170-15-0003 What is the purpose of the seasonal child care program?

170-15-0004 What are the SCC program staff and what responsibilities do they have?

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Title 170 WAC
EARLY LEARNING, DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING, DEPARTMENT OF
Chapter 170-12 WAC: Early Learning

7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0030, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0085.

What child care providers can I choose under the SCC program? [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0085, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0085, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0085.

When is my child care subsidy begins? [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0095, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0095, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0095.

7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0075, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0075.

When might I receive advance and adequate notice of changes in my SCC program subsidies? [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0145, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0145, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0145.

When can my SCC program subsidies be authorized? [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0100, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0010, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0010.

When can my eligibility and copayment information for the SCC program use when my child is five years old? [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0085, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0085, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0085.

What child care subsidy rates used by the SCC program in this chapter, effective? [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0100, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0100, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0100.

When are my eligibility and copayment information for the SCC program in this chapter is to outline the conditions and procedures under which state funds will be made available for Head Start programs. [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0115, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0115, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0115.

When my SCC program subsidies reauthorized and at what rates? [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0150, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0150, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0150.

7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0145, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0145.

When might a child care provider receive an overpayment? [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0160, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0155, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.] Decodified by 06-16-130, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. Recodified as WAC 170-292-0155.

Chapter 170-12 WAC

STATE FUNDING OF LOCAL HEAD START PROGRAMS

(Formerly chapter 365-40 WAC)

WAC

170-12-010 Purpose and authority.

170-12-020 Definitions.

170-12-041 Financial support application process.

170-12-051 Eligibility criteria.

170-12-071 Method of payment and reporting requirements.

WAC 170-12-010 Purpose and authority. (1) The purpose of this chapter is to outline the conditions and procedures under which state funds will be made available for Head Start programs.

(2) This activity is undertaken pursuant to RCW 43.06.110 and chapter 43.330 RCW.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-12-010, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.06.110 and 43.330.040 (2)(g), 97-21-005, § 365-40-010, filed 10/1/97, effective 11/1/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.63A.060. 85-13-006 (Order 85-03), § 365-40-010, filed 6/7/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.06.110 and chapter 43.63A RCW. 78-11-059 (Order 78-04), § 365-40-010, filed 10/25/78.]

WAC 170-12-020 Definitions. (1) "Applicant" means a public or private nonprofit organization which receives federal Head Start funds.

[Title 170 WAC—p. 2]
in accordance with the provisions of the applicable contract and these regulations.

(2) Reports to the department to assure that funds are being expended for purposes authorized in the approved contract are required in a format approved by the department.

(3) The contractor shall submit annually a current report of the audit of funds conducted by an independent auditor or office of state auditor in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Such audit may be that conducted for and provided to other funding sources. The audit report must identify state funds by contract number. Responses to any unresolved management findings and disallowed or questioned costs shall be included with the audit report.

Chapter 170-100 WAC EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (Formerly chapter 365-170 WAC)

WAC 170-100-010 Authority. These rules are adopted under the authority of chapter 28A.215 RCW.

WAC 170-100-020 Purpose. The early childhood education and assistance program (ECEAP) provides preschool education, family support, and health and nutrition services to low-income three- and four-year-old children to promote school success.

WAC 170-100-030 Definitions. (1) "Contractor" means a nonsectarian public or private organization that contracts with the department of community, trade, and economic development to provide local early childhood education and assistance services.
(2) "Department" means the department of community, trade and economic development.

(3) "Director" means the director of the department of community, trade and economic development.


**WAC 170-100-040 Process for allocating or awarding funds.** (1) Public or private nonsectarian organizations are eligible to apply for funding as early childhood education and assistance programs.

(2) Funds shall be awarded on a competitive basis or allocated by the department, consistent with the amount allocated by the legislature.

(3) An applicant must use the application procedures established by the department.

(4) Successful applicants will be awarded a contract with the department. This contract must be signed by an official with authority to bind the recipient.


**WAC 170-100-050 Use of funds.** (1) Contracting agencies must provide comprehensive early education and family support services free of charge to enrolled families.

(2) Early childhood education and assistance program funds must be used as dollars of last resort for medical, dental, nutrition, and mental health services.

(3) Administrative costs funded under this program are limited to fifteen percent of the total award.


**WAC 170-100-060 Comprehensive service delivery.**

(1) Contractors must conduct a community assessment, and must plan and deliver the following comprehensive services to enrolled children:

(a) Early childhood education;

(b) Family support;

(c) Parent involvement including options for participation in their child's classroom, program policy decisions, service delivery system development, and parent education and training; and

(d) Health screening, information, and referral, including medical, dental, nutrition, and mental health.

(2) Contractors must comply with the early childhood education and assistance program contract, performance standards, and policy memos in the delivery of all services.

(3) Contractors may request exceptions to rules, performance standards, or policies. Contractors must receive writ-ten approval from the department before implementing exceptions.

[06-18-085, recodified as § 170-100-060, filed 9/5/06, effective 9/5/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.215 RCW. 06-13-046, § 365-170-060, filed 6/16/06, effective 7/17/06.]

**WAC 170-100-070 Nondiscrimination.** Contractors must not deny service to, or discriminate against, any person who meets the eligibility criteria for the early childhood education and assistance program on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, age, national origin, citizenship, ancestry, physical or mental disability, family configuration, sexual orientation, culture, or public assistance recipient status.

[06-18-085, recodified as § 170-100-070, filed 9/5/06, effective 9/5/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.215 RCW. 06-13-046, § 365-170-070, filed 6/16/06, effective 7/17/06.]

**WAC 170-100-080 Eligibility for services.** (1) Contractors must recruit, document eligibility, and enroll children based on available funds. Enrolled children must not be participants in the federally funded head start program. Contractors must give priority to enrollment to children from families with the lowest incomes or to children from families with multiple needs.

(2) To be enrolled, children must meet the following age criteria.

(a) First priority for enrollment must be given to children who are four years old, but not yet five years old, by August 31 of the program year.

(b) Second priority may be given to children who are three years old by August 31 of the program year and meet other eligibility criteria.

(c) Contractors may not enroll children who are younger than three years old or older than five years old on August 31 of the program year.

(3) To be enrolled, children must meet either the following income or risk factor criteria:

(a) Family income. Children are eligible if their family income is at or below one hundred ten percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines established by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Contractors may choose which time period below best reflects the family's current financial circumstances:

(i) Previous calendar year before enrollment;

(ii) Twelve months before enrollment; or

(iii) Previous or current month, when annual family income has been documented and shows a significant recent decrease due to death, divorce, unexpected job loss, or similar circumstance.

(b) Risk factors. Up to ten percent of funded slots may be used for children from families who are not income eligible and are impacted by:

(i) Developmental factors, such as developmental delay or disability; or

(ii) Environmental factors, such as domestic violence, chemical dependency, child protective services involvement, or other factors affecting school success.


[Title 170 WAC—p. 4]
WAC 170-100-090 Staff qualifications.  (1) Contractors must provide adequate staff to comply with all ECEAP performance standards. Contractors must have written policies and procedures for recruitment and selection of staff, including procedures for advertising all position openings to the public.

(2) All persons serving in the role of lead teacher must meet one of the following qualifications:
   (a) An associate or higher degree with the equivalent of thirty college quarter credits of early childhood education. These thirty credits may be included in the degree or in addition to the degree; or
   (b) A valid Washington state teaching certificate with an endorsement in early childhood education (pre-K - grade 3) or early childhood special education.

(3) All persons serving in the role of assistant teacher must meet one of the following qualifications:
   (a) Employment as an early childhood education and assistance program assistant teacher in the same agency before July 1, 1999;
   (b) The equivalent of twelve college quarter credits in early childhood education; or
   (c) A Child Development Associate (CDA) credential awarded by the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition.

(4) All persons serving in the role of family support specialist must meet one of the following qualifications:
   (a) Employment as an early childhood education and assistance program family service worker in the same agency before July 1, 1999; or
   (b) An associate's or higher degree with the equivalent of thirty college quarter credits of adult education, human development, human services, family support, social work, early childhood education, child development, psychology, or another field directly related to their job responsibilities. These thirty credits may be included in the degree or in addition to the degree.

(5) All persons serving in the role of family support aide or health aide must meet one of the following qualifications:
   (a) Employment as an early childhood education and assistance program family support aide or health aide in the same agency before July 1, 1999; or
   (b) The equivalent of twelve college quarter credits in family support, public health, health education, nursing, or another field directly related to their job responsibilities.

(6) The early childhood education and assistance program health professional must meet one of the following qualifications:
   (a) Licensed in Washington state as a registered nurse; or
   (b) A bachelor's or higher degree in public health, nursing, health education, or related field.

(7) The early childhood education and assistance program dietitian must meet all of the following qualifications:
   (a) A bachelor's or higher degree in nutrition science, public health nutrition, dietetics, or other related field; and
   (b) Registered dietitian with the American Dietetic Association or certified as a dietitian under chapter 18.138 RCW.

(8) The early childhood education and assistance program mental health professional must meet one of the following qualifications:
   (a) Licensed by the Washington state department of health as a mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, social worker, psychologist, psychiatrist, or psychiatric nurse; or
   (b) Credentialed by the Washington state office of the superintendent of public instruction as a school counselor, social worker, or psychologist.

(9) Contractors may provisionally hire lead teachers, assistant teachers, family service workers, family service aides, or health aides who do not fully meet the qualifications for the position if all of the following conditions are met:
   (a) Contractors have attempted to recruit and hire fully qualified staff and are unable to because of a documented labor pool shortage;
   (b) Contractors are able to recruit a person competent to fulfill the role and implement all related performance standards; and
   (c) Contractors write a professional development plan describing how the provisional hire will obtain full qualifications within five years of appointment.

(10) Equivalent degrees and certificates from other states and countries are accepted for ECEAP staff qualifications.

WAC 170-151 WAC  
SCHOOL-AGE CHILD CARE CENTER MINIMUM LICENSING REQUIREMENTS  
(Formerly chapter 388-151 WAC)
"Licensee" means the person, organization, or legal entity named on the facility license and responsible for operating the center.

"Licensor" means the person employed by the department to regulate and license a school-age child care center.

"Premises" means the building where the center is located and the adjoining grounds over which the licensee has control.

"School-age child" means a child five years of age through twelve years of age enrolled in a public or private school.

"School-age child care center" means a program operating in a facility other than a private residence, accountable for school-age children when school is not in session. The program must meet department licensing requirements, provide adult-supervised care, and a variety of developmentally appropriate activities.

"Staff" means a person or persons employed by the licensee to provide child care and to supervise children served at the center.

"The Washington state training and registry system (STARS)" means the entity approved by the department to determine the classes, courses, and workshops licensees and staff may take to satisfy the department's training requirements. 

"We" or "our" refer to and mean the department of social and health services, including division of child care and early learning licensors.

WAC 170-151-020 Who needs to be licensed? (1) The person or organization operating a school-age child care center must receive a license from the department to provide school-age child care, in accordance with chapter 74.15 RCW.

(2) The department does not need to license the person or organization operating a school-age child care center if chapter 74.15 RCW exempts the person or organization from the licensing requirements. The person or organization claiming an exemption from the licensing requirements must provide the department proof of entitlement to the exemption at the licensor's request.

(3) You may use the following matrix to determine whether or not you are exempt from licensing:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child care</th>
<th>Recreational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The child care facility assumes responsibility for the child and his welfare.</td>
<td>Children are free to come and go as they choose.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children are signed in and can only be released to an authorized adult.</td>
<td>No responsibility is assumed in lieu of parent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A specific registration procedure and required forms must be completed.</td>
<td>No registration form or procedure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WAC 170-151-075 How do I get a waiver of the licensing requirements contained in this chapter? (1) In an individual case, the department, for good cause, may waive a specific requirement and approve an alternate method for you to achieve the specific requirement's intent if:

(a) You submit to the department a written waiver request fully explaining the circumstances necessitating the waiver; and

(b) The annual licensing fee. The fee is forty-eight dollars per year for the first twelve children plus four dollars for each additional child over the licensed capacity of twelve children.

(2) In addition to the required application materials specified under subsection (1) of this section, you must submit to the department:

(a) An employment and education resume of the person responsible for the active management of the center and of the site coordinator;

(b) Copies of diplomas or education transcripts of the director and site coordinator; and

(c) Three professional references each for you, the director, and the site coordinator.

(3) You, as the applicant for a license under this chapter must be twenty-one years of age or older.

(4) The department may, at any time, require additional information from you, any staff person, any volunteer, members of the household of any of these individuals, and other persons having access to the children in care. The additional information includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Sexual deviancy evaluations;

(b) Substance and alcohol abuse evaluations;

(c) Psychiatric evaluations;

(d) Psychological evaluations; and

(e) Medical evaluations.

(5) The department may perform investigations of you, staff persons, volunteers, members of the households of these individuals, and other persons having access to the children in care as the department deems necessary, including accessing criminal histories and law enforcement files.

(6) You must conform to rules and regulations approved or adopted by the:

(a) State department of health and relating to the health care of children at school-age child care centers;

(b) State fire marshal's office, establishing standards for fire prevention and protection of life and property from fire, under chapter 212-56A WAC.

(7) The department must not issue a license to you until the department of health and the state fire marshal's office have certified or inspected and approved the center.

(8) The department may exempt a school site possessing a fire safety certification signed by the local fire official within six months prior to licensure from the requirement to receive an additional fire safety inspection by the state fire marshal's office.

(9) You must submit a completed plan of deficiency correction, when required, to the department of health and the department licensor before the department will issue you a license.

(10) You, your director and site coordinator must attend department-provided orientation training.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-075, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW and relating to the health care of children at school-age child care centers; Chapter 212-56A WAC.

WAC 170-151-070 How do I apply or reapply for a license? (1) You must comply with the department's application procedures and submit to the department:

(a) A completed department-supplied application for school-age child care center license, including attachments, ninety or more days before the:

(i) Expiration of your current license;

(ii) Opening date of your center;

(iii) Relocation of your center; or

(iv) Change of the licensee.

(b) A completed criminal history and background inquiry form for each staff person or volunteer having unsupervised or regular access to the child in care; and

(c) The annual licensing fee. The fee is forty-eight dollars per year for the first twelve children plus four dollars for each additional child over the licensed capacity of twelve children.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-070, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW.

WAC 170-151-045 What is the basis for the department's issuance or denial of a license? The department must issue or deny a license on the basis of the applicant's compliance with school-age child care licensing requirements.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-045, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW.

WAC 170-151-040 What local ordinances and codes apply? The licensee or applicant for license must comply with city ordinances and county codes, including zoning and building regulations.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-040, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW.

WAC 170-151-075 Child care Must adhere to DSHS standards; has specific requirements regarding staff-child ratio and group size.

Specific DSHS requirements regarding policies and procedures are in a parent handbook.

There are specific program goals and activities; calendars of activities are posted and available.

(4) The person or organization that serves state-paid children must:

(a) Be licensed or certified;

(b) Follow billing policies and procedures in Child Care Subsidies, a brochure for providers, DSHS 22-877(X), and;

(c) Bill the department at the person's or organization's customary rate or the DSHS rate, whichever is less.

(2007 Ed.)
(b) The department decides the department's approval of the waiver approval will not jeopardize the safety or welfare of the child in care or detract from the quality of licensee-delivered services.

(2) The department may approve a waiver request only for a specific purpose or child and for a specific period of time not exceeding the expiration date of your license.

(3) The department may limit or restrict a license the department issues to you in conjunction with a waiver.

(4) You must maintain a copy of the department's written waiver approval on the premises.

(5) You may not appeal the department's denial of your request for waiver under chapter 34.05 RCW.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-075, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-075, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01.]  

WAC 170-151-080 How does the department determine my licensed capacity? (1) The department issues the applicant or licensee a license for a specific number of children depending on:

(a) The department's evaluation of your center's premises, equipment, and physical accommodations;
(b) The number and skills of you, your staff, and your volunteers; and
(c) The ages and characteristics of the children you serve.

(2) The department:
(a) Must not issue you a license to care for more children than this chapter permits; and
(b) May issue you a license to care for fewer children than your center's maximum capacity.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-080, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-080, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01.]

WAC 170-151-085 How do I get an initial license? (1) The department may issue an initial license to you if you are not currently licensed to provide child care when you:

(a) Can demonstrate compliance with the rules contained in this chapter pertaining to the health and safety of the child in care; but
(b) Cannot demonstrate compliance with the rules pertaining to:
   (i) Staff-child interactions,
   (ii) Group size and staff-child ratios,
   (iii) Behavior management and discipline,
   (iv) Activity programs,
   (v) Child records and information, and
   (vi) Other rules requiring department observation of the applicant's ability to comply with rules.

(c) Can provide a plan, acceptable to the department, to comply with rules found in subsection (1)(b) of this section.

(2) The department may issue an initial license to you for a period not to exceed six months, renewable for a period not to exceed two years.

(3) The department must evaluate your ability to comply with all rules contained in this chapter during the period of initial licensure prior to issuing a full license.

(4) The department may issue a full license to you if you demonstrate your compliance with all rules contained in this chapter at any time during the period of initial licensure.

(5) The department must not issue a full license to you if you do not demonstrate the ability to comply with all rules contained in this chapter during the period of initial licensure.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-085, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-085, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.030. 96-20-095, § 388-151-085, filed 10/1/96, effective 11/1/96.]

WAC 170-151-090 When can my license application be denied and when can my license be suspended or revoked? (1) We must deny your license application, or suspend or revoke your license if you do not meet the requirements outlined this chapter.

(2) If more than one person applies for a license or is licensed under this chapter to provide child care at the same facility, we will consider qualifications separately and together. We may deny your license application, or suspend or revoke your license if one person fails to meet the minimum licensing requirements.

(3) We must deny, suspend, or revoke your license if you:

(a) Have been found to have abused, neglected, or sexually exploited a child as defined in chapter 26.44 RCW and WAC 388-15-130;
(b) Have a disqualifying criminal history as listed in chapter 388-06 WAC;
(c) Have had a license denied, suspended, or revoked for the care of adults or children in this state or any other state. The exception: If you can demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that you have taken enough correction action or rehabilitation to justify the public trust and to operate the center according to the rules of this chapter, we may issue you a license;
(d) Commit or allow an illegal act on the licensed premises;
(e) Allow a child in your care to be abused, neglected, exploited, or treated with cruelty or indifference;
(f) Use illegal drugs, or use alcohol excessively;
(g) Refuse to permit an authorized representative of the department, state fire marshal, or state auditor's office to inspect the premises; or
(h) Refuse to permit an authorized representative of the department, state fire marshal, or state auditor's office access to records related to the center's operation or to interview staff or a child in care.

(4) We may deny, suspend, or revoke your license if you:

(a) Try to get a license by deceitful means, such as making false statements or leaving out important information on your application;
(b) Do not provide enough staff in relation to the numbers, ages, or characteristics of children in care;
(c) Allow a person who is not qualified by training, experience or temperament to care for or be in contact with a child in care;
(d) Fail to provide adequate supervision to a child in care;
(e) Are not able to exercise fiscal responsibility and accountability while operating the center;
WAC 170-151-092 Under what conditions does the department impose civil penalties against me? (1) Before imposing a civil penalty, the department must provide written notification to you by personal service, by the licensor or another person, or certified mail that includes:

(a) A description of the violation and citation of the applicable requirement or law;
(b) A statement of what you must do to achieve compliance;
(c) The date by which the department requires compliance;
(d) The maximum allowable penalty if you do not achieve timely compliance;
(e) The means to contact any technical assistance services provided by the department or others; and
(f) Notice of when, where, and to whom you may file a request with the department to extend the time to achieve compliance for good cause.

(2) The length of time you have to comply depends on:
(a) The seriousness of the violation;
(b) The potential threat to the health, safety and welfare of children in care; or
(c) Previous opportunities to correct the deficiency.

(3) The department may impose a civil penalty based on but not limited to these reasons:
(a) The department previously has imposed an enforcement action for the same or similar type of violation of the same statute or rule on your child care center; or
(b) The department has previously given your child care center notice of the same or similar type of violation of the same statute or rule; or
(c) The violation represents a potential threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of children in care.

(4) The department may impose a civil penalty in addition to or in conjunction with other disciplinary actions against a child care license including probation, suspension, or other action.

(5) You must pay the civil fine within twenty-eight days after receipt of the notice or later as specified by the department.

(6) The department may forgive the fine if the you come into compliance during the notification period.

(7) You, as the center or person against whom the department assesses a civil fine, have a right to an adjudicative proceeding under RCW 43.20A.215.

WAC 170-151-093 What is the amount of the civil penalty the department may impose? Whenever the department imposes a civil monetary penalty, the department must impose a penalty of two hundred and fifty dollars per violation per day. The department may assess and collect the penalty with interest for each day of noncompliance.

WAC 170-151-094 Must I post the department's notice of civil penalty? (1) You must post the final notice of a civil penalty in a conspicuous place in the facility.

(2) You must continue to post the notice until the department receives your payment.

WAC 170-151-095 May the department assess civil penalties on unlicensed programs? If the department receives information that a school-age program is operating without a license, the department will investigate. The department may contact the program, send a letter, or make an on-site visit to determine that the agency is operating without a license. Where the department has determined that an agency is operating without a license, the department must send written notification to the unlicensed program by certified mail or other means showing proof of service. This notification must contain the following:

(1) Notice to the agency of the basis for the department's determination that the agency is providing child care without a license and the need for the department to license the agency;

(2) The citation of the applicable law;

(3) The assessment of seventy-five dollars per day penalty for each day the agency provides unlicensed care. The department makes the fine effective and payable within thirty days of the agency's receipt of the notification;

(4) How to contact the office of child care policy;

(5) The unlicensed agency's need to submit an application to the office of child care policy within thirty days of receipt of the department's notification;

(6) That the department may forgive the penalty if the agency submits an application within thirty days of the notification; and

(7) The unlicensed agency's right to an adjudicative proceeding as a result of the assessment of a monetary penalty and the appropriate procedure for requesting an adjudicative proceeding.
WAC 170-151-096 May the department impose civil penalties for separate violations? Each violation of a law or rule constitutes a separate violation. The department may penalize each violation. The department may impose a penalty for each day the violation continues.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-096, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-096, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.030. 96-20-095, § 388-151-096, filed 10/1/96, effective 11/1/96.]

WAC 170-151-097 What if I do not pay the civil penalty? The department may suspend, revoke or not renew a license for failure to pay a civil monetary penalty the department has assessed within ten days after such assessment becomes final.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-097, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 34.05.395. 02-13-073, § 388-151-097, filed 6/14/02, effective 7/15/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-097, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.030. 96-20-095, § 388-151-097, filed 10/1/96, effective 11/1/96.]

WAC 170-151-098 Under what circumstances may the department issue a probationary license? (1) The department must base the decision to issue a probationary license on the following factors:

(a) Willful or negligent noncompliance by you,
(b) History of noncompliance,
(c) Extent of deviation from the requirements,
(d) Evidence of a good faith effort to comply,
(e) Any other factors relevant to the unique situation.

(2) Where the negligent or willful violation of the licensing law does not present an immediate threat to the health and well-being of the children but would be likely to do so if allowed to continue, the department may issue a probationary license in addition to civil penalties or other sanctions. Such situations may include:

(a) Substantiation that a child (or children) was abused or neglected while in the care of the center,
(b) Disapproved fire safety or sanitation report,
(c) Use of unauthorized space for child care,
(d) Inadequate supervision of children,
(e) Understaffing for the number of children in care,
(f) Noncompliance with requirements addressing:
   (i) Children's health,
   (ii) Proper nutrition,
   (iii) Discipline,
   (iv) Emergency medical plan,
   (v) Sanitation and personal hygiene practices.

(3) You must notify parents of all children in care or who may apply for care when the department issues a probationary license to you:

   (a) You must notify the parents or guardians of all children in care of the program's probationary status within five working days of receiving the department's notification that the department has issued a probationary license;
     (b) You must notify parents and guardians in writing, and the department must approve the notice before you send the notification;
   (c) You must provide documentation to the department that you have notified parents or guardians of all children in care within ten working days after you receive notification that the department has issued a probationary license. Documentation must consist of a copy of the letter you have sent to the parents;

   (d) The department may issue a probationary license for up to six months, and at the department's discretion, the department may extend the probationary license for an additional six months.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-098, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-098, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.030. 96-20-095, § 388-151-098, filed 10/1/96, effective 11/1/96.]

WAC 170-151-100 What must I include in the center's activity program? (1) You must implement an activity program designed to meet the developmental, cultural, and individual needs of the children you serve. You must ensure the program contains a range of learning experiences for the children to:

   (a) Gain self-esteem, self-awareness, conflict resolution, self-control, and decision-making abilities;
   (b) Develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, and physically;
   (c) Learn about nutrition, health, and personal safety;

   (d) Experiment, create, and explore.

(2) You must ensure the center's program offers variety and options including a balance between:

   (a) Child-initiated and staff-initiated activities;
   (b) Free choice and organized events;
   (c) Individual and group activities; and
   (d) Quiet and active experiences.

(3) You must ensure that the center's program provides the child daily opportunities for small and large muscle activities and outdoor play.

(4) You must operate the center's program under a regular schedule of activities with allowances for a variety of special events. You must implement a planned program of activities by using a current, written activity schedule that includes staff classroom planning time.

(5) You must manage child and staff movements from one planned activity or care area to another to achieve smooth, unregimented transitions by:

   (a) Establishing familiar routines;
   (b) Contributing to learning experiences; and
   (c) Maintaining staff-to-child ratio and group size guidelines.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-100, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-100, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW. 93-02-020 (Order 3493), § 388-151-100, filed 12/30/92, effective 1/30/93.]

WAC 170-151-110 What learning and play materials must I provide? You must provide the children in care a variety of easily accessible, developmentally appropriate equipment and materials of sufficient quantity to implement the center's program. You must ensure that materials are culturally relevant and promote:

   (1) Social development;
   (2) Communication ability;
   (3) Self-help skills;
   (4) Large and small muscle development; and

[Title 170 WAC—p. 10] (2007 Ed.)
WAC 170-151-120 How must my child care center staff interact with the children? (1) You must furnish the children a nurturing, respectful, supportive, and responsive environment through frequent interactions between the children and staff:

(a) Supporting the children in developing an understanding of self and others by assisting the children to share ideas, experiences, and feelings;
(b) Providing age-appropriate opportunities for growth and development of the children's social and communication skills, including encouraging the children to ask questions;
(c) Helping the children solve problems;
(d) Fostering creativity and independence in routine activities, including showing tolerance for mistakes; and
(e) Treating equally all children in care regardless of race, religion, culture, sex, and ability.

