: will be excluded for a period consistent with current CDC guidelines from symptom onset AND at least 24 hours after fever resolution (if present) without the use of fever reducing medication AND improved respiratory symptoms.
- Symptomatic child who is tested and receives a negative result: excluded until the child is without a fever for 24 hours (if fever present) without the use of fever reducing medication AND improved respiratory symptoms.
- Symptomatic child who is determined by a health care provider to have an illness other than COVID-19: excluded until the child is without a fever for 24 hours (if fever present) without the use of fever reducing medication and symptoms improving. A doctor's note is also required.

Due to the highly contagious nature of COVID-19, a child with a household member exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms will also not be permitted in the center. In this situation, a child may return to the facility when:

- Symptomatic household member who is tested and receives a negative result: child will be excluded until the household member receives the negative result and child is symptom and fever free for 24 hours before returning.
- Symptomatic household member who is determined by a health care provider to have an illness other than COVID-19: child is excluded until the household member is determined to not be COVID-19, and the child is symptom and fever free for 24 hours before returning.
- Depending on the vaccination status of household members and other variables, there will be situations left unaddressed in the above points. In these cases, a child's exclusion and/or return are at the center director's discretion.

Further Clarification:

As previously noted: In order for a child to qualify as symptom-free, he/she must be fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication, including acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil).

VACATION

Existing Policy:

Each child is eligible for one (1) week of vacation per calendar year at half their normal tuition rate, after (6) six consecutive months of enrollment. This week cannot be divided into individual days - it must be taken as one full week. Child cannot be in attendance during this vacation week. A vacation week can be used for any reason, including but not limited to vacation, illness, or quarantine.

COVID-19 Supplement:

If you have travel outside Pennsylvania for vacation or any other reason, we ask that you please comply with Pennsylvania's quarantine/testing mandate upon returning home. Please visit the PA Department of Health website (<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>) for the latest information. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your center's director for guidance.



Further Clarification:

The discounted tuition rate applied to a vacation week may *instead* be applied to a child's tuition if he or she is absent for five consecutive days due to COVID-19. While each child is eligible for only one (1) week of discounted tuition per calendar year as per our existing policy, it may be applied to a vacation week OR a COVID-related absence.

PAYMENT OF FEES DURING PROGRAM CLOSINGS

Existing Policy:

There is no adjustment to the weekly fee due when the program is closed for a holiday, weather condition, or an emergency. Additionally, schedules for children with part-time attendance cannot be adjusted to compensate for program closings.

COVID-19 Supplement:

At this time, there is no supplement to our existing policy.

Further Clarification:

COVID-19 related matters are considered emergency matters. As such, our response may include closure of a particular classroom or entire center due to health concerns or due to a mandate issued by the state, the PA Department of Education, or the PA Department of Human Services.