

Guidance on public playgrounds

Last week, Governor Walz issued Executive Order 20-56 which continues to turn the dial to re-open Minnesota. It transitions the state from a focus on Stay at Home to a focus on Stay Safe Minnesota.

The Governor's Executive Order, in its accompanying [Frequently Asked Questions](#), clarifies that children can use public playground equipment.

“Can children go to a playground? Like other outdoor activities, going to a playground is allowed under the Stay Safe Order. [Caregivers] should be careful to ensure children wash hands after touching play structures and maintain six feet of space from other children as much as possible. Although the Governor's order doesn't close playgrounds, they may be closed by local authorities.”

Because of this clarification, the restriction on using public play structures issued by DHS Licensing in April is lifted and no longer applies to licensed or certified providers.

In addition, remember that child care providers should be following other guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, so, when at a playground, you should also be looking at keeping groups small and not allowing groups to intermix.