(2) You must furnish the children in care a pleasant and social atmosphere at meal and snack times. Your staff must provide good models for nutrition habits and social behavior.

WAC 170-151-130 How must I discipline the children and manage the children's behavior? (1) You must guide the children's behavior based on an understanding of the individual child's needs and stage of development. You must support the child's developmentally appropriate social behavior, self-control, and respect for the rights of others.

(2) You must ensure that your behavior management and discipline practices are fair, reasonable, consistent, and related to the child's behavior. Your staff must not administer cruel, unusual, hazardous, frightening, or humiliating discipline.

(3) You must be responsible for implementing the behavior management and discipline practices of the center.

(4) You must prohibit and prevent any person on the premises from:

(a) Biting, jerking, shaking, spanking, slapping, hitting, striking, or kicking the child, or exercising other means of inflicting physical or emotional pain, or causing bodily harm;
(b) The use of a physical restraint method injurious to the child;
(c) The use of a mechanical restraint, locked time-out room, or closet;
(d) The use of verbal abuse; or
(e) The withholding of food as a punishment.

(5) In emergency situations, you or your staff person may use limited physical restraint not injurious to the child when:

(a) Protecting a person on the premises from physical injury;
(b) Obtaining possession of a weapon or other dangerous object; or
(c) Protecting property from serious damage.

(6) You must document any incident involving the use of physical restraint and notify the child's parent of the use of the restraint.

WAC 170-151-150 What does the department require for evening and nighttime care? (1) For the center offering school-age child care during evening and nighttime hours, you must, in addition to meeting daytime regulations, adapt the program, equipment, and staffing pattern to meet the physical and emotional needs of the child away from home at night.

(2) You must maintain the same staff-to-child ratio in effect during daytime care. At all times, your staff must keep the child within continuous visual or auditory range.

WAC 170-151-160 What does the department require for off-site trips? (1) You may transport or permit the supervised off-site travel of children to participate in field trips or engage in other off-site activities only with written parental consent.

(2) The parent's consent may be:

(a) For a specific date and trip; or
(b) A blanket authorization describing the full range of trips the child may take. In such a case, you must notify the parent in advance about each trip.

(3) For group field trips, you must ensure that:

(a) Emergency information and medical treatment authorization for each child in the group accompanies the child;
(b) A first-aid kit is available;
(c) You maintain a written list of children participating; and
(d) You maintain required staff-child ratios.

(4) The driver must carry liability and medical insurance;

(3) The driver must have a current driver's license, valid for the classification of motor vehicle the driver operates, and current first-aid and CPR certification;

(4) You must ensure that a minimum of one staff person other than the driver is present in the motor vehicle, when necessary, to comply with the staff-to-child ratio requirement; and

[Title 170 WAC—p. 11]
(5) You must ensure that the number of passengers does not exceed the seat belt capacity of the motor vehicle.

(6) You do not need seat belts for buses approved by the Washington state patrol.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-165, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-165, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW. 93-02-020 (Order 3493), § 388-151-165, filed 12/30/92, effective 1/30/93.]

WAC 170-151-170 What does the department require for parent communication? (1) You must orally:

(a) Explain the center's policies and procedures to the parent;

(b) Orient the parent to the center's philosophy, program, and facilities;

(c) Communicate to the parent issues relating to the child's care and individual practices concerning the child's special needs; and

(d) Encourage parent participation in center activities.

(2) You must give the parent the following written policy and procedure information:

(a) Enrollment and admission requirements;

(b) The fee and payment plan;

(c) A typical activity schedule, including hours of operation;

(d) Meals and snacks served, including guidelines on food brought from the child's home;

(e) Signing in and signing out requirements;

(f) Child abuse reporting law requirements;

(g) Behavior management and discipline;

(h) Nondiscrimination statement;

(i) Religious activities, if any;

(j) Transportation and field trip arrangements;

(k) Policy on homework, study time, and space necessary to accommodate these activities;

(l) Practices concerning an ill child;

(m) Medication management;

(n) Medical emergencies;

(o) Statement that the parent has free access during hours of operation; and

(p) Written procedure for supervision of children during transitions.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-170, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-170, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW. 93-02-020 (Order 3493), § 388-151-170, filed 12/30/92, effective 1/30/93.]

WAC 170-151-180 What staff patterns and qualifications does the department require? (1) General qualifications. You, your staff, volunteers, and other persons associated with the operation of the center who have access to the child in care must:

(a) Be of good character;

(b) Demonstrate the understanding, ability, personality, emotional stability, and physical health suited to meet the cultural, emotional, mental, physical, and social needs of the children in care; and

(c) Not have committed or been convicted of child abuse or any crime involving harm to another person.

(2) Program director. You must serve as or employ a director responsible for the overall management of the center's facility and operation. The director must:

(a) Be twenty-one years of age or older;

(b) Serve as administrator of the center, ensuring compliance with licensing requirements;

(c) Have knowledge of development of school-age children as evidenced by professional references, education, experience, and on-the-job performance;

(d) Have the management and supervisory skills necessary for the proper administration of the center, including:

(i) Record maintenance;

(ii) Financial management; and

(iii) Maintenance of positive relationships with staff, children, parents, and the community.

(e) Employ, provide, or arrange for fulfillment of clerical, accounting, maintenance, transportation, and food service responsibilities so the child care staff is free to concentrate on program implementation and maintaining the required staff-to-child ratio;

(f) Have completed thirty or more college quarter credits or combination of one-third clock hours and two-thirds college credits, in early childhood education/child development, elementary education, social work, other child-related field, including but not limited to, art, music, dance, recreation, physical education, education, home economics, psychology, social services, child development associate (CDA), or nutrition;

(g) Have two or more years of successful experience working with school-age children as evidenced by professional references and on-the-job performance;

(h) Have planning, coordination, and supervisory skills to implement a high quality, developmentally appropriate program; and

(i) Have completed one of the following prior to or within the first six months of licensure or employment except as provided in subsection (2)(i) of this section:

(ii) Twenty clock hours or two college quarter credits of basic training. The Washington state training and registry system (STARS) must approve the training; or

(iii) Current CDA or equivalent credential or twelve or more college quarter credits in a child development associate (CDA), or

(iv) An associate of arts (AA) or associate of applied science (AAS) or higher college degree in early childhood education, child development, elementary education, special education, or recreation;

(v) An associate of arts (AA) or associate of applied science (AAS) or higher college degree in early childhood education/child development, school-age care, early childhood education, special education, or recreation;

(vi) An associate of arts (AA) or associate of applied science (AAS) or higher college degree in early childhood education/child development, school-age care, elementary education, special education, or recreation;

(3) Site coordinator. You may employ a site coordinator responsible for being on site with children, program planning and program implementation. The program director must provide regular supervision of the site coordinator.

(4) The same person may serve as the site coordinator and program director when qualified for both positions. The site coordinator must:

(a) Be twenty-one years of age or older;

(b) Have completed thirty or more college quarter credits or combination of one-third clock hours and two-thirds college credits in early childhood education/child development,
elementary education social work, other child-related field including, but not limited to, art, music, dance, relevant to school age children, recreation, physical education, education, music, art, psychology, social services, home economics, CDA, or nutrition;

- (c) Serve as staff supervisor;
- (d) Have demonstrated knowledge in:
  - (i) Behavior management skills specific to school-age children;
  - (ii) Program management skills; and
  - (iii) School-age child activity planning and coordinating skills.
- (e) Have a minimum of two years experience working with school-age children, or possess equivalent experience.
- (f) Have completed one of the following prior to or within the first six months of licensure or employment:
  - (i) Twenty clock hours or two college quarter credits of initial training. STARS must approve the training; or
  - (ii) Current CDA or twelve or more college quarter credits in child development, associate sequence;
  - (iii) Forty-five or more college quarter credits in early childhood education, child development, school-age care, elementary education, special education, or recreation; or
  - (iv) An associate of arts (AA) or associate of applied science (AAS) or higher college degree in early childhood education, child development, school-age care, elementary education, special education, or recreation.
- (5) The program director or site coordinator must normally be on the premises while children are in care. If temporarily absent from the center, the director and site coordinator must leave a competent, designated staff person in charge.
- (6) The director and site coordinator may also serve as child care staff when that role does not interfere with the director's or site coordinator's management and supervisory responsibilities.
- (7) Center staffing. You may employ a lead school-age child care staff person to be in charge of a child or a group of children. Lead school-age child care staff must:
  - (a) Be eighteen years of age or older;
  - (b) Possess a high school education or equivalent;
  - (c) Have school-age child development knowledge and experience; and
  - (d) Have the ability to implement the activity program.
- (8) You may use a child care assistant, volunteer, or trainee. The assistant, volunteer, or trainee must support staff. The school age child care assistant, volunteer, or trainee must:
  - (a) Be sixteen years of age or older; and
  - (b) Care for children only under direct supervision.
- (9) You must ensure that you and your program director or site coordinator assigns no person under eighteen years of age sole responsibility for a group of children. You, your program director, or your site coordinator may assign the assistant, eighteen years of age or older, sole responsibility for a child or group of children for a brief period of time.
- (10) You may count the assistant, volunteer, or trainee in the staff-to-child ratio when that person meets staff requirements.
- (11) The licensee may utilize youth volunteers fourteen to fifteen years of age. The youth volunteers:
  - (a) Must not be counted as staff at any time.

(b) Must not count in the staff-child ratio;
(c) Must meet all requirements in WAC 388-151-470(4); and
(d) Must be under the direct supervision of a lead staff person.

(12) The lead staff person must not supervise more than one youth volunteer at one time.

WAC 170-151-190 What group size and staff-child ratios must I maintain? (1) You must maintain, at minimum, a 1:15 staff-child ratio and a maximum group size of thirty or fewer children.

(2) You must conduct activities for each group in a specific classroom or other defined space within a larger area.

(3) You must ensure that a qualified staff person or team of staff supervises each group.

(4) The department may approve reasonable variations to group size limitations if you maintain required staff-to-child ratios, dependent on:

- (a) Staff qualifications;
- (b) Program structure; and
- (c) Usable space.

(5) You must provide appropriate supervision and keep the child from harm. The children must be in continuous visual or auditory range, except during transitions, including:

- (a) Moving from indoors to outdoors;
- (b) Moving from room to room; and
- (c) When the child uses the restroom.

(6) You must have a written plan to ensure the children's safety during transitions.

(7) When only one staff person is present, you must ensure that a second staff person is readily available in case of an emergency.

(8) You must ensure that each group of children is supervised by a staff person who has completed one of the following prior to or within the first six months of employment:

- (a) Twenty clock hours or two college quarter credits of initial training. Training must be approved by the Washington state training and registry system (STARS); or
- (b) Current child development associate (CDA) or equivalent credential or twelve or more college quarter credits in early childhood education, child development, school-age care, elementary education, special education, or recreation; or
- (c) An associate of arts (AA) or associate of applied science (AAS) or higher college degree in early childhood education, child development, school-age care, elementary education, special education, or recreation.

(9) You must conduct activities for each group in a specific classroom or other defined space within a larger area.

(10) You must ensure that a qualified staff person or team of staff supervises each group.

(11) The licensee may utilize youth volunteers fourteen to fifteen years of age. The youth volunteers:

- (a) Must not be counted as staff at any time.

(06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-180, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.030. 98-24-052, § 388-151-180, filed 11/25/98, effective 12/26/98. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW. 93-02-020 (Order 3493), § 388-151-180, filed 12/30/92, effective 1/30/93.)
WAC 170-151-200 What requirements must I meet for center staff development and training?  (1) You must have an orientation system making employees, volunteers, and trainees aware of program policies and practices. You must provide staff an orientation including, but not limited to:
(a) Licensing rules required under this chapter;
(b) Goals and philosophy of the center;
(c) Planned daily activities and routines;
(d) Age-appropriate child guidance and behavior management methods;
(e) Child abuse and neglect prevention, detection, and reporting policies and procedures;
(f) Special health and developmental needs of the individual child;
(g) Fire prevention and safety procedures; and
(h) Personnel policies.
(2) You must provide or arrange regular training opportunities for the child care staff to:
(a) Promote ongoing employee education;
(b) Enhance practice skills;
(c) Increase cultural awareness; and
(d) Accommodate special health and developmental needs of the individual child.
(3) You must conduct periodic staff meetings for planning and coordination purposes.
(4) You must ensure that:
(a) A staff person with basic, standard, current first-aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training, or department of health approved training is present at all times while the child is in care; and
(b) Staff's CPR training includes methods appropriate for school-age children in care.
(5) You must provide or arrange appropriate education and training for child care staff on the prevention and transmission of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS).
(6) You must ensure that the person preparing full meals for the center has a valid food handler permit.
(7) You must ensure that the director, site coordinator and, where the program serves more than one group of children, at least one staff person for every group of children, complete:
   (a) Ten clock hours or one college quarter credit of training annually, approved by Washington state registry and training system (STARS), beginning one year after licensure or employment in your licensed child care facility; and
   (b) For the director and the site coordinator, five of the ten hours of training must be in program management and administration.

WAC 170-151-210 What must my required health care plan contain?  (1) You must maintain current written health policies and procedures for staff orientation and use by staff, and for the parent.
(2) Your health care plan must include, but is not limited to, information about your center's procedures concerning:
(a) Communicable disease prevention, reporting, and management;
(b) Action taken for medical emergencies;
(c) First aid;
(d) Care of minor illnesses;
(e) Medication management;
(f) General hygiene practices;
(g) Hand washing practices; and
(h) Food and food services.
(3) You must use the services of an advisory physician, physician's assistant, or registered nurse to assist in the development and approval of the center's health care plan.

WAC 170-151-220 What steps must I take to address health supervision and infectious disease prevention?  (1) Before or on the child's first day of attendance, you must have on file a record of immunization status.
(2) Your staff must observe the child daily for signs of illness. You must care for or discharge to the child's home the ill child based on your policies concerning ill children.
(3) If a child becomes ill while in care:
   (a) You must furnish a separate care area with an appropriate rest surface and bedding, as needed; and
   (b) Your staff must sanitize equipment the child uses if staff suspects the child has a communicable disease.
(4) You may use the separate care room or area for other purposes when not needed for separation of the child.
(5) Your staff must ensure that the child washes hands:
   (a) Before the child eats;
   (b) Before the child participates in food activities; and
   (c) After the child's toileting.
(6) Your staff must follow your center's policies for cleaning and disinfecting the environment.
(7) You must have extra clothing available for circumstances arising during outdoor play.
(8) Your staff must ensure that the children do not share personal hygiene or grooming items.
(9) You must have on file, upon employment, for each center employee, volunteer, and other person having regular contact with the children in care results of a negative tuberculin (TB) skin test, by the Mantoux method, or results of a chest X ray. You need not require the TB test or chest X ray for an individual if, such a test is against medical advice. The department does not require periodic retesting.
(10) You must not permit a person with a reportable communicable disease to be on duty in the center or have contact with the child in care unless a health care provider approves the contact in writing.
(11) Staff must wash hands:
   (a) After personal toileting;
   (b) After attending to an ill child;
   (c) After nose blowing;
   (d) After smoking; and
   (e) Before serving or preparing food.
WAC 170-151-230 What requirements must I meet for medication management? You may have a policy of not giving medication to the child in care. If your center's health care plan includes giving medication to the child in care, you:

1. Must give medications, prescription and nonprescription, only on the written approval of a parent, person, or agency having authority by court order to approve medical care;

2. Must give prescription medications:
   a. Only as specified on the prescription label; or
   b. As authorized, in writing, by a physician or other person legally authorized to prescribe medication.

3. Must give the following classifications of nonprescription medications, with written parent authorization, only at the dose, duration, and method of administration specified on the manufacturer's label for the age or weight of the child needing the medication:
   a. Antihistamines;
   b. Nonaspirin fever reducers/pain relievers;
   c. Nonnarcotic cough suppressants;
   d. Decongestants;
   e. Anti-itching ointments or lotions, intended specifically to relieve itching;
   f. Diaper ointments and powders, intended specifically for use in the diaper area of the child; and
   g. Sun screen.

4. Must give other nonprescription medication:
   a. Not included in the categories listed in subsection (3) of this section; or
   b. Taken differently than indicated on the manufacturer's label; or
   c. Lacking labeled instructions, only when disbursement of the nonprescription medication is as required under subsection (4)(a), (b), and (c) of this section:
      i. Authorized, in writing, by a physician; or
      ii. Based on established medical policy approved, in writing, by a physician or other person legally authorized to prescribe medication.

5. Must accept from the child's parent, guardian, or responsible relative only medicine in the original container, labeled with:
   a. The child's first and last names;
   b. The date the prescription was filled; or
   c. The medication's expiration date; and
   d. Legible instructions for administration, such as manufacturer's instructions or prescription label.

6. Must keep medication, refrigerated or nonrefrigerated, in an orderly fashion and inaccessible to the child;

7. Must store external medication in a compartment separate from internal medication;

8. Must keep a record of medication disbursed;

9. Must return to the parent or other responsible party, or must dispose of medications no longer being taken; and

10. May, at your option, permit self-administration of medication by a child in care if:
    a. The child is physically and mentally capable of properly taking medication without assistance;
    b. You include in the child's file a parental or physician's written statement of the child's capacity to take medication without assistance; and
    c. You have stored the child's medications and other medical supplies so the medications and medical supplies are inaccessible to other children in care.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-230, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 34.05.395. 02-13-073, § 388-151-230, filed 6/14/02, effective 7/15/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-230, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01. Statutory Authority: Chapter 74.15 RCW. 93-02-020 (Order 3493), § 388-151-230, filed 12/30/92, effective 1/30/93.]

WAC 170-151-240 What nutrition requirements must I meet? (1) You must provide food meeting the nutritional needs of the children in care, taking into consideration each child's:

a. Age and development level;

b. Cultural background; and

c. Child's special health care needs, if any.

2. You must provide only pasteurized milk or pasteurized milk products.

3. You may serve school-age children powdered Grade A milk, provided you complete the dry milk mixture, service, and storage in a safe and sanitary manner.

4. You may furnish a child nutrient concentrates, nutrient supplements, a modified diet, or an allergy diet only with the written permission of the child's health care provider. The licensee must obtain from the parent or the child's health care provider a written list of foods the child must not consume.

5. You must:
   a. Record food and portion sizes planned and served; and
   b. Post menus showing two weeks or more of food variety before repeating menus.

6. You may make nutritional substitutions of comparable nutrient value to the menu.

7. You must use the following meal pattern to furnish food in age-appropriate servings to provide the child:
   a. Access to a breakfast, if the child arrives on the premises before 7:00 a.m.;
   b. A snack if the child is in care for one to three hours before or after school; and
   c. Food at intervals not less than two hours and not more than three and one-half hours apart.

8. You must furnish the child in care food that complies with the meal pattern of the United States Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program or the National School Lunch Program.

9. The children's snacks must include one or more dairy or protein source provided daily and must contain a minimum of two of the following four components at each snack:
   a. A dairy product;
   b. A protein food;
   c. Bread or bread alternate; or
   d. Fruit or vegetable or juice containing a minimum of fifty percent real juice.

10. You must have available food supplies to supplement food brought from the child's home that is deficient in meeting nutrition requirements.

[Title 170 WAC—p. 15]
WAC 170-151-250  What requirements must I meet for kitchen and food service?  (1) You must ensure the proper storage, preparation, and service of food to meet program needs.

(2) You must meet food service standards by ensuring that:

(a) The staff person preparing full meals has a valid food handler permit;

(b) The staff person preparing and serving meals washes hands before handling food;

(c) Hand-washing facilities are located in or adjacent to food preparation areas;

(d) Your program stores food in a sanitary manner; especially milk, shell-fish, meat, poultry, eggs, and other protein food sources;

(e) Your program stores food requiring refrigeration at a temperature no warmer than forty-five degrees Fahrenheit;

(f) Your program stores frozen food at a maximum temperature of zero degrees Fahrenheit;

(g) You have equipped your refrigerators and freezers with thermometers and that your staff regularly cleans and defrosts your facility's refrigerators and freezers;

(h) Your staff cooks food to correct temperatures;

(i) Your staff washes raw food thoroughly with clean running water;

(j) Your staff rapidly cools and refrigerates cooked food to be stored after preparation;

(k) Your program keeps food in original containers or in clean, labeled containers and stores the food off the floor;

(l) Your staff discards packaged, canned, and bottled food with a past expiration date;

(m) Your staff discards food in dented cans or torn packages; and

(n) You notify parents when your program serves food containing sulfiting agents.

(3) Children in care may participate in food preparation as an education activity when:

(a) You make kitchen equipment inaccessible to the children, except during planned and supervised kitchen activities; and

(b) Your staff supervises food preparation activities.

(4) You must install and maintain kitchen equipment and clean reusable utensils in a safe and sanitary manner by:

(a) Sanitizing reusable utensils in a dishwasher or through use of a three-compartment dishwashing procedure; and

(b) Using only single-use clean cloths, solely, for wiping food service, preparation, and eating surfaces.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-250, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06.  
Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-250, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01.  
Statutory Authority:  Chapter 74.15 RCW.  Chapter 43.21C RCW. 93-02-020 (Order 3493), § 388-151-250, filed 12/30/92, effective 1/30/93.]

WAC 170-151-260  What requirements must I meet for drinking and eating equipment?  You must:

(1) Provide children with single-use cups, individual drinking cups or glasses, or inclined jet-type drinking fountains;

(2) Prohibit your child care center from using bubbler-type drinking fountains and common drinking cups or glasses; and

(3) Provide the children with durable eating utensils appropriate in size and shape for the children in care.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-260, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06.  
Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-260, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01.  
Statutory Authority:  Chapter 74.15 RCW. 93-02-020 (Order 3493), § 388-151-260, filed 12/30/92, effective 1/30/93.]

WAC 170-151-280  What general safety, maintenance, and site requirements must I meet?  You must:

(1) Operate the center:

(a) On an environmentally safe site;

(b) In a neighborhood free from conditions detrimental to the children's welfare; and

(c) In a location accessible to health and emergency service.

(2) Ensure that you maintain indoor and outdoor premises in a safe and sanitary condition, free of hazards, and in good repair;

(3) Ensure that furniture and equipment are safe, stable, durable, and age-appropriate;

(4) Maintain a flashlight or other emergency lighting device in working condition;

(5) Finish or cover rough or untreated wood surfaces;

(6) Maintain one or more telephones in working order, readily accessible to staff and children;

(7) Supply bathrooms and other rooms subject to moisture with washable, moisture-impervious flooring;

(8) Ensure staff can gain rapid access in an emergency to a bathroom or other room children may occupy;

(9) Shield light bulbs and tubes in child-accessible areas;

(10) Keep the premises free from rodents, fleas, cockroaches, and other insects and pests;

(11) Ensure no firearm or other weapon is on the premises;

(12) Maintain adequate storage space for play and teaching equipment, supplies, records, and children's possessions and clothing;

(13) Safely store or make inaccessible to the children cleaning supplies, toxic substances, paint, poisons, aerosol containers, and items bearing warning labels;

(14) Label a container filled from a stock supply to identify contents;

(15) Comply with fire safety regulations adopted by the state fire marshal's office.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-151-280, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06.  
Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.15.020. 01-02-031, § 388-151-280, filed 12/22/00, effective 1/22/01.  
Statutory Authority:  Chapter 74.15 RCW. 93-02-020 (Order 3493), § 388-151-280, filed 12/30/92, effective 1/30/93.]

WAC 170-151-290  What must I do to ensure water safety in my facility?  (1) You must maintain the following water safety precautions when the children in your care use an on-premises swimming pool, wading pool, or natural body of water, or enter the water on a field trip by ensuring:

[Title 170 WAC—p. 16]
(a) The on-premises pool or natural body of water is inaccessible to the children when not in use;
(b) During the children's use of a wading pool, an adult with current CPR training supervises the child at all times; and
(c) During the children's use of a swimming pool or natural body of water, a certified lifeguard is present at all times, in addition to required staff.

(2) You must, on a daily basis, empty and clean portable wading pools, when in use.

(3) You may permit the children to use or access a hot tub, spa tank, or whirlpool only under direct supervision and with written parental permission.

WAC 170-151-310 What first-aid supplies must I have available in my child care center? (1) You must maintain on the premises adequate first-aid supplies conforming with your center's first-aid policies and procedures.

(2) Your first-aid supplies must include unexpired syrup of ipecac. Your staff may administer syrup of ipecac only on the advice of a physician or the poison control center.

WAC 170-151-320 What requirements must I meet for an outdoor play area? You must:

(1) Provide a safe and equipped outdoor play area of sufficient size to meet the needs of the children in care. The play area must:
(a) Be reachable by a safe route and method;
(b) Promote the children's active play, physical development, and coordination;
(c) Be free of any dangerous condition and provide safe child entry and exit; and
(d) Be adaptable to the child or children with special needs.

(2) You must ensure that the center's activity schedule affords the child sufficient daily time to participate actively in outdoor play.

(3) The licensor may accept the playground that is on public school property and has been inspected by the school district or state or local health departments.

WAC 170-151-330 What requirements must I meet for indoor space? (1) Your school-age child care center must have adequate, usable space indoors to ensure that children are not crowded. You must provide a minimum of thirty-five square feet per child of usable space.

(2) Your facility must have an identifiable space of its own during hours of operation, which may include moveable furnishings and equipment.

(3) You must arrange indoor space to encourage a variety of developmentally appropriate activities including:
(a) Interest areas for focused activities;
(b) Open areas for large motor activities;
(c) Areas where children can work individually, in small groups, and in large groups; and
(d) Private spaces where children can rest, play, and work alone or with a friend.

WAC 170-151-340 What are the department's requirements for toilets and handwashing sinks? (1) You must supply handwashing sinks and toilets for the children equal to, at minimum, the number the state or local building code requires. You must meet the following minimum ratios:
(a) For toilets: 1:100 for boys and 1:35 for girls,
(b) For urinals: 1:30.

(2) You must supply the children with warm, running water for handwashing at a temperature range no less than eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit and no more than one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit.

(3) You must locate the children's handwashing facilities in or adjacent to rooms used for toileting.

