

Message from the Early Learning Coalition

This notice is about:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Important Deadline | <input type="checkbox"/> Compliance with State Requirement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free Resource(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development Opportunity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Readiness, VPK or other Contract Compliance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational |

Dear Early Education Community:

Information Re: Generator Safety

This is an important reminder that the use of generators at childcare facilities may pose a hazard to children. The primary hazards that occur when using a generator are carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning from toxic engine exhaust, electric shock or electrocution, and fire. Visit the Red Cross for information on generator safety at:

<http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/power-outage/safe-generator-use#What-size-generator-will-I-need->

Providers who plan to use a generator at their facility or family day care home are required to contact the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and provide them with a written safety plan for use of the generator.

DCF has indicated that at a minimum, the safety plan must include the following:

1. Verification of the appropriately installed/use and trained operation/use of generator
2. Electrician inspection and approval of connection of generator to electrical circuits/electric boxes
3. Ensure that the generator is never used inside or within 20 feet outside an open window/door
4. The plan for running of extension cord(s) through doors /windows to prevent children accessing and children exiting a program.
5. Storage areas for fuel to power generate. Storage must be outside the child care facility or home in an area that is not accessible to children (Local laws may restrict the amount of fuel you may store, or the storage location. Ask your local fire department)
6. Carbon monoxide detector(s) installed and working in each area of the program or home
7. Generator must be kept inaccessible to children at all times

Thank you and continue to be safe in the recovery.