Important note:
The COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly – so the information we are providing today may change quickly.
COVID-19 Recovery: A Phased Approach

**Phase I (current)**
- Slow the Spread

**Phase II**
- State-by-State Reopening

**Phase III**
- Establish Immune Protection and Lift Physical Distancing

**Phase IV**
- Rebuild Our Readiness for the Next Pandemic
Trigger for Moving to Phase II

A state can safely proceed to Phase II when it has achieved all the following:

- A sustained reduction in cases for at least 14 days,
- Hospitals in the state are safely able to treat all patients requiring hospitalization without resorting to crisis standards of care,
- The state is able to test all people with COVID-19 symptoms, and
- The state is able to conduct active monitoring of confirmed cases and their contacts.
Phase II: Reopen, State by State

Goals
1. Lift strict physical distancing measures in a concerted and careful fashion,
2. Allow the vast majority of businesses and schools to open, and
3. Continue to control SARS-CoV-2 transmission so we do not revert back to Phase I.

Steps Required
1. Implement case-based interventions (isolation, contact tracing)
2. Begin to relax physical distancing measures (maintain telework, facial coverings, hand hygiene/disinfecting)
3. Special care for vulnerable populations (continued physical distancing)
4. Accelerate the development of therapeutics
5. Identify those who are immune
Phase II May Include:

- Social gatherings of increased number of people
- Schools open (with some restrictions)
- Childcare opens (with some restrictions)
- Summer camps open (with some restrictions)
- Elective surgeries based on the clinical urgency
- Restaurants and bars open with limited seating
Once a vaccine has been developed, has been tested for safety and efficacy, and receives FDA emergency use authorization, states can move to Phase III.
Ramping up testing capabilities to conduct **1,000 tests a day**

As of now, expanded testing for:

- Long-term care facilities and other group living settings, including universal retesting
- Health care personnel: Testing for personnel with COVID-19 exposure, but asymptomatic
- Correctional facilities: regardless if there has been a positive test
- Expanded testing for health care and home health workers who have had direct contact with positive case
- Consider testing those in quarantine due to possible exposure
- Increase opportunities for childcare providers to be tested
Contact Tracing

Interview index patients
- Establish day 0 of infection
- Get contacts and places from two days prior to day zero to present
- Assesses level of risk for contacts

Identify contacts
- Contact Medium and High-risk contacts
- Promote Isolation and Quarantine
- Ask if they are symptomatic

Link symptomatic contacts to testing
Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) Associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

- An extremely rare syndrome both worldwide and, in the U.S.
- We are also fortunate that most children with this syndrome have responded well to supportive treatment.
- The CDC recently set a case definition for this syndrome allowing it to be tracked worldwide in a standardized way.
- Vermont has not had any cases but is ready to put the pieces together if there is a child with these symptoms.
Updated Guidance:
Health Guidance for Childcare Programs, Summer programs and Afterschool programs

:: healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/schools-and-child-care-programs ::
The following children and staff will be **EXCLUDED** from care:
- Showing symptoms of COVID-19
- Have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- Have been tested and are awaiting results
- At high risk due to underlying health conditions

If **symptoms begin** while at the childcare, summer, or afterschool program, the child **WILL BE sent home** as soon as possible

Individuals with a **temperature greater than 100.4 F will be sent home** until they have had no fever for 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications (e.g., Advil, Tylenol)
Please keep your child home for the following reasons:

• A cough, fever, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell
• Fever (temperature higher than 100.4 degrees)
• Severe sore throat that lasts more than 48 hours, especially with a fever
• A significant rash, particularly when other symptoms are present
• Large amounts of discolored nasal discharge
• Severe ear pain
• Uncontrolled cough
• Diarrhea
• Severe headache, especially with a fever

Who may attend – all settings:

• Children and staff with allergy symptoms, and no fever, that cause coughing and clear runny nose may stay if they have medically diagnosed allergies and follow any medical treatment plans
• Children who are well and have well-controlled, mild asthma may attend

We want to stay open and provide a safe, healthy, and fun place to grow, learn, and play!
What Parents Can Expect :: Arrival/Departure

- **Daily Health Check** for the children attending childcare and staff
  - Screening questions: contact with COVID-19 case and symptoms
  - Temperature check
- New **drop-off** and **pick-up** protocols
  - Staggered arrival
  - Same parent or designated person
- **Handwashing upon entry**
What Parents Can Expect :: During the Day