(4) You must provide toileting privacy for the children.

(5) You must ensure that rooms used for toileting are ventilated to the outdoors.

(6) You must provide the children with soap and individual towels or other appropriate devices for washing and drying the children's hands and faces.

WAC 170-151-380 What kind of program atmosphere must I provide? You must:

(1) Provide a cheerful environment for the children by placing visually stimulating decorations, pictures, or other attractive materials at appropriate heights for the children in care;

(2) Maintain a safe and developmentally appropriate noise level;

(3) Locate fixtures and provide lighting intensities promoting visibility and comfort for the children in care;

(4) Maintain the temperature within the center at sixty-eight degrees Fahrenheit or more; and

(5) Regulate the temperature and ventilate the center for the health and comfort of the children in care.

WAC 170-151-390 What requirements must I meet regarding nondiscrimination? (1) You must comply with federal and state regulatory and statutory requirements, defined under chapter 49.60 RCW, regarding nondiscrimination in employment practices and client services.
WAC 170-151-410 What special requirements regarding American Indian children must I meet? When five percent or more of your center's child enrollment consists of Indian children, you must, in consultation with the parent, establish a plan to provide social service resources and staff training programs designed to meet the social and cultural needs of such children. You may coordinate with tribal, Indian health service, and Bureau of Indian Affairs social service staff and appropriate urban Indian and Alaskan native consultants.

WAC 170-151-420 What are my responsibilities regarding child abuse, neglect, and exploitation? You and your staff must protect the children in care from child abuse, neglect, or exploitation, as required under chapter 26.44 RCW. If you or your staff have reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect, you or your staff must report the alleged incident to law enforcement or the department's protective services (CPS) section in accordance with RCW 26.44.030.

WAC 170-151-430 What requirements does the department have regarding prohibited substances and tobacco products? (1) During operating hours or when children are in care, you, your staff, and volunteers on your center premises or caring for the children off-site must not be under the influence of, consume, or possess an:
   (a) Alcoholic beverage; or
   (b) Illegal drug.
(2) You must prohibit smoking in the center and in motor vehicles when you, your staff, or volunteers transport children. You may permit on-premises smoking only outdoors, away from the building, when the children are not present.

WAC 170-151-440 What are the department's limitations regarding persons on premises? (1) During center operating hours or while children are in care, only you, your employees, and your volunteers, or an authorized representative of a governmental agency, school district, or an approved adult related to the child in care may have unsupervised access to the children in care.
(2) You must allow the parent of a child in care unsupervised access only to the parent's own child.

WAC 170-151-450 What child records and information must I maintain? You must maintain, on the premises, organized and confidential records and information concerning each child in care. You must ensure each child's record contains, at a minimum:
(1) Registration data:
   (a) Name, birth date, dates of enrollment and termination, and other identifying information;
   (b) Name, address, and home and business telephone numbers of the parent and other person for you to contact in case of emergency; and
   (c) A completed enrollment application signed by the parent, guardian, or responsible relative.
(2) Authorizations:
   (a) Name, address, and telephone number of any other person authorized to remove the child in care from the center;
   (b) Written parental consent for transportation provided by the center, including field trips and swimming, when the child participates in these activities. A parent-signed blanket consent form may authorize the child's off-site travel; and
   (c) Written parental consent, or court order, for providing medical care and emergency surgery, except for such care authorized by law.
(3) Medical and health data:
   (a) Date and kind of illness or injury occurring on the premises including the treatment given by your staff;
   (b) Medication given by your staff indicating dosage, date, time, and name of dispensing staff person; and
   (c) A health history obtained when you or your staff enrolls the child for care. The history includes:
      (i) The date of the child's last physical examination;
      (ii) Allergies;
      (iii) Special health or developmental problems and other pertinent health information;
      (iv) Name, address, and telephone number of child's health care provider or facility; and
      (v) A record of immunization status.

WAC 170-151-460 What program records must I maintain? You must maintain the following documentation on the premises:
(1) The daily attendance record:
   (a) The parent, or other person authorized by the parent to take the child to or from the center, must sign in the child on arrival and must sign out the child at departure, using a full, legal signature;
   (b) When the child leaves the center to attend school or other off-site activity as authorized by the parent, your staff person must sign out the child and sign in the child on return to the center; and
   (c) Signed agreements between a program director and a parent where school-age child is allowed to leave the center on his own, must be verified by signature and dated by the
School-Age Child Care  

WAC 170-151-470 What personnel policies and records must I develop and maintain? (1) Each employee and volunteer having unsupervised or regular access to the child in care must complete and submit to you or your director by the date of hire:

(a) An application for employment on a department-prescribed form or its equivalent; and

(b) A criminal history and background inquiry form:
   (i) You must submit this form to the department for each employee and volunteer, within seven calendar days of the employee's first day of employment so that the department may complete a criminal and background history check; and
   (ii) The department must discuss the inquiry information with you or your director, when applicable.

(c) A Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) check, for you or any employee, or volunteer, if you, the employee, or volunteer has lived in the state for less than three years.

(2) Each employee serving as a program director, site coordinator, or staff person required to complete training under WAC 388-151-190(8) must complete and submit a Washington state training and registry system (STARS) profile form to you or your director by the date of hire. You must submit this form to STARS within seven calendar days of the employee's first day of employment, so that the department may track the employee's compliance with training requirements.

(3) You must have written personnel policies describing staff benefits, if any, duties, qualifications, grievance procedures, pay dates, and nondiscrimination policies.

(4) You must maintain on the premises a personnel record keeping system, including a file for you and each staff person and volunteer containing:

(a) An employment application including work and education history;

(b) Documentation of criminal history and background inquiry form submission, or FBI fingerprint check, if applicable;

(c) A record of Mantoux method tuberculin skin test results, X ray, or an exemption to the skin test or X ray;

(d) Documentation on HIV/AIDS education and training;

(e) A record of participation in staff development training;

(f) Documentation of orientation program completion;

(g) Documentation of a valid food handler permit, when applicable;

(h) Documentation of current first-aid and CPR training, when applicable; and

(i) Documentation of basic and annual training required under WAC 388-151-180 (2)(i) and (4)(f), 388-151-190(8) and 388-151-200(7).

WAC 170-151-480 What requirements must I meet for reporting of death, injury, illness, epidemic, or child abuse? You or your staff must report immediately:

(1) A death, serious injury requiring medical treatment, or illness requiring hospitalization of a child in care, by telephone and in writing, to the child's parent and the department;

(2) An instance when you or your staff has reason to suspect the occurrence of physical, sexual, or emotional child abuse, child neglect, or child exploitation as required under chapter 26.44 RCW, by telephone, to child protective services or local law enforcement; and

(3) An occurrence of food poisoning or communicable disease, as required by the state board of health, by telephone, to the local public health department.

WAC 170-151-490 Under what circumstances must I report circumstantial changes to the department? A school-age child care center license is valid only for the address, person, and organization named on the license. You must promptly report to the department a major change affecting your center's classification, delivery of safe, developmentally appropriate services, or continued eligibility for licensure. A major change includes the:

(1) Center's address, location, space, or phone number;

(2) Maximum number and ages of children served as compared to current license specifications;

(3) Change of ownership, chief executive officer, licensee, director, or site coordinator;

(4) Name of the licensed corporation or name by which the center is commonly known or changes in the center's articles of incorporation and bylaws;

(5) Occurrence of a fire, major structural change, or damage to the premises; and

(6) Plans for major remodeling of the center including planned use of space not previously department-approved.

(2007 Ed.)
WAC 170-151-500  What informational items must I post in my center? (1) You must post the following items, clearly visible to the parents of children in care and your staff:
   (a) The center's child care license issued under this chapter;
   (b) A list of all staff names;
   (c) A typical activity schedule including operating hours;
   (d) Food menus;
   (e) Evacuation plans and procedures including a diagram of exiting routes; and
   (f) Emergency telephone numbers, including 911 and local law enforcement, highlighted and posted by the telephone with the center's address.

   (2) For your staff, you must post:
   (a) Dietary restrictions for particular children; and
   (b) Handwashing practices.

WAC 170-151-991  Waiver of fees. Any person or agency subject to license fees under chapter 440-44 WAC, and organizations in the person's or agency's behalf, may submit a sworn, notarized petition seeking waiver of fees for a licensee or distinguishable class of licensee.

   The petition shall be mailed or delivered to the office of the secretary. Following receipt of the petition, the secretary may require submission of additional information considered relevant.

WAC 170-151-992  Fee payment and refunds. (1) Fees are due with applications for initial license or renewal. The department will not proceed on applications until required fees are paid.

   Except as otherwise provided in these rules, fees shall be paid for a minimum of one year.

   (2) Fees for licenses issued for other than yearly periods shall be prorated based on the stated annual fee.

   (3) When the department issues a license for more than one year:
      (a) Fees may be paid for the entire licensing period by paying at the rate established at the time the application was submitted, or
      (b) If the licensee does not pay the fee for the entire license period, annual fees shall be due thirty days prior to each annual anniversary date of the license, at the annual fee rate established by these rules at the time such fee is paid.

   (4) Except as otherwise provided in these rules, if an application is withdrawn prior to issuance or denial, one-half of the fee shall be refunded.

   (5) If there is a change of or by the licensee requiring a new license, the fee paid for a period beyond the next license anniversary date shall be refunded. Changes requiring a new license shall require a new application and payment of fee as provided herein.

   (6) If there is a change by the applicant or licensee that requires an amendment placing the licensee in a higher fee category, the additional fee shall be prorated for the remainder of the license period.

   (7) Fees becoming due on or after the effective date of this chapter shall be at the rates provided herein.

   (8) To the extent fees are reduced through regular rule adoption of this chapter on or before December 31, 1982, fees shall be refunded.

   (9) Fee payments shall be by mail. Payment shall be by check, draft, or money order made payable to the department of social and health services.

WAC 170-151-993  Denial, revocation, suspension, and reinstatement. (1) If a license is denied, revoked, or suspended, fees shall not be refunded.

   (2) Application for license after denial or revocation must include fees as provided for in these rules.

   (3) Failure to pay fees when due will result in suspension or denial of license.

Chapter 170-292 WAC
SEASONAL CHILD CARE PROGRAM
(Formerly chapter 170-15 WAC)

WAC

INTRODUCTION

170-292-0001  Introduction.

PURPOSE

170-292-0003  What is the purpose of the seasonal child care program?

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

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170-292-0025  What additional criteria does my family need to meet to be eligible for SCC program subsidies?

170-292-0030  When might my ongoing eligibility for SCC subsidies stop, and when might I be eligible again?

INCOME AND COPAYMENT CALCULATIONS

170-292-0035  What income is counted when determining eligibility and copayment for the SCC program?

170-292-0040  How is my family's average monthly income calculated for the SCC program?

170-292-0045  What is not counted, or is deducted, when figuring income eligibility for the SCC program?

170-292-0050  How is my family's income eligibility and copayment amount determined for the SCC program?

170-292-0055  When might my SCC program copayment change?
INTRODUCTION

WAC 170-292-0001  Introduction. The seasonal child care program helps eligible families who are seasonally employed in agriculturally related work to access licensed, culturally and developmentally appropriate child care. Families access this child care subsidy program through contracted community agencies. To be eligible, families must meet income and program guidelines and must not be currently receiving temporary assistance to needy families (TANF). The seasonal child care program prioritizes services for families who are not eligible for working connections child care.

PURPOSE

WAC 170-292-0003  What is the purpose of the seasonal child care program? The purpose of the seasonal child care (SCC) program is to protect children, whose eligible parents are involved in an approved activity, from potential harm due to:

1. Agricultural work hazards; or
2. Lack of appropriate supervision.

WAC 170-292-0005  Am I eligible for the SCC program? You may be eligible for the SCC program, if you are not currently receiving temporary aid for needy families (TANF) and:

1. You have parental control of one or more children, and you are the child's:
   a. Parent;
   b. Step-parent;
   c. Guardian;
   d. Adult sibling or step sibling;
   e. Aunt;
   f. Uncle;
   g. Niece or nephew;
   h. Grandparent; or
   i. Any of the above relatives with the prefix "great," such as great aunt.
2. Your family is described under WAC 388-292-0010;
3. You are participating in an approved activity as defined in WAC 388-292-0020;
4. You and your children are eligible under WAC 388-292-0015;
5. Your countable income as calculated in WAC 388-292-0050 is at or below the federal poverty level (FPL) described in WAC 388-290-0065; and
6. Your share of the cost of child care, called a copayment (under WAC 388-290-0075(3)) is lower than the total DSHS maximum monthly payment for all children in the family who are eligible for SCC subsidized care.

WAC 170-292-0010  How is my family size defined for SCC program eligibility purposes? For SCC program eligibility purposes, your family size is defined by reviewing the individuals who live together in the same household as follows:
WAC 170-292-0015 Are there special circumstances when I might be eligible for the SCC program? You might be eligible for the SCC program if you are part of a two-parent family and one parent is not able or available to provide care for your children while the other is working or traveling to and from work.

(1) "Able" means without a verifiable physical or mental disability that prevents you from caring for your child in a responsible manner.

(2) "Available" means not participating in an approved work activity under WAC 388-292-0020.

WAC 170-292-0020 What activities must I be involved in to be eligible for the SCC program? You may be eligible for SCC program subsidies for up to sixteen hours per day for the time you are involved in:

(1) Active employment in seasonally available agricultural related work (in a two parent family, both parents must be so employed) in Washington state or in a bordering state within forty miles of the Washington state border;

(a) The agriculturally related work must be one of the following:

(i) Seasonally available labor directly related to the cultivation, production, or processing of crops;

(ii) Seasonally available labor directly related to the cultivation or harvesting of fruit trees.

(b) "Seasonally available labor" means labor that depends upon, and is available only during, a specific season that is identified with certain activities or crops, and occurs only during a portion of the calendar year.

(2) Travel time between the child care location and the work site only;

(3) Job search, of no more than five days, if your seasonally available agricultural job ends and you are still eligible and continue to need child care; or

(4) Sleep time, up to eight hours per day when needed, if you work nights and sleep days.

WAC 170-292-0025 What additional criteria does my family need to meet to be eligible for SCC program subsidies? Additional eligibility criteria for SCC program subsidies requires that your family:

(1) Live in Washington state;

(2) Not be receiving TANF;

(3) Have a child age twelve or younger, or a child with verified special needs age eighteen or younger;

(4) Have a primary wage earner who was employed in seasonally available agricultural related work for eleven months or less with any one employer in the previous twelve months; and

(5) Fifty percent or more of a family’s earned income for the previous twelve months is derived from seasonally available agricultural work as defined in WAC 388-292-0020.
(b) Are found at your review to no longer meet eligibility criteria;
  (c) Do not complete the requested review information before the deadline noted in WAC 388-292-0140; or
  (d) Do not pay the copayment fees to your child care provider or do not make mutually acceptable arrangements with your child care provider for their payment.
  (e) Refuse to cooperate with investigations conducted by quality assurance staff or the division of fraud investigations.
  (2) You might be eligible for SCC program subsidies again when:
    (a) You meet all SCC program eligibility requirements; and
    (b) Copayment fees are paid to your child care provider or mutually acceptable arrangements for their payment are made with your child care provider.
    (c) Cooperate with investigations conducted by quality assurance or division of fraud.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0030, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0030, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0030, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statute 06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0035, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0035, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0035, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

**INCOME AND COPAYMENT CALCULATIONS**

### WAC 170-292-0035 What income is counted when determining eligibility and copayment for the SCC program? To determine income eligibility and copayment for the SCC program, the following income is counted:

1. Wages and commissions earned from employment;
2. Unemployment compensation;
3. A TANF or other welfare grant;
4. Child support payments received;
5. Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
6. Other Social Security payments, such as SSA and SSDI;
7. Refugee assistance payments;
8. Payments from the Veterans’ Administration;
9. Pensions or retirement income;
10. Payments from labor and industries (L&I), or disability payments;
11. Inheritance;
12. Reportable gambling winnings; and
13. Other types of income not listed in WAC 388-292-0045.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0035, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0035, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0035, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

### WAC 170-292-0040 How is my family's average monthly income calculated for the SCC program? For the SCC program, your average monthly income is calculated by totaling all income earned in the past twelve months, as listed in WAC 388-292-0035, and dividing by twelve.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0040, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0040, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0040, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

### WAC 170-292-0045 What is not counted, or is deducted, when figuring income eligibility for the SCC program? (1) For the SCC program the following is not counted when figuring income eligibility and copayment:

1. Savings accounts;
2. Money received from sale of personal property such as a house or car;
3. Tax refunds;
4. Earned income credits;
5. One-time insurance settlement payments;
6. Capital gains;
7. Basic Food program;
8. Income earned by children as described in WAC 388-292-0010(2).

(2) For the SCC program the amount you pay for child support is deducted from your countable income.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0045, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0045, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0045, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

**WAC 170-292-0050 How is my family's income eligibility and copayment amount determined for the SCC program?** For the SCC program, your family's income eligibility and copayment is determined by:

1. Your family size as defined under WAC 388-292-0010;
2. Your average monthly income as calculated under WAC 388-292-0040;
3. Your family's average monthly income as compared to the federal poverty level (FPL); and
4. Your family's average monthly income as compared to the copay chart defined in WAC 388-290-0075(3).

(5) If your family's income is above the FPL as defined in WAC 388-290-0075(3), your family is not eligible for the SCC program.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0050, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0050, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0050, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

**WAC 170-292-0055 When might my SCC program copayment change?** Your SCC program copayment could change when:

1. Your family size increases or decreases; or
2. You are reauthorized for the SCC program and your new average monthly income places you in a different copayment category.
3. There is a mass change in subsidy benefits due to a change in law or program funding.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0055, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0055, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0055, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

**RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**WAC 170-292-0060 What rights do I have when I apply for or receive SCC program subsidies?** When you apply for or receive SCC program subsidies, you have the right to:

1. Be treated politely and fairly - without regard to race, color, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, creed, politi-
WAC 170-292-0075 Who are the SCC program staff and what responsibilities do they have? The SCC program staff work for community agencies who contract with DSHS to perform SCC program authorizations. They are responsible to:

(1) Authorize SCC program subsidies for your children based on eligibility criteria established by DSHS, as defined in this chapter;

(2) Ask if you have received, or are currently receiving, child care services from another subsidy program; and if you have, receive a copy of your termination letter from that program;

(3) Ask if you have applied, and been denied, for working connections child care; and if you have, verify your denial from that program;

(4) Complete intake documents in your presence, based on information you provide;

(5) Authorize payments only to a child care provider of your choice who meets the requirements in WAC 388-292-0085 and who allows you to see your children whenever they are in care;

(6) Authorize payments only when no adult in your family is "able or available" to care for your children as defined in WAC 388-292-0015;

(7) Give you an SCC program approved child care plan in order to enroll your children in licensed or certified child care;

(8) Inform you of:

(a) Your copayment amount as determined in WAC 388-292-0050 and defined in WAC 388-290-0075(3);

(b) Your rights and responsibilities under the SCC program when you apply or reapply;

(c) The types of child care providers the SCC program can pay;

(d) The community resources that can help you select child care when needed;

(e) Other options for child care subsidies, if you do not qualify for SCC program subsidies; and

(f) Your rights to a fair hearing under the SCC program;

(9) Respond to you within ten days if you report a change of circumstance that affects your SCC program eligibility or subsidies; and

(10) Authorize child care payments promptly.

WAC 170-292-0075 Do I have the right to ask for a hearing regarding SCC program subsidy payments, and how do I request one? You have the right to request a hear-
ing regarding your SCC program subsidy payments under chapter 388-02 WAC:

(1) On any action affecting your SCC program subsidy payments, except for mass changes that result from a change in policy or law.

(2) By writing to the Office of Administrative Hearings, at the address in WAC 388-02-0025(1) within ninety days of the date any decision of an action is received.

WAC 170-292-0080 Can I use SCC programs subsidies while waiting for the outcome of a hearing, and when might it need to be repaid? (1) You can use SCC program subsidies while waiting for the outcome of a hearing, if you are currently authorized for the SCC program and:

(a) You request a hearing:
   (i) On or before the effective date of an action; or
   (ii) No more than ten days after you are sent a notice of adverse action.

"Adverse action" means an action to reduce or terminate your SCC subsidies.

(b) You request payments for child care payable to an eligible provider (under WAC 388-292-0100 and 388-292-0085).

(2) If you lose a hearing, any SCC program subsidies you use between the date of the adverse action and the date of the hearing or hearing decision is an overpayment to you and will need to be repaid to DSHS.

WAC 170-292-0090 When are the DSHS child care subsidy rates used by the SCC program in this chapter, effective? DSHS child care subsidy rates in this chapter are effective as of the date stated in WAC 388-290-0180, when your family:

(1) Is newly authorized to receive child care subsidies;
(2) Has a household change that requires your authorization to be updated; or
(3) Is reauthorized to continue receiving child care subsidies.

WAC 170-292-0095 What DSHS child care subsidy rate does the SCC program use when my child is five years old? The DSHS child care subsidy rate paid by the SCC program for child care for a five year old child is:

(1) The preschool rate for a child who has not entered kindergarten; or
(2) The school-age rate for a child who has entered kindergarten.

WAC 170-292-0100 What services can be authorized for the SCC program, and at what rates? The SCC program authorizes payments to licensed/certified child care providers for:

(1) Basic child care either full day or half day, at rates listed in WAC 388-290-0200 and 388-290-0205:
   (a) A full day of child care is authorized when care is needed for five to ten hours per day;
   (b) A half day of child care is authorized when care is needed for less than five hours per day;
   (2) A registration fee, according to WAC 388-290-0245 (1) and (2);
   (3) An infant bonus, according to WAC 388-290-0250, providing an infant bonus for that infant has not previously been paid to the provider by another DSHS subsidy program; and
   (4) Special needs care when the child has a documented special need and a documented need for a higher level of care, according to WAC 388-290-0220, 388-290-0225, and 388-290-0230.

WAC 170-292-0102 When can my child care provider charge me more than the amount authorized by the SCC program? Your child care provider may charge you
more than the amount authorized by the SCC program for child care services when:

1. You are late picking up your child at the customary time due to personal reasons (i.e., shopping, appointments, etc.);
2. You pick up your child after the provider's operating hours and the provider has a policy to charge all families an after hour charge;
3. You request an optional enrichment program for your child and all parents who want it have to pay extra (i.e., gymnastics, swimming, dancing, etc.); or
4. You pay the copayment later than agreed upon and the provider has a late fee policy for all families.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0102, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0102, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0102, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-292-0105 When can additional SCC program subsidy payments be authorized? Additional SCC program subsidy payments can be authorized for more than the basic DSHS child care subsidy daily rate when:

1. Needed to accommodate a family's work schedule;
2. Employer verification of work schedule is presented; and
3. The child care provider has a written policy to charge all clients additional money for child care provided more than ten hours per day; or
4. Child care is not available at the DSHS daily rate within a reasonable distance, in which case the provider's usual daily rate is authorized.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0105, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0105, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0105, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-292-0110 What additional SCC program subsidy payments can be authorized? The following additional SCC program subsidy payments may be authorized for your approved activities, if justified by your employer verification:

1. "Extended hour child care" may be authorized, for families whose fluctuating overtime work schedules require more than ten hours per day, up to a maximum of one hundred twenty hours per month. Care is authorized at the provider's usual and customary rate for the time needed - or at the DSHS maximum daily rate represented in the chart below, whichever is less.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHILD CARE CENTER</th>
<th>Infants (under 12 months)</th>
<th>Toddler (12 to 29 months)</th>
<th>Preschool (30 to 5 years)</th>
<th>School-age (5 to 12 years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centers in Benton, Walla Walla and Whitman Counties paid at Region 6 rates</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Region 1</td>
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<td>Region 6</td>
<td>$4.64</td>
<td>$3.75</td>
<td>$3.27</td>
<td>$3.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. "Additional hour child care" may be authorized, for families whose nonfluctuating work schedules require more than ten hours of care per day, at the provider's usual and customary rate for the time needed - or at the DSHS maximum half-day subsidy rate, whichever is less (under WAC 388-290-0200 and 388-290-0205).

3. "Weekend child care" may be authorized at rates under WAC 388-290-0200 and 388-290-0205 if child care is needed more than five days a week.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0110, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0110, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0110, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

START DATES

WAC 170-292-0115 If I am determined eligible for the SCC program, when does my child care subsidy begin? Your SCC program subsidy will begin according to the following situations:

1. If you are determined eligible before your employment starts, your subsidy begins on the first day of your job that your children are in approved child care;
2. If you are determined eligible after your job begins because:
   a. You requested an appointment before your job started but were denied one, your subsidy begins on the first day of your job that your children were in approvable child care;
   b. You did not provide all necessary documents when requested, your subsidy begins on the first day after you are determined eligible for the program, that you work and your children are in authorized child care.
   c. You did not request an appointment until after your job began, your subsidy begins on the first day after you are determined eligible for the program, that you work and your children are in authorized child care.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0115, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0115, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0115, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-292-0120 Can I be authorized for the SCC program before I start a job? You may be preauthorized for the SCC program, before your job starts, if:

1. You are meet all eligibility criteria for the SCC program; and
2. You have employment verification that shows a future start date.

[06-16-130, recodified as § 170-292-0120, filed 8/1/06, effective 8/1/06. 06-15-075, recodified as § 170-15-0120, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.12.340 and chapter 74.15 RCW. 03-14-109, § 388-292-0120, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]
WAC 170-292-0125 I am preauthorized for the SCC program, when do my SCC program child care subsidies begin? If you are preauthorized for the SCC program, your SCC program child care subsidies begin according to the following conditions:

1. If you are preauthorized, AND you present verification of the date your employment starts to the SCC program authorizing worker within thirty days of your intake interview, your subsidy payments can begin:
   a. The day you present your documentation; or
   b. A maximum of fourteen days prior to the day you present the documentation, if you were working and your children were in approvable child care.

2. If you are preauthorized but no verification of an employment start date is provided to the SCC program authorizing worker within thirty days of the preauthorization, no subsidy payments can be made. Your preauthorization is closed and you must reapply to the SCC program.

WAC 170-292-0130 If I am reauthorized for the SCC program, when do my SCC program subsidies begin? If you are reauthorized for the SCC program:

1. Your SCC program child care subsidies will:
   a. Continue without a break if your review eligibility information is received no later than ten days after your previous eligibility period ends; or
   b. Begin the date your review eligibility information is stamped as received, if received more than ten days after your previous eligibility period ends.

