



TEMPORARY POLICY	
CPR and First Aid Certification Extensions During the COVID-19 Emergency	Field Operations – All Licensed Child Care Programs
Effective Date: October 1, 2020	

### **Policy Statement**

The MA Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) recognizes that this is a critical time for all child care staff to be trained in the life saving techniques of Pediatric CPR and First Aid. As a result, the requirement for staff to complete this training and to remain certified continues to apply. However, in recognition of the current limitations presented during the COVID-19 state of emergency, EEC sets forth the following temporary CPR and First Aid Extension Policy.

### **Expiration Dates**

EEC has a requirement that CPR must be renewed annually, regardless of the expiration date listed on the document certifying completion of the training course. However, for the duration of the COVID-19 Emergency, EEC will waive this requirement and **adhere to the expiration deadlines indicated on a provider's certification card or letter<sup>1</sup>.**

EEC has a requirement that First Aid training must be renewed by the expiration date listed on the document certifying completion of the training or at least every three years, whichever comes first. However, for the duration of the COVID-19 Emergency, EEC will waive this requirement and **adhere to the expiration deadlines indicated on a provider's certification card or letter.**

**Please note that the requirement for there to be at least one person with current (not expired) certification in CPR on the premises during program hours still applies to all child care programs.**

### **In-Person Training Requirements**

*For currently caring providers seeking to renew certification:* EEC has a requirement that CPR and First Aid training must include an in-person component where the participant is able to demonstrate techniques learned. However, to accommodate individuals who are not able to access an in-person training option due to COVID-19, the in-person training criteria will be postponed and all Department-approved and certified online only CPR and First Aid trainings completed during the COVID-19 Emergency will be accepted to satisfy the CPR and/or First Aid **re-certification requirements.**

*For new providers seeking initial certification:* For new staff (permanent or temporary) that do not have previous First Aid or CPR trainings, online training can be utilized now with a written acknowledgement by the child care provider agreeing that they will complete the in-person skills test within 60 days from when the State of Emergency order is cancelled. This letter must be kept on file by the licensed program and readily available to EEC staff, upon request. **IMPORTANT: Please note that these individuals may not be alone with children until the in-person skills test has been completed and full certification received.**

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<sup>1</sup> EEC will accept official certification cards or letters.