

COVID-19 Response

The health and well-being of our families and staff are our highest priorities. In the interest of limiting the opportunity for transmission, the following precautionary measures will be taken in accordance with the most recent Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) guidance.

The UIC Children's Center is under the immediate supervision of the Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs/Executive Director, Campus Auxiliary Services. The UIC Children's Center operates in-conjunction with the current UIC COVID response.

Center hours

Monday-Friday 7:30am -5:30pm

Access to the Children's Center

All access to the Center will be through the West door that leads directly to the Center's driveway.

Center access is limited to enrolled children and Center staff. Parents will be allowed inside the Center, not the classroom, only in an emergency or for preauthorized circumstances discussed with the Center administration.

During Phases 3 & 4, The UIC Children's Center will not host visitors, volunteers, or practicum students.

Daily Health Checks

All adults and children entering the Center, at any time, will receive a health check that includes a temperature screening and will be asked to verbally complete a wellness questionnaire prior to be granted access to the Center.

Face Coverings

UIC mandate that all persons coming to campus must wear a face covering.

DCFS guidance requires that all staff & children over the age of 2 wear a facemask while at the Center. Children will be required to wear their masks at drop-off/pick-up and encouraged to wear a facemask in the classroom as tolerable. Children will not wear a facemask during meals, naptime, or out on the playground.

Cleaning Procedures

The Children's Center will continue to be cleaned by UIC Facilities Management Building Service Workers (BSW).

Children's Center staff will follow a daily cleaning & disinfecting routine for classroom surfaces, toys, & high touch surfaces. Soap and water will be used to clean and a diluted Bleach solution will be used to disinfect. Disinfecting wipes will also be used to wipe down surfaces.

Classrooms

Classrooms will have a reduced number of children per classroom with designated staff for the day. There will be no mixing of groups throughout the day (including out on the playground).

Play materials that cannot be easily cleaned & disinfected have been removed (stuffed animals, pillows, dress up clothes). Activities will be planned to reduce the sharing of materials. Toys from home will not be allowed at this time.

Mealtimes

The UIC Children's Center will continue to provide snacks & lunch following the Child and Adult Care Food Program protocols. Family style lunch service & self-serve snacks have been suspended, eliminating the need to share serving utensils. At the time of meal service, a masked and gloved teacher will prepare each child's lunch and snack in the classroom.

At the time of enrollment, parents are asked to read [**The UIC Children's Center COVID-19 Guide for Parents**](#), an addendum to our parent handbook created to address specific policies and procedures related to the Coronavirus Pandemic.