2. You will be informed of your eligibility for continued SCC program subsidies based on your review information.

WAC 170-292-0135 When are my SCC program subsidies reauthorized and when may they continue? (1) Your SCC program subsidies are reauthorized by the SCC program authorizing worker who reviews your SCC program eligibility and will:

   a. Request information related to your continued eligibility, prior to the end date of your current SCC program eligibility period;
   b. Review the requested information; and
   c. Determine if you are still eligible, according to DSHS established criteria.

2. Your SCC program subsidies may continue if:
   a. You meet all program, income and work criteria for the SCC program as described in chapter 388-292 WAC;
   b. Your provider is eligible for payment under WAC 388-292-0085.

ADVANCE AND ADEQUATE NOTICE

WAC 170-292-0145 When might I receive advance and adequate notice of change in my SCC program subsidies? (1) You are given advance and adequate notice of changes in your SCC program subsidies when the change:

   a. Results in a suspension, reduction, or termination of child care subsidies; or
   b. Is not exempt from advance and adequate notice of payment changes as noted in WAC 388-292-0150.

   2) "Advance and adequate notice," means a written notice from the SCC program authorizing agency mailed at least ten days before the date of the intended action begins. It includes the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) supporting the action, and your right to request a fair hearing.

WAC 170-292-0150 When won't I receive advance and adequate notice of changes in my SCC program subsidies? You will not receive advance and adequate notice of changes in your SCC program subsidies when:

1. You tell the SCC program authorizing worker you no longer want SCC program subsidies;
2. Your eligibility review results in a change to your child care subsidies;
3. You are authorized for duplicate child care subsidies;
4. Your whereabouts are unknown to the SCC program authorizing worker; or
5. There is a mass change in subsidy benefits due to a change in law or program funding.

OVERPAYMENT NOTICES

WAC 170-292-0155 What is an overpayment and when might I receive one? (1) An overpayment is payment for ineligible child care services;

2. You may receive a client overpayment notice, regardless if you are a current or past recipient, if:
   a. You misrepresent your eligibility for the SCC program, or fail to report information that affects your eligibility; or
   b. You use child care when you are not involved in approved activities (under WAC 388-292-0020).
(3) Your overpayment is written by DSHS and you are expected to pay it back.
   (a) Overpayments are written starting the date that child care subsidies were paid but were not eligible at that payment amount;
   (b) DSHS reduces the overpayment by the amount of an underpayment when applicable.

WAC 170-292-0160 When might a child care provider receive an overpayment? (1) A child care provider may receive a vendor overpayment notice when they receive ineligible payments. This includes payments for:
   (a) Child care that was not provided;
   (b) Services that are not allowed; or
   (c) Child care that is not supported by the provider's attendance records.
   (2) The provider's overpayment is written by DSHS and the child care provider is expected to pay it back.
   (a) Overpayments are written starting the date that child care subsidies were over paid.
   (b) DSHS reduces the overpayment by the amount of an underpayment when applicable.

Chapter 170-295 WAC
MINIMUM LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS
(Formerly chapter 388-295 WAC)

WAC

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CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN

170-295-3200 At what age can we accept infants into care?
Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers

**170-295-0001** What gives the authority to the department of social and health services (DSHS) to license child care and charge licensing fees? (1) The rules for child care centers are governed under chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW.

(2) The rules establishing licensing fees are adopted under authority of RCW 43.20B.110.

(06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0001, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-0001, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.)

**WAC 170-295-0010** What definitions under this chapter apply to licensed child care providers? "American Indian child" means any unmarried person under the age of eighteen who is:

(1) A member or eligible for membership in a federally recognized Indian tribe, or who is Eskimo, Aleut, or other Alaska Native and a member of an Alaskan native regional corporation or Alaska Native Village;

(2) Determined or eligible to be found Indian by the Secretary of the Interior, including through issuance of a certificate of degree of Indian blood, or by the Indian health service;

(3) Considered to be Indian by a federally recognized or nonfederally recognized Indian Tribe; or

(4) A member or entitled to be a member of a Canadian tribe or band, Metis community, or nonstatus Indian community from Canada.

"Anti-bias" is an approach that works against biases and recognizes when others are treated unfairly or oppressively based on race, color, national origin, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, class, religion, creed, disability, or age.

"Capacity that you are licensed for" means the maximum number of children that you are authorized to have on the premises of the child care at any one time.

"Center" means the same as "child care center."

"Certification" means department approval of a person, home, or facility that does not legally need to be licensed, but wants evidence that they meet the minimum licensing requirements (also see "Tribal certification").

"Child abuse or neglect" means the physical abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, abandonment or negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child by any person indicating sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, abandonment or negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child by any person indicating the child's health, welfare, and safety is harmed.

"Child-accessible" means areas where children regularly have access such as: Entrances and exits to and from the center, classrooms or child care areas, playground area including equipment and fencing, parking areas, walkways, decks, platforms, stairs and any items available for children to use in these areas.

"Child care center" means the same as a "child day care center" or a facility providing regularly scheduled care for a group of children one month of age through twelve years of age for periods less than twenty four hours.

"Clean" means to remove dirt and debris from a surface by scrubbing and washing with a detergent solution and rinsing with water. This process must be accomplished before sanitizing a surface.

"CACFP" means child and adult care food program established by congress and funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

"Commercial kitchen equipment" means equipment designed for business purposes such as restaurants.

"Communicable disease" means a disease caused by a microorganism (bacterium, virus, fungus, or parasite) that can be transmitted from person to person via an infected body fluid or respiratory spray, with or without an intermediary
agent (such as a louse, or mosquito) or environmental object (such as a table surface).

"Cultural relevancy" creates an environment that reflects home cultures, communities and lives of children enrolled in the program.

"Department," "we," "us," or "our" refers to and means the state department of social and health services (DSHS), including but not limited to the division of child care and early learning (DCCEL) licensors and health specialists.

"Developmentally appropriate practice":
(1) Means that the provider should interact with each child in a way that recognizes and respects the child's chronological and developmental age;
(2) Is based on knowledge about how children grow and learn; and
(3) Reflects the developmental level of the individual child, and interactions and activities must be planned with the needs of the individual child in mind.

"Director" means the person responsible for the overall management of the center's facility and operation.

"Disinfect" means to eliminate virtually all germs from inanimate surfaces through the use of chemicals or physical agents.

"Domestic kitchen" means a kitchen equipped with residential appliances.

"External medication" means a medication that is not intended to be swallowed or injected but is to be applied to the external parts of the body, such as medicated ointments, lotions, or liquids applied to the skin or hair.

"I," "you," and "your" refer to and mean the licensee or applicant for a child care license.

"Inaccessible to children" means stored or maintained in a manner preventing children from reaching, entering, or using potentially hazardous items or areas. Examples include but are not limited to: Quantities of water, sharp objects, medications, chemicals, electricity, fire, mechanical equipment, entrapment or fall areas.

"Individual plan of care" means that the center's health policies and procedures do not cover the needs of the individual child so an individual plan is needed. Examples may include children with allergies, asthma, Down syndrome, tube feeding, diabetes care such as blood glucose monitoring, or nebulizer treatments.

"Infant" means a child one-month through eleven months of age.

"Lead teacher" means the person who is the lead child care staff person in charge of a child or group of children and implementing the activity program.

"License" means a permit issued by the department authorizing you by law to operate a child care center and certifying that you meet the minimum requirements under licensure.

"Licensee" or "you" means the person, organization, or legal entity responsible for operating the center.

"Maximum potential capacity based on square footage" is the maximum number of children you can be licensed for based on the amount of useable space (square footage) in your center. You may be licensed for less than the maximum potential capacity. You may not be licensed for more than the maximum potential capacity.

"Moisture impervious" or "moisture resistant" means a surface incapable of being penetrated by water or liquids.

"Parent" means birth parent, custodial parent, foster parent, legal guardian, those authorized by the parent or other entity legally responsible for the welfare of the child.

"Pesticides" means chemicals that are used to kill weeds, pests, particularly insects.

"Potentially hazardous food" means any food or ingredient that requires temperature control because it supports rapid growth of infectious or toxin forming microorganisms.

"Potable water" means water suitable for drinking by the public as determined by the state department of health or local health jurisdiction.

"Premises" means the building where the center is located and the adjoining grounds over which you have control.

"Preschool age child" means a child thirty months through five years of age not attending kindergarten or elementary school.

"Program supervisor" means the person responsible for planning and supervising the center's learning and activity program.

"Sanitize" means a surface must be clean and the number of germs reduced to a level that disease transmissions by that surface are unlikely. This procedure is less vigorous than disinfection.

"Satellite kitchen" means a food service establishment approved by a local health jurisdiction where food is stored, prepared, portioned or packaged for service elsewhere.

"School-age child" means a child not less than five years through twelve years of age who has begun attending kindergarten or elementary school.

"Supervised access" refers to those individuals at a child care center who have no responsibility for the operation of the center and do not have unsupervised access to children. These individuals are not required to submit a criminal history authorization form. This includes those persons on the premises for "time limited" activities whose presence is supervised by a center employee and does not affect provider/child ratios or the normal activities or routine of the center. Examples include:
(1) A person hired to present an activity to the children in care such as a puppet show, cooking activity, and story telling;
(2) Parent participation as part of a special theme; or
(3) A relative visiting a child on the premises.

"Staff" means a child care giver or group of child care givers employed by the licensee to supervise children served at the center.

"The Washington state training and registry system (STARS)" means the entity approved by the department to determine the classes, courses, and workshops licensees and staff may take to satisfy training requirement.

"Toddler" means a child twelve months through twenty-nine months of age.

"Terminal room cleaning" means thorough cleaning of walls, ceiling, floor and all equipment, and disinfecting as necessary, in a room which has been used by a person having a communicable disease before it is occupied by another person.
"Tribal certification" means that the department has certified the tribe to receive state payment for children eligible to receive child care subsidies.

"Unsupervised access" refers to those individuals at a child care center who can be left alone with children in the child care center. These individuals must have received a full criminal history and background authorization clearance.

"Useable space" means the areas that are available at all times for use by the children that do not cause a health or safety hazard.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0010, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-0010, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-0020 Who needs to become licensed?
(1) Individuals, entities and agencies that provide care for children must be licensed unless specifically exempt under RCW 74.15.020(2).

(2) The person or organization claiming an exemption must provide us with proof of right to the exemption if we request it.

(3) We do not license a center that is legally exempt from licensing per RCW 74.15.020(2). However, if the applicant requests it, we follow all licensing regulations to investigate and may certify the center as meeting licensing and other pertinent requirements. In such a case, all our licensing requirements and procedures apply equally to certification.

(4) We may certify a child care center for payment without further investigation if the center is:
   (a) Licensed by an Indian tribe;
   (b) Certified by the Federal Department of Defense; or
   (c) Approved by the superintendent of public instruction's office.

(5) The center listed in subsection (4)(a), (b), or (c) of this section must be licensed, certified, or approved in accordance with national or state standards, or standards approved by us. It must be operated on the premises where the entity operating the center has jurisdiction.

(6) We must not license a department employee or a member of their household when the employee is involved directly, or in an administrative or supervisory capacity, in the:
   (a) Licensing or certification process;
   (b) Placement of a child in a licensed or certified center; or
   (c) Authorization of payment for the child in care.

(7) We may license a center located in a private family residence when the portion of the residence accessible to the child is:
   (a) Used exclusively for the child during the center's operating hours or while the child is in care; or
   (b) Separate from the family living quarters.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0020, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-09-093, § 388-295-0020, filed 4/20/04, effective 5/21/04; 03-14-110, § 388-295-0020, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-0030 What must I do to be eligible to receive state child care subsidies?
To be eligible to receive state child care subsidies for children in your care you must:
(1) Be licensed or certified;
(2) Be a seasonal camp that has a contract with us and is certified by the American Camping Association;
(3) Follow billing policies and procedure in Child Care Subsidies: A Booklet for Licensed and Certified Child Care Providers, DSHS 22-877(X);
(4) Bill us at your customary rate or the DSHS rate, whichever is less; and
(5) Keep the attendance records as described in WAC 388-295-7030 and the invoices for state-paid children on-site for at least five years.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0030, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-0030, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-0040 Do I have to follow any other regulations or have any other inspections?
(1) Prior to becoming licensed by us to operate a child care center, you must:
   (a) Have a certificate of occupancy issued by your local building department; and
   (b) Be inspected by the state fire marshal.

(2) In addition to the requirements of this chapter, you are also responsible for complying with any local building ordinances. Local officials are responsible for enforcing city ordinances and county codes, such as zoning and building regulations. You must contact your local building jurisdiction to determine if local ordinances are different than our standards. If you encounter conflicts or differing interpretations, contact us immediately.

(3) We must notify the local planning office of your intention to operate a child care center within the local jurisdiction.

(4) Other state agencies such as labor and industries, the Fire Marshal and the department of health have regulations that apply to child care centers. You are responsible to contact those agencies to obtain their regulations. The other agencies are responsible to monitor and enforce their regulations.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0040, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-0040, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-0050 Can I get a waiver (exception) to the minimum licensing requirements or to licensing fees?
(1) In an individual case we can, if we decide you have a good reason, waive a specific requirement and can approve an alternate method for you to achieve the specific requirement if you:
   (a) Submit the request in writing to us;
   (b) Explain in detail the reason you need the waiver; and
   (c) Can demonstrate that you have an alternative method of meeting the intent of the requirement.

(2) If the waiver is approved, you must retain a copy of the written waiver approval on the child care premises.

(3) We approve a waiver request if:
   (a) You have a good reason;
   (b) We determine that approval of the waiver request will not endanger the safety or welfare of the child or take away from the quality of your service;
   (c) The request and approval is for a specific purpose or child; and

(2007 Ed.)
(d) The waiver request is for a specific period of time, which must not go beyond the date the license expires.

(4) We can limit or restrict a license issued to you in combination with a waiver.

(5) Any person or agency can submit a request for a waiver of licensing fees. We may waive fees when collection of the fee would:

(a) Not be in the best interest of public health and safety;
(b) Be to the financial disadvantage of the state.

(6) To request a waiver to the requirements to pay a licensing fees, you must:

(a) Submit a sworn, notarized petition requesting a waiver of fees;
(b) Mail or deliver the petition to your local child care licensing office; and
(c) Submit any additional documentation that we may consider relevant to your request for a waiver.

(7) You have no appeal rights to the denial of a waiver request under chapter 34.05 RCW.

WAC 170-295-0055 Can I get a dual license? We may either:

(1) Issue a child care center license to you having a license involving full-time care; or
(2) Permit simultaneous care for the child and adolescent or adult on the same premises if you:

(a) Demonstrate evidence that care of one client category will not interfere with the quality of services provided to another category of clients;
(b) Maintain the most stringent maximum capacity limitation for the clients categories concerned;
(c) Request and obtain a waiver permitting dual license;
(d) Request and obtain a waiver to subsection (2)(b) of this section, if applicable.

WAC 170-295-0060 What are the requirements for applying for a license to operate a child care center? (1) To apply or reapply for a license to operate a child care center you must:

(a) Be twenty-one years of age or older;
(b) The applicant, director and program supervisor must attend the orientation programs that we provide, arrange or approve;
(c) Submit to us a completed and signed application for a child care center license or certification using our forms (with required attachments).

(2) The application package must include the following attachments:

(a) The annual licensing fee. The fee is based on your licensed capacity, and is forty-eight dollars for the first twelve children plus four dollars for each additional child;
(b) If the center is solely owned by you, a copy of your:
(i) Photo identification issued by a government entity; and
(ii) Social Security card that is valid for employment or verification of your employer identification number.
(c) If the center is owned by a corporation, verification of the corporation’s employer identification number;
(d) An employment and education resume for:
(i) The person responsible for the active management of the center; and
(ii) The program supervisor.
(e) Diploma or education transcript copies of the program supervisor;
(f) Three professional references each, for yourself, the director, and the program supervisor;
(g) Articles of incorporation if you choose to be incorporated;
(h) List of staff (form is provided in the application);
(i) Written parent communication (child care handbook);
(j) Copy of transportation insurance policy (liability and medical);
(k) In-service training program (for facilities employing more than five persons);
(l) A floor plan of the facility drawn to scale;
(m) A copy of your health care plan reviewed and signed by an advisory physician, physician’s assistant, or registered nurse;
(n) A copy of your policies and procedures that you give to parents; and
(o) A copy of your occupancy permit.

(3) You must submit to the department’s background check central unit a completed criminal history and background inquiry form for yourself and for each staff person or volunteer who has regular or unsupervised access to the children in care; and

(4) You must submit your application and reapplication ninety or more calendar days before the date:

(a) You expect to open your new center;
(b) Your current license is scheduled to expire;
(c) You expect to relocate your center;
(d) You expect to change licensee; or
(e) You expect a change in your license category.

WAC 170-295-0070 What personal characteristics do my volunteers, all staff and I need to provide care to children? (1) You, your staff and volunteers must have the following personal characteristics in order to operate or work in a child care facility:

(a) The understanding, ability, physical health, emotional stability, good judgment and personality suited to meet the physical, intellectual, mental, emotional, and social needs of the children in care;
(b) Be qualified by our background inquiry check prior to having unsupervised access to children. To "be qualified" means not having been convicted of, or have charges pending for, crimes posted on the DSHS secretary’s list of permanently disqualifying convictions for ESA. You can find the complete list at http://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/dccel/policy.shtml. This includes not having committed or been con-
Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers 170-295-0090

vicied of child abuse or any crime involving harm to another person; and

(c) Be able to furnish the child in care with a healthy, safe, nurturing, respectful, supportive, and responsive environment.

(2) If we decide it is necessary, you must provide to us any additional reports or information regarding you, any assistants, volunteers, members of your household or any other person having access to the child in care if any of those individuals may be unable to meet the requirements in chapter 388-295 WAC. This could include:

(a) Sexual deviancy evaluations;
(b) Substance abuse evaluations;
(c) Psychiatric evaluations; and
(d) Medical evaluations.

(3) Any evaluation requested under WAC 388-295-0070 (2)(a) through (d) will be at the expense of the person being evaluated.

(4) You must give us permission to speak with the evaluator in WAC 388-295-0070 (2) prior to and after the evaluation.

(5) We investigate staff and volunteers, including accessing criminal histories and law enforcement files.

(6) We can also investigate members of your household and members of your staffs and volunteers households. This includes accessing criminal histories and law enforcement files.

(7) We can investigate any other person who has access to a child in care, including accessing criminal history and law enforcement files.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0080, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-0080, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-0080 How is my licensed capacity determined? (1) Maximum allowable capacity of your center is determined based on useable square footage and available toilets and sinks. The licensed capacity (the number of children you are allowed to have in your center at any one time) may be less than the maximum capacity, but not exceed it. The licensed capacity is based on our evaluation of the program, the ages and characteristics of the children, the experience of the staff, and usable floor space. You must have:

(a) Fifty square feet of useable floor space per infant (includes crib, playpen, infant bed and bassinets);
(b) Thirty-five square feet of useable floor space for each toddler or older child that is dedicated to the children during child care hours; and
(c) Fifteen additional square feet must be provided for each toddler using a crib or playpen when cribs are located in the sleeping and play area.

(2) The areas included in your square footage must be available at all times for the children. The following areas will not be included in determining the useable square footage for each child:

(a) Food preparation areas of the kitchen;
(b) Laundry areas;
(c) All bath, toilet rooms and hand washing areas;
(d) Hallways, diaper changing areas (includes the changing table and sink), stairways, closets, offices, staff rooms, lockers and custodial areas;
(e) Furnace rooms, hot water heater rooms, storage rooms, or mop sink rooms; and
(f) Cabinets, storage, and fixed shelving spaces unless accessible to and used by children (for example, cubbies, shelves for storing toys and puzzles, bookshelves, etc.). If the children do not have access to their cubbies or toy storage areas, it is not included in the square footage.

(3) You can use a multipurpose room and gymnasium for multiple purposes such as playing, dining, napping, and learning activities, and before and after school programs when the room:

(a) Meets the square footage requirements for the purpose and number of children to be served; and
(b) Is being used for one purpose and does not interfere with usage of the room for another purpose.

(4) You may use and consider the napping area as child care space if staff remove mats and cots when they are not in use and the children then have free access to the area.

(5) We will not issue you a license to care for more children than the rules in this chapter permit.

(6) We may issue you a license to care for fewer children than the center's maximum capacity.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0080, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-0080, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-0090 When does the department issue initial and full licenses, and when are licensing fees due? We may issue an initial license to centers that have not yet begun providing care, but are accepting application for potential clients.

(1) We may issue an initial license when you can show that you are following the rules regarding the child's health and safety.

(2) We may issue an initial license if you have not yet opened for business, and so are not yet able to show that you are complying with the rules pertaining to:

(a) Staff to child interactions;
(b) Group size and staff to child ratios;
(c) Behavior management and discipline;
(d) Activity programs;
(e) Child records and information; and
(f) Other rules that require us to observe your facility's ability to comply with rules.

(3) You must provide us with a plan to comply with the rules listed in subsection (2)(a) through (f) of this section. We must approve of that plan.

(4) We may issue an initial license to an applicant for a period not to exceed six months, renewable for a period not to exceed two years.

(5) When you have an initial license we:

(a) Evaluate your ability to comply with all rules contained in this chapter prior to issuing a full license;
(b) May issue a full license to you when you have demonstrated compliance with chapter 388-295 WAC; and
(c) Do not issue a full license to you if you do not demonstrate the ability to comply with all rules contained in chapter 388-295 WAC.

(2007 Ed.)
WAC 170-295-0100 When can my license application be denied and when can my license be suspended or revoked? (1) If you do not meet the requirements in chapter 388-295 WAC we deny your license application or suspend or revoke your license.

(2) If more than one person applies for a license or is licensed under this chapter to provide child care at the same facility:

(a) We consider qualifications separately and together.
(b) We deny the license application, or suspend or revoke the license if one person fails to meet the minimum licensing requirements.

(3) We must deny, suspend, or revoke your license if you:

(a) Have been found to have abused, neglected, sexually exploited, abandoned a child or allowed such persons on the premises as defined in chapter 26.44 RCW;
(b) Have been convicted of, or have charges pending for, crimes posted on the DSHS secretary's list of permanently disqualifying convictions for ESA. You can find the complete list at http://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/dccel/policy.shtml;
(c) Have had a license denied, suspended, or revoked for the care of adults or children in this state or any other state. However, if you demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that you have taken enough corrective action and rehabilitation to justify the public trust to operate the center according to the rules of this chapter, we consider issuing you a license;
(d) Commit or allow an illegal act to be committed on the licensed premises;
(e) Allow children in your care to be abused, neglected, exploited, or treated with cruelty or indifference;
(f) Use illegal drugs;
(g) Use alcohol to the extent that it interferes with your ability to provide care for the children as required by this chapter;
(h) Refuse to permit an authorized representative of the department, state fire marshal, or state auditor's office with official identification to:

(i) Inspect the premises;
(ii) Access your records related to the center's operation;
(iii) Interview staff or children in care.

(i) Refuse to provide us a copy of your:

(ii) Photo identification issued by a government entity; and

(ii) Social security card that is valid for employment or verification of your employer identification number.

(4) We may deny, suspend, or revoke your license if you:

(a) Try to get or keep a license by making false statements or leaving out important information on your application;
(b) Do not provide enough staff in relation to the numbers, ages, or characteristics of children in care;
(c) Allow a person who is not qualified by training, experience or temperament to care for or be in contact with children in care;
(d) Fail to provide adequate supervision to children in care;
(e) Do not exercise fiscal responsibility and accountability while operating the center;
(f) Knowingly allow an employee or volunteer on the premises that has made false statements on an application for employment or volunteer service;
(g) Refuse to supply additional information requested by us;
(h) Fail to pay fees when due;

(i) Fail to comply with the minimum licensing requirements set forth in this chapter or any provision of chapter 74.15 RCW;
(j) Provide care on the premises for children of an age different from the ages for which the center is licensed.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0100, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-09-093, § 388-295-0090, filed 4/20/04, effective 5/21/04, 03-14-110, § 388-295-0090, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-0110 When can I be fined for not following the minimum licensing requirements? (1) We notify you in writing of our intention to impose a civil fine. We may use personal service, including by our licensor, or certified mail. The letter will include:

(2007 Ed.)
(a) A description of the violation and a quote of the law or rule that you have failed to meet;
(b) A statement of what you must do to come into compliance;
(c) The date by which we require compliance;
(d) Information about the maximum allowable penalty we can impose if you do not come into compliance by the given date;
(e) How you can get technical assistance services provided by us or by others; and
(f) Information about how you can request an extension to the date you must be in compliance, if we decide you have a good reason.

(2) The length of time we establish for you to come into compliance depends on:
(a) The seriousness of the violation;
(b) The potential threat to the health, safety and welfare of children in your care; or
(c) If you have had previous opportunities to correct the deficiency and have not done so.

(3) We use the following criteria to determine if we impose a civil fine based on, but not limited to, these reasons:
(a) The child care center has previously been subject to an enforcement action for the same or similar type of violation for the same statute or rule; or
(b) The child care center has previously been given notice of the same or similar type of violation of the same law or rule; or
(c) The violation represents a potential threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of children in care.

(4) We can impose a civil fine in addition to or at the same time as other disciplinary actions against a child care center. These include probation, suspension, or other action.

(5) You must pay any civil fines no more than twenty-eight days after you receive the notice that you have a fine. We may specify a later date.

(6) We can waive the fine if your center comes into compliance during the notification period.

(7) You must post the final notice of a civil fine in a noticeable place in your center. The notice must remain posted until we notify you that we have received your payment.

(8) Each violation of a law or rule is a separate violation. We can penalize each violation. We can impose a penalty for each day the violation continues or as a flat amount of the maximum allowable penalty.

(9) If you fail to pay your fine within ten days after the assessment becomes final, we can suspend, revoke, or not renew your license.

(10) You have the right to a hearing when we assess a civil fine under RCW 43.20A.215.

WAC 170-295-0130 When can I be fined for operating an unlicensed program? (1) We receive information that you are operating a child care center without a license, we investigate the allegation.

(2) We contact you, send you a letter, or make an on-site visit to your center to determine whether you are operating without a license.

