



Family Day Care Homes (FDCH) Waivers

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
HEALTH AND NUTRITION SERVICES



Waiver to Extend Fire and Health Inspection Expiration Dates

Due to the current pandemic, FDCH providers are having difficulty getting fire and health inspections. With that being said, ADE is providing options regarding flexibilities regarding these program requirements

On March 27th, 2020, the following guidance was issued for fire and health inspections:

If in-person inspections will not be conducted, ADE will accept virtual inspections by accredited fire and health inspectors. As a sponsor, you will enter into an agreement allowing virtual inspections. This agreement will include how the virtual inspection will be conducted. The agreement will be signed by both the sponsor and provider. The provider will be required to keep a copy, along with the sponsor. When the updated inspection is submitted to ADE, it will need to indicate, on the inspection, that the inspection was conducted virtually. Please note this method of conducting inspections will only be approved during school closures due to COVID-19. If a provider does not have the capability for a virtual inspection, an in-person inspection will have to be conducted. The virtual inspection will be valid for 1 year from the date of the inspection.

If an in-person or virtual inspection cannot be conducted, ADE will extend the expiration date for those providers by 90 days or until the end of the current pandemic, whichever comes first. Sponsors will have to opt in for this flexibility by providing the following to ADE:

- **Name of provider;**
- **Is provider currently participating;**
- **Type of inspection;**
- **Expiration date;**
- **Reason for requesting extension. If virtual inspection cannot be conducted, name of inspector/agency and;**
- **What steps is sponsoring organization taking to ensure health and safety in the childcare home.**

This information will need to be provided no later than 7 calendar days past the expiration date. In addition, sponsor will be required to schedule an inspection for the provider within 2 weeks after the 90 day expiration period or after the pandemic ends, whichever comes first.

If you have any questions, please contact your assigned specialist.