



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Commissioner

EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 21-003

COVID-19 Youth Summer Camp Standards

WHEREAS, Coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) is a contagious, and at times fatal, respiratory disease caused by the respiratory illness caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of the COVID-19 illness include fever, cough and shortness of breath, which may appear in as few as two or as long as 14 days after exposure, and can spread from person to person via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy issued Executive Order 103, declaring the existence of a Public Health Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq., and a State of Emergency, pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App A:9-33 et seq., in the State of New Jersey for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Emergency has been extended by Governor Murphy by Executive Orders and continues to remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, on May 30, 2020, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 149, permitting youth summer camps to operate, subject to certain conditions, but prohibiting residential and overnight camps from operating; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2020, the Commissioner of Health issued Executive Directive 20-021 setting forth applicable Youth Summer Camp Standards; and

WHEREAS, given the recent decreases in COVID-19 key statistics, such as the number of hospitalized patients in the State, more robust testing capacity, and the implementation of the State’s vaccination plan, the State can take cautious, incremental steps to lift certain restrictions that were designed to limit person-to-person contact; and

WHEREAS, heightened health and safety protocols can be instituted for summer camps to ensure an environment that would limit spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2021, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 237 permitting youth day and resident summer camps to reopen subject to certain requirements;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 237 provides that youth summer camps, including residential and overnight camps, must comply with youth summer camp standards and other applicable statutes, regulations, and Executive Orders; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUDITH PERSICHILLI, Commissioner of the Department of Health, pursuant to the powers afforded to me under the Emergency Health Powers Act, hereby ORDER and DIRECT the following:

The provisions in this Directive apply to all Youth Summer Camps that are subject to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 26:12-1 et seq.

1. This Executive Directive supersedes the youth summer camp requirements set forth in Executive Directive 20-021, issued on June 30, 2020.
2. Youth summer camps covered by this Executive Directive shall comply with the attached Department of Health protocols entitled “New Jersey 2021 COVID-19 Youth Summer Camp Standards Guidelines,” as amended and supplemented.

This Directive shall take effect immediately. The provisions of this Directive shall remain in force and effect for the duration of the public health emergency originally declared in Executive Order No. 103 (2020), and as extended by Executive Order, unless otherwise modified, supplemented and/or rescinded.



Dated: April 28, 2021

Judith M. Persichilli, RN, BSN, MA