(3) If we determine that you personally or on behalf of another person are operating a child care center without a license, we send written notification by certified mail or other method showing proof of service to the owner of the unlicensed center. This notification must contain the following:
(a) Notice to the center owner of our basis for determination that the owner is providing child care without a license and the need for us to license the center;
(b) Citation of the applicable law;
(c) The fine is effective and payable within thirty days of the agency's receipt of the notification;
(d) Information about how to contact the division of child care and early learning;
(e) The requirement that the unlicensed center owner submit an application for a license to the division of child care and early learning within thirty days receipt of our notification;
(f) That we can forgive the fine if the center submits an application within thirty days of the notification; and
(g) The unlicensed center owner's right to an adjudicative proceeding (fair hearing) as a result of the assessment of a monetary fine and how to request an adjudicative proceeding.

WAC 170-295-0140 When can the department issue a probationary license to a child care center operator? (1) We can issue a probationary license to you based on the following factors:
(a) Your willful or negligent failure to comply with the regulations;
(b) Your history of noncompliance with the regulations;
(c) How far you deviate from the regulations;
(d) Evidence of your good faith effort to comply with the regulations; and
(e) Any other factors relevant to your unique situation.

(2) We can issue a probationary license to you when the willful or negligent violation of the licensing requirements does not present an immediate threat to the health and well being of the children, but would be likely to do so if allowed...
to continue. We can also issue civil fines or other sanctions in this case. Such situations can include:

(a) Substantiation that a child was abused or neglected while in the care of the center;
(b) A fire safety inspection or health/sanitation inspection report that has been disapproved;
(c) Use of unauthorized space for child care;
(d) Inadequate supervision of children;
(e) Under staffing for the number of children in care; and
(f) Noncompliance with requirements addressing children's health, proper nutrition, discipline, emergency medical plan, sanitation and personal hygiene practices.

(3) You are required to notify parents when a probationary license is issued. You must:

(a) Notify in writing the parents or guardians of all children in care that the center is in probationary status. This notification must be within five working days of your receiving notification of being placed on probationary status or being issued a probationary license. We must approve the notification before you send it; and

(b) Provide documentation to us that parents or guardians of all children in care have been notified. You must provide this documentation within ten working days of being notified that you have been issued a probationary license.

(4) A probationary license can be issued for up to six months and can be extended at our discretion for an additional six months.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0140, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-0140, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-0150 Where can I locate my child care center or facility? (1) You must locate your child care center:

(a) On an environmentally safe site;
(b) In a neighborhood free of a condition detrimental to the child's welfare; and
(c) In a location accessible to other services to carry out the program.

(2) Your child care must be located in an area that is serviced by emergency fire, medical and police during the hours the children are in care.

(3) The location of your site must be approved by the local planning department, your state fire marshal, and us.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-0150, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-0150, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

STAFFING

WAC 170-295-1010 Who can be the director of a child care center? If you apply for a license to operate a child care center, you may be the director yourself, or you can hire a director. The director is responsible for the overall management of the center's facility and operation and ensures that the center follows the minimum licensing requirements. The director must:

(1) Be at least twenty-one years of age or older;
(2) Have knowledge of child development as evidenced by professional reference, education, experience, and on-the-job performance;
(3) Have written proof of education including:
   (a) A current child development associate certificate (CDA); or
   (b) The following minimum number of college quarter credits or combination of college quarter credits and department-approved clock hours (ten clock hours equals one college credit) in early childhood education or child development:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your center is licensed for this number of children:</th>
<th>Then the director must have completed at least this number of college quarter credits in early childhood education:</th>
<th>Of the total credits required, the minimum number that must be college quarter credits is:</th>
<th>And of the total credits required, the maximum number that can be department-approved clock hours is:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) Twelve or less</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>30 (replacing 3 college quarter hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) Thirteen through 24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>80 (replacing 8 college quarter hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) Twenty-five or more</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>150 (replacing 15 college quarter hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: One college semester credit equals one and one half (1.5) college quarter hours

(4) Have at least two years experience working with children the same age level as the center serves;

(5) Not let the provision of child care interfere with management or supervisory responsibilities;

(6) Be on the premises for the majority of the hours that care is provided and designate a person to be in charge that meets the qualifications of a lead teacher when not present; and

(7) Meet the STARS requirement and be listed in the state training and registry system (STARS).

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-1010, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-1010, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-1020 What if the director does not meet the minimum qualifications? (1) If the director does not meet the requirements in WAC 388-295-1010, you must have a program supervisor who:

(a) Meets all the qualifications of WAC 388-295-1010;
(b) Oversees the planning and supervising of the center's learning and activity program to ensure that practices meet the WAC, are varied and developmentally appropriate; and
(c) Performs on-site program supervisory duties twenty hours or more a week and is not included in the staff to child ratio. If we request it, you must provide documentation of the twenty hours or more a week on site supervisory duties for the program supervisor.

(2) If the director does not meet the minimum requirements in WAC 388-295-1010 the director must have had at least one three credit college class in early childhood education or development.

(3) One person may be both the director and the program supervisor when qualified for both positions. The director or program supervisor must be on the premises for the majority of the hours that care is provided. If temporarily absent from the center, the director or program supervisor must leave a

[Title 170 WAC—p. 36] (2007 Ed.)
competent, designated staff person in charge who meets the qualifications of a lead staff person.

(4) The director or program supervisor may also serve as child care staff when that role does not interfere with management and supervisory responsibilities.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-1020, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-1020, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-1030 Who can be a lead teacher in a child care center? The lead teacher is a child care staff person who is in charge of a child or group of children and implements the activity program. The lead teacher must:

(1) Be at least eighteen years of age or older;

(2) Have completed a high school education or the equivalent; and

(3) Have documented child development education or work experience; or

(4) Complete STARS training within six months of becoming a lead teacher.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-1030, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-1030, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-1040 Who can be an assistant or aide in a child care center? You may assign a child care assistant or aide to support the lead child care staff.

(1) The assistant or aide must be:

(a) At least sixteen years of age; and

(b) Under the direct supervision of a lead child care staff person.

(2) You may assign an assistant who is age eighteen or older to care for a child or a group of children under direct supervision of a lead staff person. This person may have sole responsibility for a group of children without direct supervision by a superior for a brief period of time.

(3) You must not assign a person under the age of eighteen years sole responsibility for a group of children.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-1040, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-1040, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-1050 Who can be a volunteer in a child care center? (1) You may arrange for a volunteer to support lead child care staff. The volunteer must:

(a) Be at least sixteen years of age or older; and

(b) Care for children under the direct supervision of a lead child care staff person at all times.

(2) You may count the volunteer in the staff-child ratio when the volunteer meets staff qualification requirements and is sixteen years of age or older.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-1050, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-1050, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-1060 What initial and ongoing state training and registry system (STARS) training is required for child care center staff? The director, program supervisor and lead teachers must register with the STARS registry and complete one of the following trainings within the first six months of employment or of being granted an initial license:

(1) Twenty clock hours or two college quarter credits of basic training approved by the Washington state training registry system (STARS);

(2) Current child development associate certificate (CDA) or equivalent credential, or twelve or more college credits in early childhood education or child development; or

(3) Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Arts and Sciences or higher college degree in early childhood education or child development.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-1060, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-1060, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-1070 What continuing state training and registry system (STARS) training is required for child care center staff? (1) The director, program supervisor and lead teachers must complete ten clock hours or one college credit of continuing education yearly after completing the initial training required in WAC 388-295-1010.

(2) The director and program supervisor must have five of the ten hours in program management and administration for the first two years in their respective positions. Each additional year, three of the ten hours required must be in program management and administration.

(3) Agencies or organizations that have been approved by the Washington state training and registry system (STARS) may offer up to six clock hours of continuing education each year to their employees. The remaining four hours must be obtained from other training offered in the community.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-1070, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-09-093, § 388-295-1070, filed 4/20/04, effective 5/21/04; 03-14-110, § 388-295-1070, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-1080 What topics must my new staff orientation include? You must have an orientation system in place to train each new employee and volunteer about program policies, practices, philosophies and goals. This training must include, but is not limited to, the program policies and practices listed in this chapter such as:

(1) Minimum licensing requirements;

(2) Planned daily activities and routines;

(3) Child guidance and behavior management methods;

(4) Child abuse and neglect prevention, detection, and reporting policies and procedures;

(5) Health policies and procedures;

(6) Communicable disease recognition and prevention;

(7) Bloodborne pathogens;

(8) Fire prevention, disaster plan and safety procedures;

(9) Special health and developmental needs of the individual child;

(10) Personnel policies, when applicable;

(11) Limited restraint techniques;

(12) Cultural relevancy; and

(13) Age and developmentally appropriate practices and expectations for the age group the staff will work with.

(2007 Ed.)

[Title 170 WAC—p. 37]
WAC 170-295-1090 What kind of meetings or ongoing training must I provide my staff? (1) You must provide or arrange for staff meetings and training opportunities for the child care staff at least quarterly; and
(2) At a minimum, your staff and volunteers must have ongoing training when there are changes:
(a) In your policies and procedures;
(b) In the equipment that you use;
(c) In the types of services you provide; or
(d) To health care plans for specific children.

WAC 170-295-1100 What are the requirements regarding first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training? (1) You must ensure that at least one person of your staff with a current basic standard first aid and age appropriate CPR certificate is present with each group of children in your center at all times. For example, if you have six different classrooms with different groups of children, you must have a staff person in each room trained in first aid and CPR.
(2) The person providing the first aid and CPR training must be knowledgeable about current national first aid and CPR standards. The trainer must:
(a) Be in the medical field;
(b) Be in the emergency field such as an emergency medical technician or fire fighter;
(c) Complete a "train the trainer" course from a reputable program such as the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, National Safety Council or labor and industries; or
(d) Work for a company that specializes in first aid and CPR.
(3) First aid and CPR training must be updated as required on the card or certificate received by you or your staff person. The first aid and CPR cards or certificates must have a date of expiration.

WAC 170-295-1110 Who must have Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and bloodborne pathogen training? (1) Every employee who is included in the staff to child ratio must have written proof of HIV/AIDS and bloodborne pathogen training that includes prevention, transmission, treatment and confidentiality issues.
(2) You must comply with applicable Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA)/labor and industries safety and health regulations under chapter 296-823 WAC that apply to you.

WAC 170-295-1120 What are the Tuberculosis (TB) testing requirements for the staff? (1) Each employee and volunteer must have the results of a one step Mantoux TB skin test prior to starting work.
(2) New employees and volunteers do not need a TB skin test if they have written proof of:
(a) A negative Mantoux TB test in the twelve months prior to you hiring them;
(b) A previously positive Mantoux TB test with documented proof of treatment or a negative chest X ray; or
(c) Medication therapy to treat TB.
(3) Your staff and volunteers must be retested for TB when you are notified that any of the staff or volunteers have been exposed to TB. They must comply with the direction of the local health jurisdictions.

PROGRAM

WAC 170-295-1000 What types of play materials, equipment and activities must I provide for the children? You must:
(1) Provide a variety of easily accessible learning and play materials of sufficient quantity to implement the centers program and meet the developmental needs of children in care.
(2) Have a current daily schedule of activities and lesson plans that are designed to meet the children's developmental, cultural, and individual needs. The toys, equipment and schedule must be:
(a) Specific for each age group of children; and
(b) Include at least one activity daily for each of the following (you can combine several of the following for one activity):
(i) Child initiated activity (free play);
(ii) Staff initiated activity (organized play);
(iii) Individual choices for play;
(iv) Creative expression;
(v) Group activity;
(vi) Quiet activity;
(vii) Active activity;
(viii) Large and small muscle activities; and
(ix) Indoor and outdoor play.
(3) You must ensure the lesson plan, daily schedule of events, available toys and equipment contains a range of learning experiences to allow each child the opportunity to:
(a) Gain self-esteem, self-awareness, self-control, and decision-making abilities;
(b) Develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, and physically;
(c) Learn about nutrition, health, and personal safety; and
(d) Experiment, create, and explore.
(4) Post the daily schedule and lesson plan in each room for easy reference by parents and by caregivers;
(5) Keep the daily schedule of events and lesson plans for the past six months on site for inspection;
(6) Maintain staff-to-child ratios and group size during transitions from one activity to another during the day;
(7) Plan for smooth transitions by:
   (a) Establishing familiar routines; and
   (b) Using transitions as a learning experience.
(8) Ensure the center's program affords the child daily opportunities for small and large muscle activities, outdoor play, and exposure to language development and books; and
(9) Afford staff classroom planning time.

WAC 170-295-2020 How long can a child be at the center? The child may remain in care a maximum of ten hours or less each day. If needed, you may extend the time based upon the parent's typical work schedule and travel from and to the center.

WAC 170-295-2030 How should staff interact with children? To facilitate interactions between the staff and children that are nurturing, respectful, supportive and responsive, you must:
   (1) Ensure staff interact with children using positive communication (for example, giving children options of what to do rather than being told what not to do);
   (2) Support the child's development in understanding themselves and others by assisting the child to share ideas, experiences, and feelings;
   (3) Provide age-appropriate opportunities for the child to grow and develop intellectually. Examples include:
      (a) Reading readiness skills;
      (b) Language skills development;
      (c) Encouraging the child to ask questions;
      (d) Counting;
      (e) Matching objects;
      (f) Differentiating between large and small; and
      (g) Sorting.
   (4) Help each child solve problems with intervention as necessary;
   (5) Encourage children to be creative in their projects;
   (6) Allow independence in selecting routine activities and projects;
   (7) Show tolerance for mistakes;
   (8) Encourage children to try new activities; and
   (9) Honor all children's race, religion, culture, gender, physical ability and family structure.

WAC 170-295-2040 What behavior management and guidance practices must I have in place? You must:
   (1) Develop and implement written behavior management and guidance practices for the center;
   (2) Guide the child's behavior based on an understanding of the individual child's needs and stage of development;
   (3) Promote the child's developmentally appropriate social behavior, self-control, and respect for the rights of others;
   (4) Ensure behavior management and guidance practices that are fair, reasonable, consistent, and related to the child's behavior;
   (5) Prevent and prohibit any person on the premises from using cruel, unusual, hazardous, frightening, or humiliating discipline, including but not limited to:
      (a) Corporal punishment including biting, jerking, shaking, spanking, slapping, hitting, striking, kicking, pinching, flicking or any other means of inflicting physical pain or causing bodily harm to the child;
      (b) Verbal abuse such as yelling, shouting, name calling, shaming, making derogatory remarks about a child or the child's family, or using language that threatens, humiliates or frightens a child;
      (c) The use of a physical restraint method injurious to the child, locked time-out room, or closet for disciplinary purposes; and
      (d) The using or withholding of food or liquids as punishment.
   (6) In emergency situations, a staff person may use limited physical restraint when:
      (a) Protecting a person on the premises from serious injury;
      (b) Obtaining possession of a weapon or other dangerous object; or
      (c) Protecting property from serious damage.
   (7) Staff who use limited restraint must complete an incident report. A copy of the incident report must be:
      (a) Placed in the child's individual record; and
      (b) Given to the parent.

WAC 170-295-2050 Must we provide rest periods? You must:
   (1) Offer a supervised rest period to the child who is:
      (a) Five years of age or younger and in care for more than six hours; or
      (b) Showing a need for rest.
   (2) Allow a child twenty-nine months of age or younger to follow an individual sleep schedule, and plan alternative quiet activities for the child who does not need rest.

WAC 170-295-2060 What are the requirements for evening and nighttime care? In addition to meeting the other requirements of chapter 388-295 WAC, if you offer child care during evening and nighttime hours, you must:
   (1) Adapt the program, equipment, and staffing pattern to meet the physical and emotional needs of the child away from home at night such as:
      (a) In centers operating past midnight, you must provide for each child a crib, mat or cot, or mattress pad, that is easily sanitized;
      (b) Make arrangements for bathing as needed;
(c) Make arrangements for personal hygiene including tooth brushing;

(d) Have individual bedding appropriate for overnight sleeping; and

(e) Have separate dressing and sleeping areas for boys and girls ages six years and older or younger children demonstrating a need for privacy.

(2) Maintain the same staff-to-child ratio that is in effect during daytime care;

(3) Keep the child within continuous visual and auditory range at all times;

(4) Ensure that the staff in charge during evening and nighttime hours meets the requirements of a lead teacher; and

(5) Ensure all staff attending to children in care are awake.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-2060, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-2060, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-2070 What do I need to transport the children on off-site trips? (1) You may transport a child or permit the child to travel off-site only with written parental consent. The purpose may be to attend school, participate in supervised field trips, or engage in other supervised off-site activities.

(2) The parent's consent may be:

(a) For a specific date or trip; or

(b) A blanket authorization describing the full range of trips the child may take. If you use a blanket authorization, you must notify the parent in writing at least twenty-four hours in advance of any specific trip.

(3) When transportation is provided by the center for children in care:

(a) The driver must have a valid Washington state driver's license to operate the type of vehicle being driven;

(b) The number of passengers cannot exceed the seating capacity of the vehicle;

(c) Either the center owner or the driver must have liability and medical insurance; and

(d) The driver, parent volunteer, or staff supervising the children being transported in each vehicle must have written documentation on file of current CPR and first-aid training.

(4) When you transport children, the vehicle used must:

(a) Have a current license and registration according to Washington state transportation laws;

(b) Be maintained in good repair and safe operating condition; and

(c) Be equipped with:

(i) At least one first-aid kit that meets the requirements of WAC 388-295-5010;

(ii) Vehicle emergency reflective triangles or other devices to alert other drivers of an emergency;

(iii) The health history and emergency information for each child in the vehicle; and

(iv) A method to call for emergency help.

(5) You must meet the child passenger restraint system requirements in RCW 46.61.687 when transporting children. Contact your local state patrol office for more information.

(6) When you transport children, you must maintain the staff-to-child ratio established for the youngest child in the group; and

(7) Staff or driver must not leave the children unattended in the motor vehicle.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-2070, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-2070, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-2080 What must I communicate to parents? (1) You must have written documentation signed by the parent in each child's file that you have:

(a) Explained to the parent the centers policies and procedures;

(b) Discussed the centers philosophy, program and facilities;

(c) Advised the parent of the child's progress and issues relating to the child's care and individual practices concerning the child's special needs; and

(d) Encouraged parent participation in center activities.

(2) You must also give the parent the following written policy and procedure information:

(a) Enrollment and admission requirements;

(b) The fee and payment plan;

(c) A typical activity schedule, including hours of operation;

(d) Meals and snacks served, including guidelines on food brought from the child's home;

(e) Permission for free access by the child's parent to all center areas used by the child;

(f) Signing in and signing out requirements;

(g) Child abuse reporting law requirements;

(h) Behavior management and discipline;

(i) Nondiscrimination statement;

(j) Religious and cultural activities, if any;

(k) Transportation and field trip arrangements;

(l) Practices concerning an ill child;

(m) Medication management;

(n) Medical emergencies;

(o) Disaster preparedness plans; and

(p) If licensed for the care of an infant or toddler:

(i) Diapering;

(ii) Toilet training; and

(iii) Feeding.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-2080, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-2080, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-2090 What are the required staff to child ratios and maximum group sizes for my center? (1) You must ensure the required staff to child ratios are met at all times when children are in your care. In centers licensed for thirteen or more children, the licensee must conduct group activities within the group size and staff to child ratio requirements, according to the age of the children:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the age of the children is:</th>
<th>Then the staff to child ratio is:</th>
<th>And the maximum group size is:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) One month, through 11 months (infant)</td>
<td>1:4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Twelve months through 29 months (toddler)</td>
<td>1:7</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Thirty months through 5 years (preschooler)</td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Five years through 12 years (school-age child)</td>
<td>1:15</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(2) In centers licensed for twelve or fewer children, you may combine children of different age groups, provided you:
   (a) Maintain the staff-to-child ratio designated for the youngest child in the mixed group; and
   (b) Provide a separate care area when four or more infants are in care. In such case the maximum group size is eight infants.

(3) You must conduct activities for each group in a specific room or other defined space within a larger area.

(4) You must ensure each group is under the direct supervision of a qualified staff person or team of staff involved in directing the child's activities.

(5) We may approve reasonable variations to group size limitations if you maintain required staff-to-child ratios, dependent on:
   (a) Staff qualifications;
   (b) Program structure; and
   (c) Useable square footage.

(6) After consulting with the child's parent, you may place the individual child in a different age group and serve the child within the different age group's required staff-to-child ratio based on the child's:
   (a) Developmental level; and
   (b) Individual needs.

(7) You may combine children of different age groups for no more than one hour, provided you maintain the staff-to-child ratio and group size designated for the youngest child in the mixed group.

(8) In centers licensed for thirteen or more children, you may group ambulatory children between one year and two years of age with older children, provided:
   (a) The total number of children in the group does not exceed twelve; and
   (b) Two staff are assigned to the group.

(9) You must ensure the staff person providing direct care and supervision of the child is free of other duties at the time of care.

(10) You must maintain required staff-to-child ratios indoors, outdoors, on field trips, and during rest periods. During rest periods, staff may be involved in other activities if:
   (a) Staff remain on the premises; and
   (b) Each child is within continuous visual and auditory range of a staff person.

(11) You must ensure staff:
   (a) Attend to the group of children at all times; and
   (b) Keep each child (including school age children) within continuous visual and auditory range of center staff. Toilet trained children using the toilet must be within auditory range of a center staff member.

(12) When only one staff person is present, you must ensure a second staff person is readily available in case of emergency.

(13) When only one caregiver is required to meet the staff to child ratio, you must be sure there is coverage for emergencies to meet both ratios and worker qualifications by either:
   (a) Posting the name, address, and telephone number of a person who meets the qualifications of at least a lead teacher, who has agreed in writing to be available to provide emergency relief and who can respond immediately; or
   (b) Having a second person that meets the qualifications of at least a lead teacher on the premises who is not needed for the staff to child ratio, but is available to provide emergency relief.

(14) Service staff, such as cooks, janitors, or bus drivers, may be counted in the required staff to child ratio if they meet all child care worker qualifications.

 minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers 170-295-2110

 Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers 170-295-2110

 WAC 170-295-2100 What are the exceptions to group sizes and staff to child ratios? (1) If the center is licensed for twelve or fewer children, you may combine children (excluding infants) of different age groups if you:
   (a) Maintain the staff to child ratio for the youngest child in the mixed group; and
   (b) Provide a separate area when infants are in care.

 (2) You must conduct activities for each group in a specific room or other specifically defined space within a larger area.

 (3) Excluding infants, you may place an individual child in a different age group and serve the child within the different age group's required staff to child ratio, based on the child's individual needs and developmental level. You must consult with the child's parent prior to making the change.

 (4) You may combine children of different age groups for periods of no more than one hour at the beginning and end of the day provided you maintain the staff to child ratio and group size designated for the youngest child in the mixed group.

 (5) You may have nine infants in a classroom with appropriate square footage if you maintain a ratio of one staff to three infants; and

 (6) You can request a waiver to group size limitations. If we approve variations to group size limitations, you must maintain the required staff-to-child ratios. Our approval will depend on but is not limited to:
   (a) Staff qualifications;
   (b) Program structure;
   (c) Square footage; and
   (d) Lower staff to child ratios.

 WAC 170-295-2110 Are children allowed in the kitchen when they are doing supervised activities? (1) You must be sure that children are not in the kitchen except during supervised activities.

 (2) When children are in the kitchen, you must:
   (a) Supervise food preparation activities involving children; and
   (b) Make the kitchen environmentally safe for children to participate in planned kitchen activities.

 [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-2100, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-09-093, § 388-295-2090, filed 4/20/04, effective 5/21/04; 03-14-110, § 388-295-2090, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]
WAC 170-295-2120 Are there special program requirements for infants and toddlers? (1) When you care for infants and toddlers you must:
(a) Encourage them to handle and manipulate a variety of objects;
(b) Provide a safe environment for climbing, moving and exploring;
(c) Provide materials and opportunities for large and small muscle development;
(d) Read and talk to them daily;
(e) Provide daily indoor opportunities for freedom of movement outside their cribs, in an open, uncluttered space;
(f) Place them in a prone (lying on the tummy) position part of the time when they are awake and staff are observing them;
(g) Not leave them in car seats once they arrive at the center even if they are asleep; and
(h) Not be left in playpens for extended periods of time excluding sleep time.
(i) Talk to and interact with each infant and toddler often and encourage them to respond. Naming objects and describing care encourages language development;
(j) Hold and cuddle infants and toddlers to encourage strong relationships; and
(k) Respond to and investigate cries or other signs of distress immediately.

(2) You must provide toys, objects and other play materials that:
(a) Are cleanable;
(b) Are nontoxic; and
(c) Cannot cause a choking hazard for infants or toddlers.
(3) You must not use baby walkers.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-2120, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-2120, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-2130 Do I need an outdoor play area? (1) You must provide an outdoor program that promotes the child’s coordination, active play, and physical, mental, emotional, and social development based on their age. The play area must:
(a) Adjoin the indoor premises directly or be reachable by a safe route or method;
(b) Have adequate drainage and be free from health and safety hazards;
(c) Contain a minimum of seventy-five usable square feet per child using the play area at any one time. If the center uses a rotational schedule of outdoor play periods so only a portion of the child population uses the play area at one time, you may reduce correspondingly the child’s play area size.
(2) If you provide full-time care, the activity schedule must provide the child daily morning and afternoon outdoor play;
(3) If you provide drop-in care only, at our discretion we may approve equivalent, separate, indoor space for the child’s large muscle play;
(4) You must ensure appropriate child grouping by developmental or age levels, staff-to-child ratio adherence, and maintain group size;
(5) Staff must be outdoors with the children in continuous visual and auditory range;
(6) You must provide a variety of age-appropriate play equipment for climbing, pulling, pushing, riding and balancing activities; and
(7) You must arrange, design, construct, and maintain equipment and ground cover to prevent child injury.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-2130, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-2130, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

WAC 170-295-3010 What kind of health policies and procedures must I have? (1) You must have written health policies and procedures that are:
(a) Written in a clear and easily understood manner;
(b) Shared with all new staff during orientation;
(c) Posted for staff and families to review; and
(d) Reviewed, signed and dated by a physician, a physician’s assistant or registered nurse when you change your policies and procedures or type of care that you provide, or at least every three years when you are due for relicensing. (For example, if you go from caring for children from twelve months and older to caring for infants, you must update your health policies and procedures and have them reviewed and signed.)
(2) Your health policies and procedures must have information on how you plan to:
(a) Provide general cleaning of areas including but not limited to bathrooms, floors, walls, and doorknobs;
(b) Clean and sanitize areas including but not limited to food contact surfaces, kitchen equipment, diapering areas, toys, toileting equipment and areas, equipment that might be shared with several children such as sleep mats, cribs or high chairs;
(c) Prevent, manage and report communicable diseases;
(d) Handle minor injuries such as nosebleeds, scrapes and bruises;
(e) Provide first aid;
(f) Screen children daily for illnesses;
(g) Notify parents that children have been exposed to infectious diseases and parasites;
(h) Handle minor illnesses;
(i) Handle major injuries and medical emergencies that require emergency medical treatment or hospitalization;
(j) Manage medication;
(k) Assist with handwashing and general hygiene including diapering and toileting;
(l) Handle food;
(m) Provide nutritious meals and snacks;
(n) Respond during any disasters;
(o) Care for children that may have special needs;
(p) Care for infants and obtain infant nurse consultation (if licensed for four or more infants); and
(q) Place infants to sleep on their backs to reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).
(3) Your health policies and procedures must have information on when you plan to:
(a) Require ill children to stay home and for how long;
(b) Allow the ill child to return; and
(c) Call a parent to pick up their child and how you will care for the child until the parent arrives.