1. **Staff** will be wearing *cloth facial coverings all day*
2. **Frequent thorough cleaning** each day
3. Small groups of **no more than 25 individuals** per classroom—staff and children
4. Programs may maintain operations up to the total occupancy limits for their programs, as long as children are separated into classrooms and do not share common places
5. Absolutely **no large group activities**
6. **No outside visitors and volunteers**

**New VOSHA regulations:**
All common spaces and equipment, including bathrooms, frequently touched surfaces and doors, tools and equipment, and vehicles must be cleaned and disinfected at the beginning, middle and end of each shift and, when possible, prior to transfer from one person to another.
What Parents Can Expect :: Additional Guidance

• Staff should remain with the same group each day
• Frequent handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
• Resting children will be placed head-to-toe
• Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized should not be used
• Detailed guidance for
  • Cleaning & Disinfecting
  • Caring for Infants and Toddlers
  • Food Preparation and Meal Service
Cloth Facial Coverings and children: **recommended not required**

**No cloth facial coverings for children under 2-years-old**

Encourage children to join all of the adults around them to prevent spread of germs

It is developmentally appropriate for children when children can properly put on, take off, and not touch or suck on the covering.

**Children who have a medical reason for not wearing a cloth facial covering must not be required to wear one**

- Good resource from American Academy of Pediatrics: [Healthychildren.org](http://Healthychildren.org)
What Vermont Practices are doing during COVID-19

**Family Communication**
- Update website with appointment options and procedures for coming into the office
- Use telehealth if possible, for non-emergent sick visits
- Ask parents to take vitals at home when possible (height, weight, BP, temp)
- Option to admit directly to inpatient if speaks with UVMMC hospitalist

**Screening & Telehealth**
- Phone call or video visit prior to all in-person sick visits
- Use telehealth if possible, for non-emergent sick visits
- Ask parents to take vitals at home when possible (height, weight, BP, temp)
- Option to admit directly to inpatient if speaks with UVMMC hospitalist

**Appointment Scheduling**
- Online options for patient scheduling
- Provide patients options for in-person vs telehealth options
- Inform families of in-office procedures

**Check-in**
- Call from parking lot to check-in, wait outside until room is ready
- Syndromic screening at the door with masks offered

**Office Layout**
- Mornings dedicated to WCC, afternoon to sick visit
- Designated entrance and rooms for respiratory symptoms
- Many sick visits or patient preference, visits done in parking lot

**Office Visit**
- PPE for all visits, including patients
- Full PPE station with donning and doffing practices in dedicated area
- One healthy caregiver with each child
- Dedicated provider for all COVID PUIs and testing

Source: VCHIP Practice Strategy Calls, April 2020
Help Me Grow Creates a Reliable Grid of Resources

• Help Me Grow offers a resource hub that helps connect children and their families to local resources and services

• Providers wanting to refer a family directly to resources themselves can call HMG staff to get the latest information on food resources, mental health services and support groups, and more

Dial 2-1-1 ext. 6, text HMGVT to 898211, or refer at helpmegrowvt.org/form/referral-form
Health Department Resources for Children and Families

- Coping with Family Stress
- Child Safety
- Suicide Prevention
- Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ASK THE CHAT BOT

Type your question about COVID-19 in Vermont in the space below. This will start an automated search to find you an answer.

CALL US

Call the Health Department at 802-863-7240. We’re ready to respond to COVID-19 health-related questions. Questions answered Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Outside those hours, leave your call will be returned.
Physical NOT Social Distancing

Stay 6 feet apart = Safe Physical Distance.
Social Engagement is IMPORTANT!!
Let’s keep physically distant AND socially engaged!
Thank you!

Let’s stay in touch.

Email: Breena.Holmes@vermont.gov
Web: www.healthvermont.gov
Social: @healthvermont
Resources for More Information

Health Guidance for Health and Safety for Child Care Programs, Summer Programs, and After School Programs

Let’s Grow Kids COVID-19 Information and Resources for Families

Building Bright Futures Early Childhood COVID-19 Response
https://buildingbrightfutures.org/covid-19/

Help Me Grow Resource Center /211
https://helpmegrowvt.org/