FAQs to accompany the Ending the Modifications to Certified Child Care
Center Requirements document

In spring 2020, the Commissioner of Human Services temporarily modified certain requirements for certified
child care centers in order to provide centers with more flexibility to operate in a pandemic and focus on critical
health and safety measures. Governor Walz announced that the COVID-19 peacetime emergency ends on July 1,
2021. This announcement means that some temporary modifications put in place during the COVID-19
peacetime emergency will be ending immediately while other modifications will end on August 30, 2021. The
legislature only allowed DHS to extend some of the waivers for 60 days beyond the end of the peacetime
emergency, after which providers must return to following certification requirements in rule and statute.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. The peacetime emergency ends on July 1, 2021. What does this mean for certified
centers?

Some of the temporary modifications to certified child care center requirements that were put in place during
the peacetime emergency will end immediately. For other modifications, providers will have up to 60 days to
come back into compliance. Refer to the Ending the Modifications to Certified Child Care Center Requirements
document on the DHS Licensing COVID-19 webpage for those timelines. Although certified centers have up to 60
days for some modifications, it is recommended that centers work towards following requirements in rule and
statute as soon as possible.

2. When do staff need to be up-to-date on their pediatric CPR and first aid training?

The pediatric first aid and CPR waiver expires 60 days after the end of the peacetime emergency (August 30,
2021). Centers will need to ensure staff meet the requirements in place for certified centers prior to the
pandemic.

- **New staff hired after peacetime emergency ends (July 1, 2021):** Pediatric first aid and CPR training
  must be completed prior to having unsupervised direct contact with a child, but the training must be
  completed within the first 90 days of the first date of contact with a child (245H.14, subd. 1).
- **New staff hired during the peacetime emergency:** Ensure staff come into full compliance with
  pediatric first aid and CPR training requirements by the end of the 60 day off-ramping period
  (August 30, 2021).
- **Existing staff whose training expired during the peacetime emergency:** If training expired in
  calendar year 2020 or 2021, training must be completed by the end of calendar year 2021.
3. If a staff person completed first aid and/or CPR training but it wasn’t a pediatric course do they need to re-take it?

First aid and CPR training are required to be pediatric. If either training was not pediatric, then pediatric training must be completed by the timelines outlined in question #2.

4. When do staff need to be compliant with annual and ongoing trainings other than first aid and CPR?

Effective Jan. 1, 2021, centers are expected to resume most annual and other ongoing training requirements. Providers must ensure all required trainings for calendar year 2021 are completed as required or be subject to a correction order if training requirements are not met. Biennial trainings that were to be completed in calendar year 2020 must be completed in 2021. Many trainings can be offered and completed internally within your program.