[Title 170 WAC—p. 42]
Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers 170-295-3060

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3010, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-09-093, § 388-295-3010, filed 4/20/04, effective 5/21/04; 03-14-110, § 388-295-3010, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3020 How often must staff wash their hands? Staff and volunteers must wash their hands with soap and warm water:

(1) When arriving at work;
(2) After toileting a child;
(3) Before, during (may use wet wipe) and after diapering a child;
(4) After personal toileting;
(5) After attending to an ill child;
(6) Before and after preparing, serving, or eating food;
(7) Before and after giving medication;
(8) After handling, feeding or cleaning up after animals;
(9) After handling bodily fluids;
(10) After smoking;
(11) After being outdoors or involved in outdoor play; and
(12) As needed.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3020, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3020, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3030 When is a child or staff member too ill to be at child care? (1) Your staff must check all children for signs of illness when they arrive at the center and throughout the day.

(2) You must exclude children and staff with the following symptoms from care:
   (a) Diarrhea (three or more watery stools or one bloody stool within twenty-four hours);
   (b) Vomiting (two or more times within twenty-four hours);
   (c) Open or oozing sores, unless properly covered with cloths or with bandages;
   (d) For suspected communicable skin infection such as impetigo, pinkeye, and scabies: The child may return twenty-four hours after starting antibiotic treatment;
   (e) Lice or nits; and
   (f) Fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and who also have one or more of the following:
      (i) Earache;
      (ii) Headache;
      (iii) Sore throat;
      (iv) Rash; or
      (v) Fatigue that prevents participation in regular activities.

   (3) Children and staff who have a reportable disease may not be in attendance at the child care center unless approved by the local health authority.

(4) You must not take ear or rectal temperatures. Oral temperatures can be taken for preschool through school age if single use disposable covers are used over the thermometer.

(5) When a child becomes ill or injured while in your care, you must:
   (a) Keep a confidential, individualized, written record in the child's file that includes the:
      (i) Date of an illness or injury;
      (ii) Treatment provided while in care; and
   (iii) Names of the staff providing the treatment.
   (b) Provide a copy of the illness or injury report to the parent; and
   (c) Keep a current, written incident log listing date of illness or injury, the child's name, names of staff involved, and a brief description of the incident for tracking and analysis.

(6) You must notify parents in writing when their children have been exposed to infectious diseases or parasites. The notification may consist of either a letter to parents or posting a notification for parents in a visible location.

(7) You are a mandated disease reporter to the health department per WAC 246-101-415. You can obtain a list of reportable diseases, time frames for reporting and reporting phone numbers from your local health department.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3030, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3030, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3040 How often must children wash their hands? Children must wash their hands with soap and warm water:

(1) On arrival at the center;
(2) After using the toilet;
(3) After the child is diapered;
(4) After outdoor play;
(5) After playing with animals;
(6) After touching body fluids (such as blood or after nose blowing or sneezing); and
(7) Before and after the child eats or participates in food activities.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3040, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3040, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3050 Am I required to give medications to the children in my care? If a child has a condition where the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) would apply you must make reasonable accommodation and give the medication.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3050, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3050, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3060 Who can provide consent for me to give medication to the children in my care? (1) Parents must give written consent before you give any child any medication. The parent's written consent must include:

(a) Child's first and last name;
(b) Name of medication;
(c) Reason for giving medication;
(d) Amount of medication to give;
(e) How to give the medication (route);
(f) How often to give the medication;
(g) Start and stop dates;
(h) Expected side effects; and
(i) How to store the medication consistent with directions on the medication label.

(2) The parent consent form is good for the number of days stated on the medication bottle for prescriptions. You may not give medication past the days prescribed on the medication bottle even if there is medication left.

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WAC 170-295-3070 How must I store medications? (1) You must store medications in the original container labeled with:

(a) The child's first and last names;
(b) If a prescription, the date the prescription was filled;
(c) The expiration date; and
(d) Easy to read instructions on how to give the medication (i.e., the bottle is in the original package or container with a clean and readable label).

(2) You must store medications:

(a) In a container inaccessible to children (including staff medications);
(b) Away from sources of moisture;
(c) Away from heat or light;
(d) Protected from sources of contamination;
(e) According to specific manufacturer directions;
(f) Separate from food (medications that must be refrigerated must be in a container to keep them separate from food); and
(g) In a manner to keep external medications that go on the skin separate from internal medications that go in the mouth or are injected into the body.

(3) All controlled substances must be in a locked container.

WAC 170-295-3080 Can I use bulk medications (use one container for all the children such as with diaper ointments)? You can keep bulk containers of diaper ointments and nontalc type powders intended for use in the diaper area and sun screen if you:

(1) Obtain written parental consent prior to use;
(2) Use for no longer than six months; and
(3) Notify the parents of the:
   (a) Name of the product used;
   (b) Active ingredients in the product; and
   (c) Sun protective factor (SPF) in sun screen.

(4) Apply the ointments in a manner to prevent contaminating the bulk container.

WAC 170-295-3090 How do I handle left over medication? You must not keep old medications on site. When a child is finished with a medication, you must either:

(1) Give it back to the parent; or
(2) Dispose of it by flushing medication(s) down the toilet.

WAC 170-295-3100 When can children take their own medication? (1) Children can take their own medication if they:

(a) Have a written statement from the parent requesting the child take their own medication;
(b) Have a written statement from a health care provider with prescriptive authority stating that the child is physically and mentally capable of taking their own medication; and
(c) Meet all other criteria in this chapter 388-295 WAC including storage of medications.

(2) A staff member must observe and document that the child took the medication.

WAC 170-295-3110 Do I need special equipment to give medication? To give liquid medication you must use a measuring device designed specifically for oral or liquid medications. Parents should provide the measuring devices for individual use.

WAC 170-295-3120 What documentation is required when giving children medication? You must keep a confidential, written record in the child's file of:
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WAC 170-295-3130 Can anyone else give medication to children in my care? (1) Only staff persons who have been oriented to your center’s medication policies and procedures can give medications.

(2) You must have documentation that the staff person has been oriented.

(3) Before a staff member administers medications they must ask parents to provide instructions on specialized medication administration procedures or observations, i.e., how to use the nebulizer, epi-pens or individual child’s preference for swallowing pills.

WAC 170-295-3140 What kind of milk can I serve? (1) Only pasteurized milk or pasteurized milk products can be served to children in your care.

(2) Nondairy milk substitutes may be served only with written permission of the child’s parent for children over the age of twelve months.

(3) The amount of required milk fat in the milk product is determined by the child’s age:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the age of the child is:</th>
<th>Then the fat content of the milk must be:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Under 12 months</td>
<td>Full strength formula or full strength breast milk unless there is specific written instructions from a licensed health care provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Between 12 months and 24 months</td>
<td>Full strength whole milk or breast milk unless there is specific written instruction from a licensed health care provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Over 24 months</td>
<td>With or without fat content of providers or parent’s choice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WAC 170-295-3150 How many meals and snacks must I serve? (1) The number of meals or snacks you must serve is based on the number of hours you are open.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you are open:</th>
<th>You must serve at least:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Nine hours or less</td>
<td>(i) Two snacks and one meal; or (ii) One snack and two meals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Over nine hours</td>
<td>(i) Two snacks and two meals; or (ii) Three snacks and one meal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) You must also offer:

(a) Food at intervals not less than two hours and not more than three and one-half hours apart;

(b) Breakfast or snack to children in morning care whether or not the child ate before arriving at the center;

(c) Breakfast to the child in nighttime care if the child remains at the center after the child’s usual breakfast time;

(d) A snack or meal for children arriving after school;

(e) Dinner to children in nighttime care if the children are at the center after their usual dinnertime or have not had dinner; and

(f) An evening snack to children in nighttime care.

WAC 170-295-3160 What kind of food and menus must I have? (1) You must:

(a) Prepare, date, and conspicuously post menus one week or more in advance, containing the meals and snacks to be served;

(b) Provide two weeks or more of meal and snack menu variety before repeating the menu;

(c) Keep six months of past menus on-site for inspection by the department;

(d) Make substitutions of comparable nutrient value and record changes on the menu, when needed;

(e) Provide daily a minimum of one serving of Vitamin C fruit, vegetable, or juice;

(f) Provide three or more times weekly foods high in Vitamin A;

(g) Maintain at least a three day supply of food and water for emergency purposes based on the number of children in child care.

(2) Meals eaten at the center must contain the following:

(a) Each breakfast meal the child eats at the center must contain:

   (i) A fruit or vegetable or one hundred percent fruit or vegetable juice.

   (ii) A dairy product (such as milk, cheese, yogurt, or cottage cheese).

   (iii) A grain product (such as bread, cereal, rice cake or bagel).

   (b) Each lunch and dinner meal the child eats at the center must contain:

      (i) A dairy product (such as milk, cottage cheese, yogurt, cheese);

      (ii) Meat or meat alternative (such as beef, fish, poultry, legumes, tofu, or beans);

      (iii) A grain product (such as bread, cereal, bagel, or rice cake);

      (iv) Fruits or vegetables (two fruits or two vegetables or one fruit and one vegetable to equal the total portion size required). When juice is served in place of a fruit or vegetable it must be one hundred percent fruit or vegetable juice.

(3) When meals are not provided by the center you must:

(a) Notify parents in writing that meals they provide for their children must meet the daily nutritional requirements;

(b) Provide adequate refrigeration for keeping potentially hazardous foods (such as meats of any type, cooked potato, cooked legumes, cooked rice, sprouts, cut melons or cantaloupes, milk, cheese);

(c) Refrigerate foods requiring refrigeration at 45 degrees Fahrenheit or less and keep frozen foods at 10 degrees Fahrenheit or less until they are cooked or consumed;

(d) Serve the following meals at least two of the following four components:

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(a) A milk product (such as milk, cottage cheese, yogurt, cheese);
(b) A meat or meat alternative (such as meat, legumes, beans, egg);
(c) A grain product (such as cereal, bagel, rice cake or bread); and
(d) Fruit or vegetable.
(5) Each snack or meal must include a liquid to drink. The drink could be water or one of the required components such as milk, fruit or vegetable juice.
(6) You may allow parents to bring in snacks for all the children that may not meet the nutritional requirements on special occasions such as birthdays. The snacks provided by parents must be limited to store purchased:
(a) Uncut fruits and vegetables; and
(b) Foods prepackaged in original manufacturer's containers.
(7) If a child has a food allergy or special menu requirements due to a health condition, you must:
(a) Receive written directions from the child's health care provider and parent to provide nutritional supplements (such as iron), a medically modified diet (such as a diabetic or an allergy diet). For allergy diets, the parent and child's health care provider must identify the foods the child is allergic to;
(b) Post each child's food allergies in locations where food is prepared and served;
(c) Include the allergies on the individual health care plan;
(d) Specify an alternative food with comparable nutritive value; and
(e) Notify staff of the allergies and reactions. NOTE: You can require parents to supply food for supplements and special diets.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3180, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3180, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3170 What are the food service standards I am required to meet? You must maintain on site at least one person with a Washington state department of health food handler's permit to:
(1) Monitor and oversee food handling and service at the center; and
(2) Provide orientation and ongoing training as needed for all staff involved in food handling. Anyone cooking full meals must have a food handlers permit.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3170, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3170, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3180 What are approved food sources? You must:
(1) Prepare or serve food that is not tampered with or spoiled and is obtained from an approved source including, but not limited to, a licensed caterer, a food service company or a grocery store. Food sources that are not approved include:
(a) Left over food that was previously served from outside your center;
(b) Home canned, frozen or prepared food unless it is for the person's own children;
(c) Donated food from restaurants or caterers that was previously served;
(d) Game meat that has not been inspected by the USDA; and
(e) Donated meat, fish, poultry or milk that is not from a source inspected for sale.
(2) Prepare all food on site unless it is provided by a:
(a) Licensed satellite kitchen, catering kitchen or other source licensed by the local health jurisdiction; or
(b) Parent for individual children.
(3) Have a signed contract or agreement with any satellite kitchen or the catering service that you use. Your contract must include written proof that the caterer and the method of transporting the food are approved by the local health jurisdiction as meeting the requirements of the department of health, chapter 246-215 WAC.
(4) Have a written policy if you use a satellite kitchen that describes:
(a) A description of how food will be handled once it is on-site; and
(b) What back up system you will use if the food does not arrive, not enough food arrives, or the food cannot be served.

WAC 170-295-3190 How can we be sure that the food we serve is safe? (1) You need to develop and implement a system to monitor the temperature of potentially hazardous foods during cooking, reheating, cooling, storing, and hot and cold holding temperatures to be sure that:
(a) Food will be cooked to at least the minimum correct internal temperature:
   (i) Ground beef and pork sausage 155 degrees Fahrenheit;
   (ii) Pork 150 degrees Fahrenheit;
   (iii) Fish and seafood 140 degrees Fahrenheit;
   (iv) Poultry and stuffing 165 degrees Fahrenheit;
   (v) Eggs 140 degrees Fahrenheit;
   (vi) Beef (not ground) and lamb 140 degrees Fahrenheit.
   (b) Previously prepared food is reheated one time only to an internal temperature of 165 degrees Fahrenheit within sixty minutes;
   (c) Hot food is kept at a temperature of 140 degrees Fahrenheit or above until served;
   (d) Cold food is kept at a temperature of 45 degrees Fahrenheit or less;
   (e) Refrigerators have a thermometer in or near the door and are kept at 45 degrees Fahrenheit or less; and
   (f) Freezers have a thermometer in or near the door and are kept at 10 degrees Fahrenheit or less.
(2) You must develop a system to record the temperature of each perishable food once it arrives from a satellite kitchen or a catering service. The system must include keeping records on site for six months with the following information:
(a) The name and the temperature of the food;
(b) The date and time the temperature was checked; and
(c) The name and signature or recognized initials of the person who is checking and recording the food temperatures.

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(3) You may serve previously prepared food that has not been previously served if it was stored at the proper temperature for less than forty-eight hours after preparation. Leftover foods or open foods in the refrigerator must be labeled with the date that they were opened or cooked.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3190, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3190, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3200 How do we safely thaw foods?
You must thaw food:

(1) In the original containers or in clean, labeled containers that are airtight and off the floor;
(2) In a manner that prevents contamination from other sources;
(3) In an area separate from toxic materials such as cleaning supplies, paint, or pesticides;
(4) That is not past the manufacturer's expiration or freshness date;
(5) In a refrigerator or freezer if cooling is required;
(6) Raw meat, poultry or fish in the refrigerator, below cooked or ready to eat foods;
(7) Foods not requiring refrigeration at least six inches above the floor in a clean, dry, ventilated storeroom or other areas; and
(8) Dry bulk foods not in their original containers, in containers with tight fitting covers. Containers must be labeled and dated.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3200, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3200, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3210 How do we safely thaw foods?
You must thaw food by one of the following methods:

(1) In a refrigerator;
(2) Under cool running water, in a pan placed in a sink with the stopper removed;
(3) In a microwave, if the food is to be cooked immediately; or
(4) As part of the continuous cooking process.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3210, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3210, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3220 What type of kitchen material and equipment is required? You need the following equipment to cook and serve meals without restrictions on the type of menus or foods that you can cook, serve or store:

(1) Kitchen walls, counter tops, floors, cabinets and shelves that are:
   (a) Maintained in good repair to include being properly sealed without chips or cracks;
   (b) Moisture resistant; and
   (c) Maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.
(2) A range with a properly vented hood or exhaust fan, except when serving only snacks;
(3) A refrigerator, freezer or a combination refrigerator with sufficient space for proper storage and cooling of food;
(4) Handwashing facilities located in or adjacent to the food preparation area with handwashing procedures posted at each sink used for handwashing and followed by all persons who participate in food preparation.
(5) A method to clean and sanitize equipment using:
   (a) A two compartment sink and an automatic dishwasher capable of reaching a temperature of 140 degrees Fahrenheit; or
   (b) The means to appropriately clean and sanitize dishes and utensils through the use of a three compartment sink method where sink one is used to wash, sink two is used to rinse, and sink three contains a sanitizing ingredient;
   (6) You may use a microwave oven to reheat foods if the food is:
      (a) Rotated or stirred during heating;
      (b) Covered to retain moisture; and
      (c) Held for two minutes prior to serving to allow the temperature to spread evenly throughout the food.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3220, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3220, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-3230 What type of eating and drinking equipment must I provide? (1) You must provide eating and drinking equipment that is:
(2) Under cool running water, in a pan placed in a sink with the stopper removed;
(3) In a microwave, if the food is to be cooked immediately; or
(4) As part of the continuous cooking process.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-3230, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-3230, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-4020 How do we meet the nutritional needs of the infants in our care? You must:

(1) Have written policies on providing, preparing, storing and sanitizing infant formula, food and utensils; and
(2) Work with the infant's parent to develop a plan for the infant's feedings that is acceptable to the parent and incorporates the following guidelines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Developmental Stage/Age of Infant</th>
<th>Type of Feeding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Under 4 months of age</td>
<td>Serve only formula or breast milk unless you have a written order from the child's health care provider.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**WAC 170-295-4030** What is a safe way to prepare bottles? (1) Parents may bring from home filled bottles labeled with the infant's name for daily use (see WAC 388-295-4040).  
(2) To prepare bottles you must:  
(a) Prepare and fill bottles by washing hands prior to bottle preparation;  
(b) Use a sink that is only for bottle preparation, other food preparation or other approved source of water. Water from a handwashing sink may not be used for bottle preparation;  
(c) Do not heat a bottle in a microwave or allow bottles to warm at room temperature for more than an hour, to limit bacterial growth; and  
(d) Bottles must be warmed under running warm water or placed in a container of water that is not warmer than 120 degrees Fahrenheit.  
(3) The bottle preparation area including the sink must:  
(a) Be located at least eight feet from the outermost edge of diaper changing tables or counters and sinks used for diaper changing; or  
(b) Have a barrier to prevent cross-contamination that is placed between the sink used for food or bottle preparation and the diaper changing table, counter or sink. If a barrier is used, it must be:  
(i) Solid (without cracks or breaks);  
(ii) Sealed;  
(iii) Moisture-resistant; and  
(iv) At least twenty-four inches in height from the counter surface.  
(4) If the infant room does not have a sink that is dedicated to bottle and food preparation, you must provide a clean source of water for preparing bottles such as getting water from the kitchen and keeping it in a container with airtight cover that:  
(a) Is located at least eight feet from the outermost edge of diaper changing tables or counters and sinks used for diaper changing; or  
(b) Has a barrier that meets the requirements in WAC 388-295-4030 (3)(b) to prevent cross-contamination that is placed between the sink used for food or bottle preparation and the diaper changing table, counter or sink.  

**WAC 170-295-4040** What is a safe way to store infant formula and food? To store bottles, formula or infant food, you must:  
(1) Label all bottles with the infant's full name and the date the bottle was filled to be sure the correct formula or breast milk is given to each infant;  
(2) Have a refrigerator accessible to staff to store bottles and unserved, leftover infant food;  
(3) Throw away the contents of any bottle not fully consumed within one hour. Do not put bottles that have been used back into the refrigerator;  
(4) Throw away or return to the family any unused bottle contents within twelve hours of preparing or arriving at the center;  
(5) Not serve infant formula past the expiration date on the manufacturers container; and  
(6) Keep bottle nipples covered when not in use to reduce risk of cross contamination and exposure.  

**WAC 170-295-4050** What is a safe way to store breast milk? You can keep frozen breast milk if you:  
(1) Label the contents with the child's name and date it was brought into the center;  
(2) Store the frozen breast milk at 10 degrees Fahrenheit or less;  
(3) Thaw the breast milk in the refrigerator, under warm running water or in a pan of warm water; and  
(4) Keep frozen breast milk in the center for no more than two weeks.
WAC 170-295-4060 What is a correct way to clean bottles and nipples? Bottles, bottle caps, nipples and other equipment used for bottle feeding must not be reused without first being cleaned and sanitized by:
(1) Washing in a dishwasher; or
(2) Washing, rinsing and boiling for one minute.

WAC 170-295-4070 Are there specific rules for feeding infants and toddlers? (1) Infants must be fed according to their need rather than according to an adult prescribed time schedule.
(2) While feeding infants:
(a) Hold infants for bottle feedings to prevent choking;
(b) Place infants who can sit in high chairs or at an appropriate child-sized table and chairs for feeding and sit facing the child during the feeding;
(c) Do not prop a bottle;
(d) To prevent tooth decay:
   (i) Do not give a bottle to a reclining child unless the bottle contains only water; and
   (ii) Offer juice only from a cup.
(e) Take the bottle from the child when the child finishes feeding.

WAC 170-295-4080 When should I begin toilet training a child? Toilet training is initiated with consultation with parents:
(1) Using positive reinforcement;
(2) Cultural sensitivity;
(3) Not using foods as a reinforcement; and
(4) Following a routine established between the parent and you.

WAC 170-295-4090 Can we use potty-chairs for toilet training? You may use potty-chairs that are:
(1) Located in the toilet room or similar area that meets the requirements of WAC 388-295-5100 designed for toileting;
(2) On a floor that is moisture resistant and washable;
(3) Immediately emptied into a toilet; and
(4) Cleaned in a designated sink or utility sink separate from classrooms and sanitized after each use. The sink must also be cleaned and sanitized after cleaning potty-chairs.

WAC 170-295-4100 What sleep equipment do I need for infants? (1) You must not put infants to sleep in infant or car seats.
(2) You must provide each infant with a single-level crib (stacking cribs must not be used), infant bed, bassinet or playpen for napping until you and the parent agree that the child can safely use a mat, cot or other approved sleeping equipment.
(3) Cribs, if used, must:
(a) Be sturdy and made of wood, metal or plastic with a secure latching device;
(b) Be constructed with vertical slats that are no more than two and three-eighths inches apart or be solid plexiglas;
(c) Have corner posts that extend less than one-sixteenth of an inch above the sides and railing;
(d) Not have cutout designs on the end panels;
(e) Have a rail height and end panel as measured from the top of the rail or panel in its lowest position to the top of the mattress support in its highest position of at least nine inches;
(f) Have a rail height and end panel as measured from the top of the rail or panel in its highest position to the top of the mattress support in its lowest position of at least twenty-six inches; and
(g) Not use crib bumper pads, stuffed toys, quilts, lambskins, and pillows in cribs, infant beds, bassinets or playpens.
(4) You must provide a crib, infant bed, playpen or bassinet mattress that is:
(a) Snug fitting and touches each side of the crib to prevent the infant from becoming entrapped between the mattress and crib side rails;
(b) Waterproof; and
(c) Easily cleaned and sanitized, without tears or tape.
(5) To allow walking room between cribs and reduce the spread of germs you must:
(a) Space cribs a minimum of thirty inches apart. You may place cribs end to end if you provide a barrier. If you use barriers, staff must be able to observe and have immediate access to each child.
(b) Provide a moisture resistant and easily cleanable solid barrier on the side or end adjacent to another crib.
(6) You must provide:
(a) An appropriate fitting sheet or cover for the sleeping surface; and
(b) A clean light weight blanket or suitable cover for the child.
(7) You must launder bedding at least weekly and more often if it becomes soiled.

WAC 170-295-4110 What additional sleeping arrangements must I make to reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)? (1) You must put infants to sleep on their backs to reduce the risk of SIDS unless you have a written note in the infant's file from both the parent and the infant's health care provider requesting another sleeping position.
(2) Once infants are able to turn over, continue to place them on their back to sleep. You do not need to wake the infants to return them to their back while sleeping.
**WAC 170-295-4120** What must I do to be sure that diaper changing is safe and does not spread infections? (1) Your diaper changing table and area must:

(a) Have a washable, moisture resistant diaper-changing surface that is cleaned and sanitized between children;

(b) Be a table or counter with a protective barrier on all sides that is at least three and one-half inches higher than the surface that the child lays on;

(c) Have a garbage can with a lid, plastic liner, and method for disposing of hand drying supplies so that a garbage can lid does not have to be opened with hands;

(d) Be on moisture impervious and washable flooring that extends at least two feet surrounding the diaper changing and handwashing area; and

(e) Be directly adjacent to a sink used for handwashing supplied with:

   (i) Warm running water (between 85 degrees Fahrenheit and 120 degrees Fahrenheit);

   (ii) Soap; and

   (iii) A sanitary method for drying hands (single-use towels).

(2) You must have the diaper changing procedure posted and must follow the steps included.

(3) You must not leave the child unattended during the diaper change.

(4) You must not use the safety belts on diaper changing tables because they are neither cleanable nor safe.

(5) You must not place anything on the diaper-changing table, counter or sink except the child, changing pad and diaper changing supplies.

(6) Disposable diapers must be:

   (a) Placed into a covered, plastic-lined, hands free covered container;

   (b) Removed from the facility and the liner changed at least daily and more often if odor is present; and

   (c) Disposed of according to local disposal requirements.

(7) Reusable diapers must be:

   (a) Individually bagged and placed without rinsing into a separate, cleanable, covered container equipped with a waterproof liner before transporting to the laundry, given to the commercial service or returned to parents for laundry; and

   (b) Removed from the facility daily or more often if odor is present.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-4120, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-4120, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

**WAC 170-295-4130** Do I need a nurse consultant? (1) If you are licensed to care for four or more infants you must have an infant nurse consultant. The nurse consultant's duties will depend upon the needs of the center. We, center management, teachers, and observations/assessments of the nurse consultant can identify the needs.

