



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary



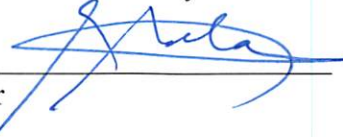
CHILD CARE LICENSING PROGRAM

Caller Box 10007
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel: (670) 664-2572

MEMORANDUM

DATE : August 24, 2020

TO : Child Care Providers licensed by CCLP

FROM : Gordon B. Salas 
CCLP Supervisor

SUBJECT : Rescheduling of the opening of all Daycare Centers, Before and After School Programs, Infant and Toddler Programs, and Family Child Care Homes.

On August 18, 2020, my office issued a memorandum rescinding the March 29, 2020 memo directing the closure of all child care services. As a result, the closure has been lifted and child care programs and child care services are allowed to commence operations on **August 31, 2020** subject to the submission, review, and approval of your reopening plans based on the guidance issued by my office.

However, on August 21, 2020, the Office of the Governor through the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation and the COVID-19 Task Force issued a directive announcing that its Emergency Directive have been amended to temporarily reimplement prior restrictions imposed. One of the amendments was made on Emergency Directive 15 which states in part, *"To preserve the health and safety of students, families, teachers, administrators, and staff, all public and private schools in the Commonwealth shall remain closed for in-person instruction and other activities until further notice."* At the same token, the directive also specifically states that the amendments will be effective **August 24, 2020 through September 6, 2020**.

Therefore, in line with the Governor's Directive, the Child Care Licensing Program hereby reschedules the reopening of child care programs and child care services from the initial approved date of **August 31, 2020** to **September 6, 2020** tentatively. The tentative date is subject to any other directives borne out of the Governor's Office through its COVID-19 Task Force, Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, or the CNMI Homeland Security & Emergency Management.

In the meantime, I would encourage everyone to continue working on your reopening plans based on the guidance issued. All plan submissions must be done via email. Once you have submitted your plans and have been approved, our Health and Safety Inspector will coordinate with you a convenient time to conduct a site assessment to ensure compliance with the guidance.