



Dear Parent or Guardian,

Revised 7/15/2025

Below is the list of criteria that BASCOL must follow when your child is too ill to stay in care or cannot attend the program.

**Office of Children and Family Services Exclusion Criteria for children who are ill:**

Adapted 5/2014 from caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, 3rd Edition.

**These levels of illness define when children can and cannot attend the child care program:**

- The child is too ill to participate in program activities.
- The illness results in a need for care that is greater than the staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.
- An acute change in behavior- this could include lethargy/ lack of responsiveness, irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, or having a quickly spreading rash.
- **Fever:**
  - Temperature of 100.0 F or above, regardless of where it is taken.
- **Diarrhea:**
  - If the diarrhea is causing soiled pants or clothing.
  - Blood or mucus in the stools not explained by dietary change, medication, or hard stools.
  - Confirmed medical diagnosis of salmonella, E. coli, or Shigella infection, until cleared by the child's health care provider to return to the program.
- **Vomiting** more than 2 times in the previous 24 hours, unless vomiting is determined to be caused by a non-infectious condition and the child remains adequately hydrated.
- **Abdominal pain** that continues for more than 2 hours or intermittent pain associated with fever or other signs of illness.
- **Mouth sores** with drooling unless the child's primary care provider states that the child is not infectious.
- **Active tuberculosis**, until the child's primary care provider or local health department states the child is on appropriate treatment and can return.
- **Impetigo**, until treatment has been started.
- **Streptococcal pharyngitis** (strep throat or other streptococcal infection), until twenty-four hours after treatment has started.
- **Covid 19 Virus**, Fever free for 24 hours and improving symptoms.
- **Head lice** until after the first treatment (note: exclusion is not necessary before the end of the program day)
- **Scabies**, until treatment has been given.
- **Chickenpox** (varicella), until all lesions have dried or crusted (usually six days after onset of the rash).
- **Rubella**, until 6 days after the rash appears.
- **Pertussis**, until 5 days of the appropriate antibiotic treatment.
- **Mumps**, until 5 days after the onset of parotid gland swelling.
- **Measles**, until 4 days after onset of rash.
- **Hepatitis A virus infection**, until the child is approved by the health care provider to return to the program.



- Any child determined by the local health department to be contributing to the transmission of an illness or outbreak.

Note:

The above exclusion criteria are the minimum standard set by OCFS and the child care program may ask for doctor documentation for returning an ill or injured child to care in some situations.

*For more information on the OCFS exclusion policy please ask to see the policy.*

***Children, who are ill, can spread illness to other children in care who are at greater risk for serious complications. If your child has been given medication to reduce a fever, the child can still spread illness. Keeping children healthy is a group effort.***

You can stay informed about the spread of illnesses by paying attention to the local media reports.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our children healthy.

Sincerely,

***Chere Petrivelli***

Chere Petrivelli

Executive Director