(2) If you are required to have an infant nurse consultant, you must:

   (a) Have a written agreement with a nurse consultant who is a currently licensed registered nurse (RN) who has either worked in pediatrics (care of children) or public health in the past year or has taken or taught classes in pediatric nursing at the college level in the past five years;

   (b) Have at least one monthly on-site visit from your nurse consultant when you have infants enrolled (you may skip the monthly visit if no infants are enrolled);

   (c) Have the nurse or a designee that meets the requirements of a nurse consultant available by phone as needed; and

   (d) Have written notes of the nurse consultant visit on-site that includes topics discussed, areas of concern, date and signature.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-4130, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-4130, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

**SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT**

**WAC 170-295-5010** What first-aid supplies are required in my center? (1) You must maintain on the premises adequate first-aid supplies conforming to the center's first-aid policies and procedures. The center's first-aid supplies must include:

(a) A supply for each vehicle used to transport children; and

(b) A portable supply, which can be taken on walks and field trips.

(2) You must store first aid supplies:

(a) Inaccessible to children;

(b) In a clean and safe manner to prevent contamination such as in a tackle box or other container, away from chemicals and moisture.

(3) Your first aid kit must include at least:

   (a) A current first-aid manual;

   (b) Sterile gauze pads;

   (c) Small scissors;

   (d) Band-Aids of various sizes;

   (e) Nonsterile protective gloves;

   (f) Large triangular bandage (sling);

   (g) Nonsterile protective masks;

   (h) Adhesive tape;

   (i) Tweezers;

   (j) One-way CPR barrier or mask; and

   (k) At least one unexpired bottle of Syrup of Ipecac that must be given only at the direction of a poison control center.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-5010, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-5010, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

**WAC 170-295-5020** How do I maintain a safe environment? (1) You must maintain the building, equipment
and premises in a safe manner that protects the children from injury hazards including but not limited to:

(a) Burns (for example: Chemicals or other potentially flammable substances);
(b) Drowning;
(c) Choking (for example: Ropes, wires, blind cords, fences not meeting requirements);
(d) Cuts (for example: Broken glass, sharp objects, abrasive surfaces);
(e) Entrapments (for example: The following items must not have openings between three and one-half inches and nine inches wide: Deck and fence rails, stair rails or other equipment);
(f) Falls from excessive heights;
(g) Gunshots by ensuring no firearm or another weapon is on the premises;
(h) Hearing loss by keeping noise at a level where a normal conversation can be heard;
(i) Objects falling on the children (for example: Heavy items on open shelving that could fall in an earthquake or similar emergency);
(j) Pinches from equipment (for example: Broken or cracked areas);
(k) Poison (such as cleaning supplies or lead-based paint);
(l) Puncture (for example: Equipment, building edges or playground equipment with sharp points or jagged edges);
(m) Shear or crush (for example: Lawn and garden equipment used for yard maintenance);
(n) Shock by electricity;
(o) Trap (for example: Compost bins, old freezers, dryers or refrigerators); and
(p) Trip (for example: Cable wires, ropes, jagged or cracked walkways).

(2) To further prevent injuries, you must
(a) Provide child height handrails on at least one side of the steps, stairways, and ramps;
(b) Provide guardrails for elevated play areas and stairs;
(c) Use listed tamper resistant receptacles or use tamper resistant, nonmoveable, nonremovable cover plates in areas accessible to children preschool age and younger;
(d) Shield light bulbs and tubes by using a protective barrier to prevent shattering into child-accessible areas, food, and storage areas;
(e) Provide screens for windows or limit the opening capability of any windows within reach of children to less than three and one-half inches. Windows with limited opening capabilities cannot be the designated fire escape window. Windows protected with guards must not block outdoor light or air in areas used by children;
(f) Provide a barrier for glass areas such as windows or sliding glass doors that extend down to the child's eye level by placing a barrier between the child and glass or something placed on the glass at the child’s eye level such as stickers or art work so that the child does not try to go through the solid glass;
(g) Not place cribs, play pens, bassinets, infant beds, indoor climbing structures next to windows unless of safety glass; and
(h) When using heaters capable of reaching 110 degrees Fahrenheit on the surface, you must protect children from burn hazards by making them inaccessible to children or locating them where children cannot reach them.

(3) You may not use portable heaters.

(4) You must implement a method to monitor entrance and exit doors to prevent children from exiting the buildings unsupervised. You may use:
(a) A door alarm;
(b) A bell that can be heard throughout the building;
(c) Adult supervision at the exits; or
(d) Other method to alert the staff (you may not lock the door to prevent an exit. It is against the fire code).

(5) You must maintain one or more telephones on the premises in working order that is accessible to staff at all times.

(6) You must maintain a flashlight or other emergency lighting device in working condition.

WAC 170-295-5030 What do I need to include in my disaster plan? (1) You must develop and implement a disaster plan designed for response to fire, natural disasters and other emergencies. The plan must address what you are going to do if there is a disaster and parents are not able to get to their children for two or three days.

(2) The fire plan must follow the requirements in chapter 212-12 WAC or the state fire marshal requirements.

(3) In areas where local emergency plans are in place, such as school district emergency plan, centers may follow those procedures and actions in developing their own plan.

(4) The disaster plan must be:
(a) Specific to the child care center;
(b) Relevant to the types of disasters that might occur in the location of your child care center;
(c) Able to be implemented during hours of operation; and
(d) Posted in every classroom for easy access by parents and staff.

(5) Your disaster plan must identify:
(a) The designated position of the person (example: director, lead teacher, program supervisor, etc.) who is responsible for each part of the plan;
(b) Procedures for accounting for all children and staff during and after the emergency;
(c) How you evacuate the premises, if necessary, and the meeting location after evacuation;
(d) How you care for children with special needs during and after the disaster;
(e) How you provide for children until parents are able to pick them up;
(f) How you contact parents or how parents can contact the child care center; and
(g) Transportation arrangements, if necessary.

(6) Your written records must include a disaster plan, with signatures and dates of persons completing the disaster plan review on-site. The disaster plan must be read, reviewed and signed by:
(a) The director and staff annually; and
(b) Parents when children are enrolled.
(7) In addition to the requirements for fire drills and training set forth by the state fire marshal in chapter 212-12 WAC, you must:
   (a) Document staff education and training of the disaster plan;
   (b) Conduct and document quarterly disaster drills for children and staff (you do not have to conduct a drill quarterly for each potential disaster - just one drill per quarter);
   (c) Keep written documentation of the drills on-site; and
   (d) Debrief and evaluate the plan in writing after each disaster incident or drill.

(8) You must keep the twelve month record indicating the date and time you conducted the required monthly fire evacuation drills on-site for the current year plus the previous calendar year.

WAC 170-295-5040 How do I maintain a clean and sanitized environment? (1) Surfaces must be easily cleanable. A cleanable surface is one that is:
   (a) Designed to be cleaned frequently;
   (b) Moisture-resistant; and
   (c) Free from cracks, chips or tears.

(2) Examples of cleanable surfaces include linoleum, tile, sealed wood, and plastic.

(3) You must maintain the building, equipment and premises in a clean and sanitary manner that protects the children from illness including but not limited to:
   (a) Ensure that floors around sinks, toilets, diaper change areas and potty chairs are moisture resistant and easily cleanable for at least twenty-four inches surrounding the surfaces; and
   (b) Take measures to control rodents, fleas, cockroaches, and other pests in and around the center premises such as:
      (i) Keep all trash and garbage cans tightly sealed;
      (ii) Screen open windows and doors;
      (iii) Seal and store food properly; and
      (iv) Keep floors and other areas free from crumbs and food debris.

(4) Surfaces can be cleaned:
   (a) With any cleaning solution such as soap and water, cleanser or cleaning spray;
   (b) With a concentration according to label directions; and
   (c) Rinsed as needed per label directions.

(5) You may use a bleach solution to sanitize in the following areas:
   (a) Diapering areas;
   (b) Surfaces exposed to body fluids;
   (c) Bathrooms and bathroom equipment;
   (d) Table tops;
   (e) High chairs;
   (f) Toys;
   (g) Dishes;
   (h) Floors; and
   (i) Sleeping mats.

(6) You may use any solution that is intended for sanitizing if the solution is approved by the department. When you use a product other than bleach to sanitize, you must:
   (a) Follow the label directions for use including concentration, contact time and rinsing; and
   (b) Be sure that if you use the product on food contact surfaces and items that children might put into their mouths, the label states the product is safe for food contact surfaces.

(7) The following are surfaces that need to be cleaned and sanitized and a minimum schedule for that cleaning:
   (a) Tables and counters used for food serving and high chairs before and after each meal or snack;
   (b) Sinks, counters and floors daily, or more often if necessary;
   (c) Refrigerators monthly or more often as needed;
   (d) Bathrooms (including sinks, toilets, counters and floors) daily and more often if necessary;
   (e) Floors will be swept, cleaned and sanitized daily;
   (f) Carpet vacuumed at least daily and shampooed as needed but at least every six months;
   (g) Toys that children place in their mouth between use by different children;
   (h) Infant and toddler toys daily; and
   (i) Sleeping mats, cribs and other forms of bedding between use by different children and at least weekly.

(8) Your health policies and procedures must describe your frequency for general cleaning, dusting, cleaning toys, toy shelves, and equipment.

WAC 170-295-5050 How can I make sure water activities are as safe and sanitary as possible? (1) To ensure that the children are safe with a swimming pool on the premises, you must:
   (a) Ensure that pools are inaccessible to children when not in use;
   (b) Provide a certified lifeguard at all times in addition to required staff, when children use a swimming pool; and
   (c) Follow any guidelines established by your local health jurisdiction or the state department of health.

(2) You must prohibit children from using or having access to a hot tub spa, small portable wading pools, whirlpool, or other similar equipment.

(3) If you have a water table you must empty and sanitize water tables or similar water play containers after each use and more often if necessary.

WAC 170-295-5060 How must I store maintenance and janitorial supplies? (1) You must provide safe storage for flammable and combustible liquids and chemicals used for maintenance purposes and operation of equipment. They must be in a location designed to prevent child access at all times. The liquids and chemicals must be:
   (a) Stored in original containers or in department approved safety containers that identify contents;
(b) Stored to comply with fire safety regulations adopted by the state fire marshal's office; and
(c) Ventilated either by mechanical ventilation to the outdoors or through a window that opens on the exterior wall.
(2) Your janitorial or housekeeping storage must have:
(a) Floor surfaces that are moisture impervious and easily cleanable;
(b) A designated utility or service sink for disposing of wastewater; and
(c) A place for mop storage that is ventilated to the outside.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-5060, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-5060, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-5070 How do I make sure my water is safe? (1) You must have hot and cold running water.
(2) Hot water that is accessible to children must be between 85 degrees Fahrenheit and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
(3) To be sure your water is safe for drinking, cleaning, cooking and handwashing, you must:
(a) Receive drinking water from a public water system approved by and maintained in compliance with either the department of health or a local health jurisdiction under chapter 246-290 WAC (Group A systems) or chapter 246-291 WAC (Group B systems); or
(b) Have a source of potable water approved for child care center use by the state department of health or the local health jurisdiction; and
(c) Take any other actions required or requested by the state department of health, the local health jurisdiction or the department of social and health services to ensure the safety and reliability of the water supply.
(4) If your water connection is interrupted or your water source becomes contaminated:
(a) A correction must be made within twenty-four hours or the facility must close until corrections can be made; or
(b) The facility must obtain an alternative source of potable water approved by the state department of health or local health jurisdiction in an amount adequate to ensure the requirements in this chapter for safe drinking water, handwashing, sanitizing, dishwashing, and cooking are met.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-5070, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-5070, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-5080 How do I safely get rid of sewage and liquid wastes? (1) You must dispose of sewage and liquid waste into a public sewer system or approved on-site sewage disposal system (septic system) designed, constructed and maintained as required in chapters 246-272 and 173-240 WAC and local ordinances.
(2) If you have an on-site sewage system, you must:
(a) Have written verification that the system has been approved by the department of health or local health jurisdiction; and
(b) Locate your drain field and venting to be sure that:
(i) Playgrounds are not on and do not interfere with the access to or operation of the on-site sewage system including the drain field; and
(ii) That drain field venting does not vent onto the play ground.

WAC 170-295-5090 What are the fence requirements? (1) You must fence the outdoor play area to:
(a) Prevent unauthorized people from entering; and
(b) Prevent children from escaping and having access to hazardous areas.
(2) At a minimum fences and gates must:
(a) Be safe, and maintained in good repair; and
(b) Be designed to discourage climbing and prevent entrapment.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-5090, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-5090, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-5100 What are the requirements for toilets, handwashing sinks and bathing facilities? (1) You must provide:
(a) A toilet room that is vented to the outdoors;
(b) A room with flooring that is moisture resistant and washable;
(c) One flush-type toilet and one adjacent sink for handwashing within auditory (hearing) range of the child care classrooms for every fifteen children and staff;
(d) Toileting privacy for children of opposite genders who are six years of age and older, or when a younger child demonstrates a need for privacy; and
(e) A mounted toilet paper dispenser within arms reach of the user with a constant supply of toilet paper for each toilet.
(2) Children eighteen months of age or younger are not included when determining the number of required flush-type toilets.
(3) If urinals are provided, the number of urinals must not replace more than one-third of the total required toilets.
(4) Toilet fixture heights must be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the age group is:</th>
<th>The toilet fixture height must be:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Toddler: Eighteen months through 29 months</td>
<td>(i) Ten - 12 inches (child size); or (ii) Fourteen - 16 inches (adult size) with a safe, easily cleanable platform that is moisture impervious and slip resistant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Preschool or older: Thirty months of age through five years of age not enrolled in kindergarten or elementary school</td>
<td>(i) Ten - 12 inches (child size); or (ii) Fourteen - 16 inches (adult size) with a safe, easily cleanable platform that is moisture impervious and slip resistant.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(5) Handwashing sink heights must be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the age group is:</th>
<th>The sink height must be:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Toddler: Twelve months through 29 months</td>
<td>(i) Eighteen - 22 inches; or (ii) Provide a moisture and slip resistant platform for children to safely reach and use the sink.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Preschool or older: Thirty months of age through five years of age not enrolled in kindergarten or elementary school</td>
<td>(i) Twenty-two - 26 inches; or (ii) Provide a moisture and slip resistant platform for children to safely reach and use the sink.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2007 Ed.) [Title 170 WAC—p. 53]
If the age group is: | The sink height must be:
---|---
(c) School age: Over five years of age or enrolled in kindergarten or elementary school | (i) Twenty-six - 30 inches; or (ii) Provide a moisture and slip resistant platform for children to safely reach and use the sink.

(6) Infants are not included when determining the number of sinks required for handwashing.

(7) The sink for handwashing must:
(a) Be located in or immediately outside of each toilet room;
(b) Have water controls that are accessible by the intended user; and
(c) Not be used for food preparation, as a drinking water source or a storage area.

(8) You must have:
(a) Single-use paper towels and dispensers; or
(b) Heated air-drying devices.

(9) You must use soap from some type of dispenser to prevent the spread of bacteria from the soap.

(10) If the center is equipped with a bathing facility, you must:
(a) Have parent permission to bathe children;
(b) Equip the bathing facility with a conveniently located grab bar and a nonskid pad or surface; and
(c) Provide constant supervision for the child five years of age and younger and older children who require supervision.

(11) You must make the bathing facility inaccessible to children when not in use.

**WAC 170-295-5110** What are the requirements if I do laundry on the premises or off-site? (1) If you choose to do laundry on the premises or off-site you must be sure the laundry is:
(a) Cleaned and rinsed;
(b) Sanitized with hot water that reaches at least 140 degrees Fahrenheit or use an alternative method such as chlorine bleach that has been approved by the department;
(c) Stored to keep soiled linen and laundry separate from clean linen;
(d) Separate from kitchen and food preparation areas; and
(e) Inaccessible to children.

(2) You also must ensure the dryer is ventilated to outside the building.

**WAC 170-295-5120** What kind of sleep and nap equipment do I need for children not in cribs, bassinets, infant beds or playpens? Sleeping and nap equipment must be available for each toddler and preschool age child not using a crib and remaining in care for at least six hours and any other child requiring a nap or rest period.

(1) You must:
(a) Provide a separate, firm and waterproof mat or mattress, cot or bed for each child or have a system for cleaning the equipment between children;
(b) Place mats or cots at least thirty inches apart at the sides and arrange children head to toe or toe to toe;
(c) Be sure that the bedding consists of a clean sheet or cover for the sleeping surface and a clean blanket or suitable cover for the child;
(d) Launder the bedding weekly or more often if necessary and between uses by different children;
(e) Store each child's bedding separately from bedding used by other children. Once the bedding has been used, it is considered dirty. One child's bedding cannot touch another child's bedding during storage;
(f) Keep mats clean and in good repair. Once a mat is torn it is not cleanable. You may not use duct tape or fabric to repair sleeping mats or mattresses; and
(g) Use only cots with a surface that can be cleaned with a detergent solution, disinfected and allowed to air dry.

(2) You may not use the upper bunk of a bunk bed for children under six years of age.

**WAC 170-295-5140** Are there any requirements for storage space provided for children? You must provide accessible individual storage space for each child's belongings that prevents the spread of diseases or parasites such as scabies and lice.

**WAC 170-295-5150** Are there temperature requirements for my facility? (1) You must maintain all rooms used by children at temperature of:
(a) Sixty-eight degrees Fahrenheit to 75 degrees Fahrenheit during winter months; and
(b) Sixty-eight degrees Fahrenheit to 82 degrees Fahrenheit during the summer months.

(2) In addition, you must:
(a) Equip the room or building with a mechanical air cooling system or equivalent when the inside temperature of child-occupied areas exceeds 82 degrees Fahrenheit. This includes but is not limited to, swamp coolers, fans, air conditioners, or drip systems;
(b) Not take children outdoors during extremes temperatures that put children at risk for physical harm.

**WAC 170-295-5160** What do I need to know about pesticides? (1) To use pesticides, you must comply with licensing requirements of chapter 17.21 RCW (The Pesticide Application Act) which requires you to:
(a) Establish a policy on the use of pesticides that includes your posting and notification requirements;
(b) Provide to parents a written copy of your pesticide policies that includes your posting and notification requirements annually or on enrollment;

(c) Notify parents, guardians, and any other interested parties forty-eight hours in advance of the application of pesticides; and

(d) Require the pesticide applicator to provide a copy of the records required within twenty-four hours of when the pesticide is applied.

(2) Your notification must include a heading stating "Notice: Pesticide Application and..." at a minimum must state the:

(a) Product name of the pesticide being used;

(b) Intended date and time of application;

(c) Location where the pesticide will be applied;

(d) Pest to be controlled; and

(e) Name and number of a contact person at the facility.

(3) To notify people that a pesticide has been used, you must place a marker at each primary point of entry to the center grounds. The marker must be:

(a) A minimum of four inches by five inches;

(b) Printed in colors contrasting to the background; and

(c) Left in place for at least twenty-four hours following the pesticide application or longer if a longer restricted period is stated on the label.

(4) The marker must include:

(a) A headline that states "This landscape has recently been sprayed or treated with pesticides";

(b) Who has treated the landscape;

(c) Who to call for more information.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-5170, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-5160, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-5170 Can we have animals at the center? (1) When animals are on the center premises you must:

(a) Notify the parents in writing that animals are on the premises and the potential health risks associated with the animals to include how to address the needs of children having allergies to animals;

(b) Have a signed document from each parent stating they understand the potential health risks;

(c) Not hang pet containers or cages in corridors, entryways or over where children eat, sleep, and play;

(d) Post handwashing signs in areas where pets are housed;

(e) Have containers or cages to prevent debris from spilling out of the container or cage. The container or cage must not be located in corridors, entrance ways, or where children eat, or play;

(f) Assign responsible staff to ensure pet containers, cages, and litter boxes are cleaned and disinfected at least weekly and more often if needed;

(g) Not allow animals in food preparation areas. If the sink is used for cleaning food or utensils it cannot be used to clean pet supplies;

(h) Not allow animals in rooms that typically are used by infants or toddlers;

(i) Keep on file proof of current rabies vaccinations for all dogs and cats;

(j) Meet local requirements in counties with immunization, vaccination and licensing requirements for animals; and

(k) Organize children into small groups for supervised activity for handling of pets.

(2) You must develop policies and procedures for management of pets to include:

(a) How the needs of children who have allergies to pets will be accommodated;

(b) How pet containers, cages, litter boxes will be cleaned and sanitized and who will do it;

(c) How pets will receive food and water, and be kept clean and who will do it;

(d) Curricula for teaching children and staff about safety and hygiene when handling pets; and

(e) Pets (excluding aquatic animals) showing signs of illness must be removed from the facility until they have been seen, treated and given approval to return to the center by a veterinarian. Written proof of veterinary visits must be maintained on file.

(3) Reptiles and amphibians must be in an aquarium or other totally self-contained area except during educational activities involving the reptile. Children five years of age or less must not physically handle reptiles and amphibians.

(4) Animals with a history of biting or other aggressive behaviors must not be on the premises of the child care center.

(5) You must ensure children wash their hands after handling animals.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-5170, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-5170, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

AGENCY PRACTICES

WAC 170-295-6010 What are the regulations regarding discrimination? (1) Child care centers are defined by state and federal law as places of public accommodation and must not discriminate in employment practices and client services on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, class, age, religion, or disability.

(2) You must:

(a) Post a nondiscrimination poster where families and staff can easily read it;

(b) Have a written nondiscrimination policy; and

(c) Comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-6010, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-6010, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-6020 What are the regulations regarding religious activities? You must:

(1) Respect and facilitate the rights of the child in care to observe the tenets of the child’s faith, consistent with state and federal laws;

(2) Not punish or discourage the child for exercising these rights; and

(3) Maintain a written description of the center’s religious polices and practices that affect the child in care.
WAC 170-295-6030 What are the special requirements regarding American Indian children? When five percent or more of the center's child enrollment consists of American Indian children, you must develop social services resource and staff training programs designed to meet the special needs of such children through coordination with tribal, Indian health service, and Bureau of Indian Affairs social service staff, and appropriate urban Indian and Alaska native consultants.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-6030, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-6020, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-6040 What are the requirements regarding child abuse and neglect? (1) You and your staff must protect the child in care from child abuse, neglect, or exploitation, as required under chapter 26.44 RCW.

(2) You may immediately report an instance when you suspect child physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, child neglect, or child exploitation as defined in chapter 26.44 RCW has occurred. This report must be made to children's administration central intake.

(3) If there is immediate danger to a child you must also make a report to local law enforcement.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-6040, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-6030, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-6050 What substances are prohibited in the child care center or on the premises? (1) You, your staff, parents, and volunteers must not be under the influence of, consume, or possess an alcoholic beverage or illegal drug while on the child care premises or during work hours while you are responsible for children in care.

(2) You, your staff, parents, and volunteers must not smoke:

(a) Inside the center building;
(b) While supervising children outdoors; or
(c) In a motor vehicle while transporting children.

(3) You, your staff, parents, and volunteers may smoke outdoors, off the premises and out of view of the children.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-6050, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-6050, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-6060 Who is allowed to have unsupervised access to children in care? (1) During operating hours or while the child is in care, the only persons allowed to have regular or unsupervised access to the child in care are:

(a) The child's parent;
(b) You;
(c) An employee or volunteer who has received a Washington state patrol background check clearance; and
(d) A representative of a governmental agency who has specific, verifiable authority supported by documentation for the access.

(2) You must not allow anyone else unsupervised access to a child in care. A parent can only have unsupervised access to his or her own child unless the parent signs an authorization for an individual to have unsupervised access to their own child.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-6060, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-6060, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

RECORDS, REPORTING, AND POSTING

WAC 170-295-7010 What information must be kept in the child's individual file? (1) You must keep current organized confidential records and information about each child in care on the premises. You must make sure that each child's record contains, at a minimum:

(a) Completed enrollment application signed by the parent;
(b) Name, birth date, dates of enrollment and termination, and other identifying information;
(c) Name, address, and home and business telephone number of the parent and other person to be contacted in case of an emergency;
(d) Health history;
(e) Individual plan of care when needed for chronic health conditions and life threatening medical conditions;
(f) Written consent from the parent for you to seek and approve medical care in an emergency situation, a court order waiving the right of informed consent, or parent's alternate plans for emergency medical and surgical care if the parent can not be reached;
(g) Information on how to contact the parents, especially in emergencies;
(h) Instructions from parent or health care providers related to medications, specific food or feeding requirements, allergies, treatments, and special equipment or health care needs if necessary;
(i) Written records of any illness or injury that occurs during child care hours and the treatment provided; and
(j) Written records of any medications given while the child is at child care.

(2) You must include the following authorizations in each child's record:

(a) Name, address, and telephone number of the person authorized to remove the child from the center;
(b) Written parental consent for transportation to and from school; and
(c) Written parental consent for transportation provided by the center to and from field trips, including field trip location, date of trip, departure and arrival times and any other additional information the parent may need to be advised of.

(3) You can use any health history form you choose as long as it includes:

(a) The date of the child's last physical exam or the date the child was last seen by a health care provider for reasons other than immunizations;
(b) Allergies, expected symptoms, and method of treatment if necessary;
(c) Health and developmental concerns or issues;
(d) Any life threatening medical condition that requires an individual health plan;
(e) A list of current medications used by the child;

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(f) Name, address and phone number of the child’s health care provider; and

(g) Name, address and phone number of the child’s dentist, if the child has a dentist.

(4) The individual records, including the certificate of immunization status, must be kept on the premises:
(a) For each child currently in care; and
(b) For one year after the child leaves your care.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-7010, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-09-093, § 388-295-7010, filed 4/20/04, effective 5/21/04; 03-14-110, § 388-295-7010, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-7020 Am I required to track immunizations? (1) You are required to track each child's immunization status. To be sure that the children have the required immunizations for their age, you or your staff must:
(a) See that each child has a completed certificate of immunization status form submitted or on file before the first day of child care;
(b) Develop a system to audit and update as scheduled the information on the certificate of immunization status forms;
(c) Meet any requirement of the department of health WAC 246-100-166; and
(d) Have available on the premises the certificate of immunization status forms for review by the health specialist, licensor, the department of health, and nurse consultant.

