
SENATE BILL 5993

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Tom and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 02/12/09. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to licensed child care; and amending RCW
2 43.215.205.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.215.205 and 2007 c 415 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Applications for licensure shall require, at a minimum, the
7 following information:

8 ~~((+1))~~ (a) The size and suitability of a facility and the plan of
9 operation for carrying out the purpose for which an applicant seeks a
10 license;

11 ~~((+2))~~ (b) The character, suitability, and competence of an agency
12 and other persons associated with an agency directly responsible for
13 the care of children;

14 ~~((+3))~~ (c) The number of qualified persons required to render the
15 type of care for which an agency seeks a license;

16 ~~((+4))~~ (d) The health, safety, cleanliness, and general adequacy
17 of the premises to provide for the comfort, care, and well-being of
18 children;

1 ~~((5))~~ (e) The provision of necessary care and early learning,
2 including food, supervision, and discipline; physical, mental, and
3 social well-being; and educational and recreational opportunities for
4 those served;

5 ~~((6))~~ (f) The financial ability of an agency to comply with
6 minimum requirements established under this chapter; and

7 ~~((7))~~ (g) The maintenance of records pertaining to the care of
8 children.

9 (2) The intent of the legislature is to improve the health, safety,
10 learning, and well-being of the child in Washington state licensed
11 child care by:

12 (a) Establishing preservice training and education requirements in
13 the child care industry for persons applying to be granted a child care
14 license in family home child care, center child care, and/or school age
15 program child care;

16 (b) Giving support and resources to the more than ten thousand
17 child care businesses in Washington state, many of which are
18 established without previous business experience;

19 (c) Establishing preservice training requirements for child care
20 center owners, child care center directors, school age program
21 directors, other program supervisors and/or managers, and licensed
22 family child care providers who will improve management and personnel
23 practices and enhance their chances of having a successful business
24 that provides a safe and positive environment for children;

25 (d) Having owners, directors, program managers, and program
26 supervisors who are highly trained in the provision of quality child
27 care and who improve the child care profession; and providing that
28 those with decision-making power have the highest of levels of training
29 and competency;

30 (e) Understanding that a statistically significant link exists
31 between a child's receipt of high quality care from adults, especially
32 in a child's early years, and avoidance of risk factors associated with
33 social and educational failure;

34 (f) Understanding that a statistically significant link exists
35 between a child's receipt of high quality care from adults and
36 avoidance of risk factors associated with injury, disability, and
37 death;

1 (g) Acknowledging and using important small business resources in
2 Washington state such as the small business administration, SCORE
3 counselors to America's small businesses chapters, and other small
4 business resources;

5 (h) Defining preservice training as completing and having
6 certification and/or documentation for the following requirements:

7 (i) Attending a six-hour orientation class given by the department,
8 including but not limited to training on the public disclosure law, on
9 the criminal history search and on the state's computer systems that
10 hold character, competence, and suitability data used by the department
11 to assess whether to approve applicants to be licensed or others
12 associated with the license to be in contact with and work with
13 children; and how applicants can access that information in order to
14 prepare their business plans;

15 (ii) Training on and completion of a business plan using the small
16 business association, SCORE counselors to America's small businesses
17 chapters, or other small business resources; requiring a letter of
18 confirmation that the business plan was completed at the time the
19 application is submitted to the department, but not making it a
20 requirement for the business plan to be submitted because it is an
21 assessment tool for the applicant to decide whether setting up a child
22 care business is feasible for them and/or their families (in the case
23 of home care);

24 (iii) Adult/child/infant CPR card;

25 (iv) Basic standard first aid card;

26 (v) Food handler's card;

27 (vi) HIV/AIDS training card;

28 (vii) Bloodborne pathogens training card;

29 (viii) Safety hazards identification in child care facilities
30 training;

31 (ix) Tuberculosis testing and clearance to work around children;

32 (x) Poison control training;

33 (xi) Sewage, water, lead, blind cords, water hazards, toxic
34 hazards, choking hazards, and soil safety training;

35 (xii) Fire safety and fire drill training;

36 (xiii) A class of a minimum of two hours in child abuse mandatory
37 reporting law;

38 (xiv) Nutritional training;

1 (xv) Review and study of chapter 43.215 RCW and chapters 170-295,
2 170-296, and 170-151 WAC; and

3 (xvi) Forty hours of early childhood education, with twenty of
4 those hours to interface with and join the following subject matter
5 together:

6 (A) Setting up the physical learning and play environments indoors
7 and outdoors at the facility;

8 (B) Learning and play materials for indoor and outdoor learning;

9 (C) Identification of the individual characteristics of children
10 from birth through twelve years old, including child development,
11 social/emotional development, intellectual development, and the
12 acquisition of meaningful and useful academic skills;

13 (D) Learning the newest early childhood education theories of
14 constructivist versus instructivist, and what that means for children
15 and those teaching children;

16 (E) Learning the history and concepts of how one learns to read;

17 (F) Guidance tools, knowledge, and techniques that are kind and
18 supportive within a comforting structure of routines, and play for
19 children in care from birth through age twelve years old; and

20 (G) Supervision of children and the reduction of injury in child
21 care settings training.

22 (i) Having applicants submit their names, addresses, phone numbers,
23 and if applicable, the web site of the trainers for the requirement in
24 (h)(xv) of this subsection, which will enable the state through
25 research means to track the quality of training that is given and make
26 changes as required to meet the goal of improving child care;

27 (j) Having owners, directors, program managers, and program
28 supervisors who are highly trained in the provision of quality child
29 care by completing (h)(i) thru (h)(xv) of this subsection will improve
30 the child care profession; that those with decision-making power have
31 the highest of levels of training and competency in order to train and
32 guide the staff they hire for their facilities;

33 (k) Having owners, directors, program managers, supervisors, and
34 family home child care providers complete preservice requirements prior
35 to issuance of the license;

36 (l) Having child care staff complete training requirements in
37 (h)(iii) through (h)(xv) of this subsection; that with child care
38 owners, directors, program managers, and supervisors having received

1 the training, their own on-site training can be started immediately
2 when new staff start; documentation will be kept on the training of
3 their staff;

4 (m) Owners, directors, managers, supervisors, and family home
5 providers having a checklist for new employees to fill out as to their
6 present level of training areas; and having a plan made to complete the
7 requirements in (h)(iii) through (h)(xv) of this subsection, but no
8 longer than three months from the start date; with training on
9 supervision, safety hazard identification, behavior guidance, and child
10 development characteristics that tie into behavior guidance be done in
11 the first week of employment; that the training on child guidance be
12 through role modeling by educated and experienced staff; and

13 (n) Having child care owners, directors, program managers,
14 supervisors, and caregiver staff conduct a yearly review of what
15 training made an improvement in the child care program and to identify
16 the areas that training is needed, which will then be reported back to
17 the department to further find resources or ideas to continue the
18 improvement of child care in Washington state.

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