

Has your program been impacted by a power and/or water outage? If so, please review the guidance below on who to notify, how your child care program can still operate, and emergency closures.

Notifications

If you experience a power and/or water outage, notify the following parties of your program's status:

- Families
- Your local [Community Child Care Support Agency \(CCCSA\)](#)
- [CDD](#)

Continuing To Provide Care

It's your choice to provide care when the power and/or water is out within your program. If you choose to provide care to children, you must meet **ALL** the following conditions:

- Rooms used by children are maintained at a minimum temperature of 65°F and a maximum of 85°F at one (1) foot above the floor level. Areas used by infants are kept at least 68°F at floor level.
- Heat sufficiently warms the facility in a safe manner.
- Suitable light is available. **NO** Candles.
- A toilet is operational. May be flushed mechanically.
- Safe drinking water is readily available.
- Hand washing with water and soap is readily utilized. Hand sanitizer is not a replacement for washing hands with water and soap if there is visible soil on the hands. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers do not kill all the germs that can cause illness.
- Food is safely stored and readily available.
- Phone service is available on-site. Cell service is acceptable.

Your program should not operate if it cannot meet **ALL** the above conditions, as operating would violate essential minimal health and safety regulations that have been enacted to protect the health and welfare of children.

Emergency Closure

If you must close your program due to emergency conditions, you can refer families to their [local CCCSA](#) for assistance finding alternate care, which may include [Approved Relative Child Care](#). If the CCCSA is unavailable due to their own emergency situation, families can contact CDD at 1-800-649-2642.

In extreme emergency situations, the CDD may consider emergency variances (ex. providing care in an alternate location). Contact your licensor with questions.

Questions

The Licensor on Duty (LOD) is always here and available to support you and your program and answer any questions you may have; you can reach them at ahs.dcfchildcarelicensing@vermont.gov or 800-649-2642 option 3.