



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

DATE: August 21, 2020
TO: All Licensed Campsites and Programs
SUBJECT: Temporary waiver of administrative rule 400.11101 (1) (m)

Licensed camps may address the recognized shortage of supervised settings for children who are not attending in-person learning at a school because of the COVID-19 state of emergency.

Effective August 24, 2020, licensed PROGRAM(s) and affiliated SITE(s) may fill this need without expectation of meeting the “out-of-door” or “natural environment” requirement. This waiver is granted based on the licensee’s good faith effort, when able and safe, to incorporate outdoor natural environmental activities but not necessarily most of the time.

This waiver does not supersede a school districts in-person learning nor waive a student’s responsibility to participate fully in their school districts method of education.

Camps wishing to modify the season term must submit a PROGRAM Interim notification form updating the department of their extended dates of operation. Submission of the PROGRAM Interim notification form for this reason will automatically approve the applicant for the waiver.

This time limited waiver from the outdoor natural environment requirement:

- Will end at the conclusion of the 2020/21 school year,
- Will only be granted to those licensed camp PROGRAM(s) and SITE(s) capable of normally supporting “out-of-door” “natural environment” conditions most of the time, and
- Will only be granted to those licensed camp PROGRAM(s) and SITE(s) that follow the [“Guidelines for Camp Operations During COVID-19”](#) and limit capacity as necessary based on indoor learning space.

Note: Original Camp applications will continue to be evaluated based on the “natural environment” requirements in the camp administrative rules. Applicants that cannot ensure compliance with “out of door” or “natural environment” of a PROGRAM and SITE camp during a typical year, as required by camp licensing rules and statute, will be denied licensure.

Sincerely,

Jay Calewarts, Director
AFC and Camp Licensing Division