(2) You may accept a child whose immunizations are started but not up to date on a "conditional" basis if:
(a) For children whose records are difficult to obtain (such as foster children), there is written proof that the case worker or health care provider is in the process of obtaining the child's immunization status prior to the child starting child care; or
(b) The required immunizations are started prior to children starting child care; and
(c) The immunizations are completed as rapidly as medically possible. You must work with the parent, health care provider, or local health department to obtain an immunization plan.

(3) If a parent or health care provider chooses not to immunize a child, they must sign the exempt portion of the certificate of immunization status form.

(4) You may have a policy that states you do not accept children who have been exempted from immunizations by their parent or guardian, unless that exemption is due to an illness protected by the American With Disabilities Act (ADA).

(5) The certificate of immunization status forms for children who are currently enrolled must be accessible and maintained on the premises in a confidential manner.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-7020, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-09-093, § 388-295-7020, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-7030 What type of attendance records do I have to keep? You must keep daily attendance records.

(1) The parent or other person authorized by the parent to take the child to or from the center must sign in the child on arrival and sign out the child at departure, using their full legal signature and writing the time of arrival and departure;

(2) When the child leaves the center to attend school or participate in off-site activities as authorized by the parent, you or your staff must sign out the child, and sign in the child on return to the center; and

(3) Attendance records and invoices for state paid children must be kept on the premises for at least five years after the child leaves your care.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-7030, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-7030, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-7040 Am I required to keep licensing information available on-site for parents to review? You must keep a file on-site containing the following licensing information:

(1) Copies of the most recent child care center checklists for licensing renewal and facility licensing compliance agreement for any deficiencies noted; and

(2) Copies of the most recent child care centers monitoring checklist and facility licensing compliance agreement for any deficiencies noted.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-7040, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-09-093, § 388-295-7040, filed 4/20/04, effective 5/21/04; 03-14-110, § 388-295-7040, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-7050 What personnel records and policies must I have? (1) Each employee and volunteer who has unsupervised access to a child in care must complete the following forms on or before their date of hire:

(a) An employment application, including work and educational history;

(b) A criminal history and background inquiry form.

(2) You must submit the criminal history and background inquiry form to us within seven calendar days of the employee's first day of work. The form authorizes a criminal history background inquiry for that person.

(3) Until the criminal background inquiry results are returned and show the employee to not be disqualified, you must not leave the employee unsupervised with the children.

(4) We discuss the information on the criminal history background inquiry form with you, the director, or other person responsible for the operation of the center, such as a human resources professional, if applicable.

(5) If you employ five or more people you must have written personnel policies. These policies must describe staff benefits, if any, and duties and qualifications of staff.

(6) You must maintain a system of record keeping for personnel. In addition to the other requirements in this chapter, you must keep the following information on file on the premises for yourself, each staff person and volunteer:

(a) An employment application, including work and education history;

(b) Documentation that a criminal history and background inquiry form was submitted;

(c) Written documentation of trainings and meetings such as but not limited to:

(i) Orientation;

(ii) On-going trainings;
(iii) Bloodborne pathogen training (including HIV/AIDS);
(iv) CPR/first aid;
(v) Food handler's cards (if applicable);
(vi) STARS;
(vii) Staff meetings; and
(viii) Child abuse and neglect.
(d) Documentation of the results of Tuberculosis (TB) testing by the Mantoux skin test prior to starting work.
(7) You must keep the following information on file for the owner of the facility:
(a) If the center is solely owned by you:
(i) A photocopy of your Social Security card that is valid for employment or verification of your employer identification number (EIN); and
(ii) A photocopy of your photo identification issued by a government entity.
(b) If the center is owned by a corporation, verification of the corporation's EIN.
(8) Training documentation must include a certificate, card, or form with a copy placed in each individual employee's file that contains the:
(a) Topic presented;
(b) Number of clock hours;
(c) Date and names of persons attending; and
(d) Signature and organization of the person conducting the training.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-7050, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-7050, filed 4/20/04, effective 5/21/04; 03-14-110, § 388-295-7050, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-7060 What injuries and illnesses or child abuse and neglect must I report? You or your staff must report immediately:
(1) A death or a serious injury or illness that requires medical treatment or hospitalization of a child in care must be reported by telephone and in writing to the parent, licensor, and child's social worker, if the child has a social worker;
(2) Any instance when you or your staff have reason to suspect the occurrence of any physical, sexual, or emotional child abuse or child neglect, child endangerment, or child exploitation as required under described in chapter 26.44 RCW. You may make a report by calling the statewide number at 1-800-562-5624 or 1-866-Endharm; and
(3) An occurrence of food poisoning or reportable communicable disease, as required by the state board of health to be reported by the center; and
(d) Disaster preparedness plan; and
(c) Diaper changing procedures, if applicable;
(b) Handwashing practices;
(a) Dietary restrictions and nutrition requirements for particular children;
(b) Handwashing practices;
(c) Diaper changing procedures, if applicable;
(d) Disaster preparedness plan; and
(e) Center policies and procedures.
(9) You must post a notification advising parents that you are required to keep the following licensing information available on site for their review:
(a) Copies of the most recent child care center checklist for licensing renewal and facility licensing compliance agreement for any deficiencies noted; and
(b) Copies of the most recent child care centers monitoring checklist and facility licensing compliance agreement for any deficiencies noted.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-295-7080, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: Chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 03-14-110, § 388-295-7080, filed 6/30/03, effective 8/1/03.]

WAC 170-295-7070 What am I required to post in the center? You must post the following items so that they are clearly visible to the parent and staff:
(1) The center's child care license issued under this chapter;
(2) A schedule of regular duty hours with the names of staff;
(3) A typical activity schedule, including operating hours and scheduled mealtimes;
(4) Meal and snack menus for the month;
(5) Fire safety record and evacuation plans and procedures, including a diagram of exiting routes;
(6) Emergency telephone numbers near the telephone;
(7) Nondiscrimination poster;
(8) For the staff, you must post:
(a) Dietary restrictions and nutrition requirements for particular children;
(b) Handwashing practices;
(c) Diaper changing procedures, if applicable;
(d) Disaster preparedness plan; and
(e) Center policies and procedures.
(9) You must post a notification advising parents that you are required to keep the following licensing information available on site for their review:
(a) Copies of the most recent child care center checklist for licensing renewal and facility licensing compliance agreement for any deficiencies noted; and
(b) Copies of the most recent child care centers monitoring checklist and facility licensing compliance agreement for any deficiencies noted.
(2007 Ed.)
# Family Home Child Care

## Chapter 170-296 WAC

### CHILD CARE BUSINESS REGULATIONS FOR FAMILY HOME CHILD CARE

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[Title 170 WAC—p. 59]
PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

WAC 170-296-0010 What is the purpose of this chapter? This chapter defines general and specific licensing requirements for family home child care. Unless noted otherwise, these requirements apply to people who want to be licensed or relicensed to provide family home-based child care (chapter 74.15 RCW). We issue or deny a license based on your ability to meet and follow the licensing requirements.

We are committed to ensuring that children who receive family home child care experience health, safety, and wellbeing. We want these children's experiences to benefit them not only in the short term, but also in the long term. Our licensing requirements reflect our commitment to children.

WAC 170-296-0020 What definitions do I need to know to understand this chapter? For the purpose of this chapter:

"Accessible to children" means areas of the facility and materials that children can easily get to on their own.

"Age appropriate" means the developing stages of growth typical of children within a given age group.

"American Indian child" means any unmarried person under the age of eighteen who is:

(1) A member of or eligible for membership in a federally recognized Indian tribe, or who is Eskimo, Aleut or other Alaska Native and a member of an Alaskan native regional Corporation or Alaska Native Village;

(2) Determined or eligible to be found to be Indian by the Secretary of the Interior, including through issuance of a certificate of degree of Indian blood;

(3) Considered to be Indian by a federally recognized Indian tribe; or

(4) A member or entitled to be a member of a Canadian tribe or band, Metis community, or nonstatus Indian community from Canada.

"Antibias" is an approach that recognizes when others are treated unfairly or oppressively based on race, color, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender, class, religion, creed, disability, or age.

"Assistant" means a person fourteen years or older (whether a volunteer or an employee) who assists a licensed home provider in the operation of the family home child care and is not solely responsible for the supervision of children.

"Capacity" means the highest number of children you can care for at any time, as written on your license.

"Character, competence, and suitability assessment" means a determination of whether an applicant should be allowed access to vulnerable people if that applicant has a
conviction record, pending charges and/or findings of abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment of a child or vulnerable adult and child protective services(CPS) adverse referral history.

"Child" means a person who has not yet reached the age of twelve years.

"Child care" means the developmentally appropriate care, protection and supervision of children that is designed to promote positive growth and educational experiences for children outside of their home for periods of less than twenty-four hours a day.

"Child abuse and neglect" means the injury, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child by any person indicating that the child's health, welfare, and safety is harmed.

"Communicable disease" means an illness that can be spread from one person to another, in the child care setting, by either direct or indirect contact.

"Conditions of the license" means what you must do to keep a license.

"Confidentiality" means the protection of personal information, such as the child's records, from persons who are not authorized to see or hear it.

"Corporal punishment" means the infliction of pain by any means for the purpose of punishment, correction, discipline, instruction or any other reason.

"Cultural relevancy" means an environment in which the learning experiences, play materials and activities are meaningful, inclusive and respectful for the participating children, their families and the community at large.

"Department," "we," "us," or "our" refers to and means the state department of social and health services (DHS), including but not limited to the division of child care and early learning (DCCEL).

"Department of health" means the state department of health.

"Developmentally appropriate" means activities and interactions that recognize and address how children learn and what they can do at each stage of development - socially, emotionally, cognitively, and physically.

"Discipline" means a process of guiding children to develop internal, positive social behaviors through methods that include consistent use of the following: Modeling appropriate behavior, positive reinforcement, active listening, limit setting, redirecting and modifying the environment.

"Division" or "DCCEL" means the division of child care and early learning within the department of social and health services (DHS).

"Facility licensing compliance agreement" means a written notice of rule violations and the intention to initiate enforcement, including a corrective action plan.

"Family home" means a single dwelling unit and accessory buildings occupied for living purposes by a family which provides permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation.

"Family home child care" means a facility licensed to provide direct care, supervision and early learning opportunities for twelve or fewer children, in the home of the licensee where the licensee resides and is the primary provider.

"Family home child care provider" means a person who provides direct care, supervision, behavior management, and early learning opportunities for twelve or fewer children in their family home living quarters for periods of less than twenty-four hours.

"I," "you," and "your" refer to and mean the licensee or applicant for a child care license.

"Inaccessible to children" means areas kept or items stored in a manner that makes it impossible for children to reach, enter, or use potentially hazardous items or areas. Examples of how this can be accomplished are through the use of locks, gates, or other means that are effective to prevent access by the children in your care.

"Infant" means a child birth through eleven months of age.

"License" means an official document that certifies you have been granted permission by the department to operate a family home child care in compliance with the rules.

"Licensed space," means the indoor and outdoor space approved by the department as useable space where children in care may be present.

"Licensee" means the person or persons named on the license as having been issued the license and who are responsible for maintaining compliance with the regulations.

"Licensor" means the person with authority to grant licenses.

"Parent" means a child's parent or legal guardian.

"Premises" means the buildings where the home is located and the adjoining grounds (at the same address) over which the licensee has control.

"Preschool age child" means a child thirty months through five years of age not attending kindergarten or elementary school.

"Primary staff person" means a person who has been approved by the department, age eighteen years or older, who has responsibilities for the operation of the program and the direct supervision, behavior management and care of children.

"Provider" means the same as licensee.

"Repeatedly" means a violation of a licensing regulation that is written on a facility licensing compliance agreement that occurs more than once during a twelve-month time frame.

"Reportable communicable disease" means an illness that can be spread from one person to another by either direct or indirect contact, and is of the type that is required by law to be reported to the department of health. Examples include Hepatitis, measles, smallpox, and tuberculosis.

"Revocation" means the formal act of closing your child care business and taking your license from you due to your failure to follow the rules.

"Sanitize" means a surface must be clean and the number of germs reduced to a level where disease transmissions by that surface are unlikely.

"Staff" means a child care giver or group of child care givers employed by the licensee to assist with or supervise children served at the family home child care.

"STARS" (Washington state training and registry system) means the entity approved by the department to determine the classes, courses, and workshops that licensees and staff may take to satisfy training requirements.
WAC 170-296-0110 Who needs to become licensed?

(1) Individuals and agencies that provide care for children must be licensed, unless specifically exempt under RCW 74.15.020(2).

(2) The person claiming an exemption must provide the department proof of the right to the exemption if we request it.

(3) We must not license a home that is legally exempt from licensing. However, at the applicant's request, we must investigate and may certify the home as meeting licensing and other requirements. We must apply the same requirements and procedures for certification that we apply for licensure.

(4) We may certify a family home child care for payment without further investigation if the home is:

(a) Licensed by an Indian tribe; or

(b) Certified by the federal Department of Defense. The home must be licensed or certified in accordance with national or state standards or standards approved by us and be operated on the premises over which the entity licensing or certifying the home has jurisdiction.

(5) The individuals and agencies wanting to care for children whose child care is paid for by the state child care subsidy program must:

(a) Be licensed or certified;

(b) Follow billing policies and procedures in Child Care Subsidies, A Booklet for Licensed and Certified Providers, DSHS 22-877(X); and

(c) Bill the department at the person's or organization's customary rate or the DSHS rate, whichever is less. (See WAC 388-290-0190 (2) and (3) for exceptions.)

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0110, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0110, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0120 When does the department establish an overpayment for payment I receive through the child care subsidy program?

We establish child care subsidy overpayments for payments you received when:

(1) You receive payment for services you did not provide;

(2) You do not have attendance records that support the billing. Only attendance records meeting WAC requirements will be accepted for attendance verification;

(3) We pay you more than you are eligible to bill;

(4) You receive payment from us and you are not eligible based on WAC 388-290-0125; or

(5) You receive payment for caring for children outside your licensed allowable age range and you do not have a waiver for that purpose.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0120, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0120, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0125 Must I comply with local ordinances and codes? Family home child care businesses must comply with any city and county ordinances and codes for their locality and meet the minimum construction, fire and safety requirements for one and two family dwellings. Local officials are responsible for enforcing city ordinances and county codes, such as zoning and building regulations.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0125, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0125, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0130 How old do I have to be to apply for a license? You must be at least eighteen years old to apply for a license to provide child care.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0130, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0130, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0140 What personal characteristics does an individual need to provide care to children? (1) An individual must have specific personal characteristics to have a:

(a) License;

(b) Certification;

(c) Primary staff position; or

(d) Assistant and volunteer position.

(2) These characteristics are:

(a) An understanding of how children develop socially, emotionally, physically, and intellectually;

(b) The ability to plan and provide care for children that is based on an understanding of each child's interests, life experiences, strengths, and needs;

(c) The physical ability to respond immediately to the health, safety and emotional well-being of a child;

(d) Reliability and dependability;
WAC 170-296-0150 What personal information may I be required to provide to be licensed? (1) If we determine that you, any staff, assistants or members of your household may be unable to meet the requirements in chapter 388-296 WAC, we may require any of the following evaluations:

(a) Substance and alcohol abuse evaluations and documentation of treatment;

(b) Psychiatric and psychological evaluations;

(c) Psycho-sexual evaluations; and

(d) Medical evaluations.

(2) If any evaluation we require has a cost, the individual required to have the evaluation is responsible to pay for it.

WAC 170-296-0160 How do I apply for a license? (1) To apply for a license, you must:

(a) Attend an orientation provided by DCCEL;

(b) Complete and submit a signed application form, DSHS 10-204 to DCCEL, including the following attachments:

(i) A copy of your picture identification issued by a government entity (could include but is not limited to: Driver's license, passport, state identification);

(ii) A photocopy of your Social Security card that is valid for employment or verification of your employer identification number (EIN);

(iii) An employment and education resume for you, primary staff, assistants and volunteers; and

(iv) Three references for you from people unrelated to you.

(2) You must submit to DCCEL these additional documents either with your application or within sixty days of submitting your application:

(a) Documentation of current infant, child and adult CPR and standard first aid training for you, any staff, or volunteer who will be counted in staff/child ratios;

(b) Documentation of a negative Mantoux tuberculin (TB) test in the twelve months prior to starting work for you, staff, volunteers and members of the household sixteen years or older;

(c) Documentation of HIV/AIDS training and the availability of bloodborne pathogens information for you, staff and volunteers who have child care responsibility;

(d) Documentation of the local health authority or state department of health approval of your private water supply and independent sewage system, if applicable;

(e) A copy of your policies and procedures you give to parents; and

(f) Any additional reports or information pertaining to your ability to follow the WACs regarding you, staff, volunteers, members of your household or any other person having access to the child in care if your licensor requests it.

WAC 170-296-0170 Am I required to pay a fee when applying for a family home child care license? You must pay the financial services administration a nonrefundable license fee of twenty-four dollars. This must be in the form of a check or money order. You must pay the license fee each year before or on your anniversary date.

WAC 170-296-0180 Am I required to have a criminal history background check? (1) At the time you apply for a license you must submit a completed background check form and finger print card if required to the background check central unit (BCCU) for each person who will have unsupervised access to the children in care. This includes:

(a) You;

(b) Members of your household sixteen years and older;

(c) Staff;

(d) Volunteers; and

(e) Other persons living at the same address as you.

(2) When you plan to have new staff or volunteers, you must require each person to complete and submit to you by the date of hire a criminal history and background check form:

(a) You must submit this form to the BCCU for the employee and volunteer, within seven calendar days of the employee's or volunteer's first day of work, permitting a criminal and background history check.

(b) The employee and volunteer must not have unsupervised access to the children in care until they have been cleared by a full background check.

(c) We must discuss the result of the criminal history and background check information with you, when applicable.

WAC 170-296-0190 What happens after we receive the background information? After we receive the background information we:

(1) Compare the background information with convictions/actions posted on the DSHS secretary's list of disqualifying convictions/actions for economic services administration (ESA). The complete list can be found at http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/esa/dccel/pdf/CrimeandBackg_Chex.pdf [http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/esa/dccel/Crime_and_Backg_Chex.pdf].

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(2007 Ed.)

RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0200, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.

Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0200, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06.

Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15
RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0190, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0195 When will I be disqualified from
providing licensed child care? (1) If you have background
containing any of the convictions/actions posted on the
DSHS secretary's list of permanently disqualifying convictions/actions for ESA, you are permanently disqualified from
providing licensed child care.

(2) If you have a background containing any of the con-
victions posted on the DSHS secretary's list of nonpermanent
disqualifying convictions for ESA, you are disqualified from
providing licensed child care for five years after the convict-
ion date.

(3) You can be disqualified from providing licensed
child care if you have a background containing information
other than conviction information that we determine:

(a) Makes you not of suitable character and competence
or of sufficient physical or mental health to meet the needs of
the child in care; or

(b) Puts the household at risk for harm.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0195, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06.

Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15
RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0195, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0195 When will I be disqualified from
providing licensed child care? (1) If you have background
containing any of the convictions/actions posted on the
DSHS secretary's list of permanently disqualifying convictions/actions for ESA, you are permanently disqualified from
providing licensed child care.

(2) If a family member, staff person, volunteer, or other
person living at the same address as you has been disqualified from having access to children in a family home child care.

(3) A family member staff/person volunteer, or other per-
son living at the same address as you can be disqualified from
having access to children in a family home child care if they
have a background containing information other than conviction
information that we determine:

(a) Makes the individual not of suitable character and
competence or of sufficient physical or mental health to meet the
needs of the child in care, provided that the individual is
responsible for the care of children; or

(b) Puts the household at risk for harm.

(4) The department notifies a staff person if they have
been disqualified from having access to children in a family
home child care. The disqualified staff person has a right to a
hearing to contest the department's disqualification action pursuant to WAC 388-06-0240.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0210, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06.

Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15
RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0210, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0215 Will my license be denied, sus-
pended, or revoked if a family member, or someone else
living at the same address as me has been disqualified
from having unsupervised access to children? Your license
will be denied or revoked if you or any other person who is living at the same address as you has been disqualified from having unsupervised access to children.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0215, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06.

Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15
RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0215, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0195 When will I be disqualified from
providing licensed child care? (1) If you have background
containing any of the convictions/actions posted on the
DSHS secretary's list of permanently disqualifying convictions/actions for ESA, you are permanently disqualified from
providing licensed child care.

(2) If you have a background containing any of the con-
victions/actions posted on the DSHS secretary's list of nonpermanent
disqualifying convictions for ESA, they are disqualified from having access to children in a family home child care.

(2) If a family member, staff person, volunteer or other
person living at the same address as you has a background
containing any of the convictions/actions posted on the
DSHS secretary's list of nonpermanent disqualifying convictions/actions for ESA, they are disqualified from having access to children in a family home child care.

(3) A family member staff/person volunteer, or other per-
son living at the same address as you can be disqualified from
having access to children in a family home child care if they
have a background containing information other than conviction
information that we determine:

(a) Makes the individual not of suitable character and
competence or of sufficient physical or mental health to meet the
needs of the child in care, provided that the individual is
responsible for the care of children; or

(b) Puts the household at risk for harm.

(4) The department notifies a staff person if they have
been disqualified from having access to children in a family
home child care. The disqualified staff person has a right to a
hearing to contest the department's disqualification action pursuant to WAC 388-06-0240.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0210, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06.

Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15
RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0210, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0215 Will my license be denied, sus-
pended, or revoked if a family member, or someone else
living at the same address as me has been disqualified
from having unsupervised access to children? Your license
will be denied or revoked if you or any other person who is living at the same address as you has been disqualified from having unsupervised access to children.
[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0215, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06.

Statutory Authority:  RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15
RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0215, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0220 Must I keep the results of the
background checks on family members, staff and volun-
tees? You must keep for a period of three years, all back-
ground check results for you, your family, staff, volunteers
and any other persons required to have a background check.
WAC 170-296-0230 What CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and first-aid training is required? (1) You and any staff or volunteer who is counted in staff/child ratios must have the following current CPR and first-aid training. CPR and first-aid training must be in accordance with a nationally recognized standard for:
   (a) Infant, child and adult CPR; and
   (b) Basic standard first aid.

(2) You must keep records on the premises and available to the department on request, showing who has completed current CPR and first-aid training. This includes copies of the certificate of completion for the training for each person responsible for the care of children.

WAC 170-296-0240 What HIV/AIDS training and bloodborne pathogen information is needed? (1) You, your staff and volunteers who are responsible for the care of children must complete training on the prevention and transmission of HIV/AIDS (human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome).

(2) You must have a bloodborne pathogen plan that includes:
   (a) A list of caregivers who may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens;
   (b) A plan which addresses how to clean up body fluid spills, including blood, feces, nasal and eye discharge, saliva, urine and vomit.
   (c) Document a plan addressing handwashing, use of gloves, proper disinfection of contaminated items and disposal of waste materials.

WAC 170-296-0250 How long do I have to complete the licensing application process? (1) You must complete the licensing application process including the home inspection and supporting documents, such as training certificates, within ninety days of first applying for your license.

(2) If you don't meet this deadline and have not contacted your licensor, we consider your application withdrawn.

WAC 170-296-0260 Do I need to renew my license? (1) You are required to renew your license every three years.

(2) We send a relicensing packet one hundred twenty days before the expiration of your license.

(3) You must send the completed application form to your licensor at least ninety days before your current license expires.

(4) We close your license if it expires and we have not received a renewal application.

WAC 170-296-0270 Am I required to submit an application if I move to a new address while my license is current? (1) If you move, have an acceptable history of child care, and plan to continue to operate your family home child care business you must submit an application with all supporting documentation for the new address, before you move.

(2) If you have submitted an application for the new address prior to moving, we allow you to operate at your new address for up to two weeks. If you are unable to meet the health and safety requirements at your new address within the two week period, you must stop operating the child care business until you become licensed at the new address (per RCW 74.15.100).

(3) If you move and do not tell us, your license becomes invalid on the date of your move.

WAC 170-296-0280 May a family home child care have more than one type of license to provide care to children? (1) A family home child care may have only one type of license with these exceptions:
   (a) Care of the other client category does not interfere with the quality of child care provided; and
   (b) The most stringent capacity limitations are maintained.

(2) Dual licenses are subject to our approval.

WAC 170-296-0290 What hours may a family home child care be open? (1) You may operate your family home child care business twenty-four hours a day.

(2) If you provide nighttime care you or a qualified primary staff person must be awake when children are dropped off and picked up at your home.

(3) A child may remain in care a maximum of ten hours each day. If needed, you may extend the time based on the parent’s typical work schedule and travel from and to the child care.

(4) If you provide nighttime care you must adapt the activities, routines and equipment to meet the physical and emotional needs of the child away from home at night. These must include:
   (a) Arrangements made for bathing as needed;
   (b) Standard night wear and individual toiletry items for each child;
   (c) The required beds and bedding (WAC 388-296-1070);
   (d) Separate dressing and sleeping areas for boys and girls ages four years and older and for other children demonstrating a need for privacy;
   (e) Maintain staff to child ratios during sleeping hours;

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WAC 170-296-0300 What does the department look for when inspecting my home for licensed child care? We inspect your home to determine if it meets the minimum standards for:

1. The health and safety of young children; and
2. The social, emotional, physical and cognitive needs of young children.

WAC 170-296-0315 Issuance of license. (1) The department issues the applicant or licensee a license for a specific number of children dependent on the:

a. Department's evaluation of the home's premises and physical accommodations;

b. Number and skills of the licensee, assistant, and volunteers;

c. Ages and characteristics of the children served.

(2) The department:

a. May issue the applicant or licensee a license to care for fewer children than the home's maximum capacity; and

b. Must not issue the applicant or licensee a license for the care of more children than permitted under this chapter.

WAC 170-296-0320 How many children may I care for? (1) We may license you to care for a maximum of twelve children for family home child care. We determine the number of children that you may serve after looking at these factors:

a. Physical environment in the home;

b. The number of approved staff available for providing care;

c. Your education and licensed child care experience and the skills of your staff and volunteers;

d. Ages, characteristics and needs of the children served;

e. The number and ages of your own children and other children residing in the home eleven years of age and under; and

f. The supply of developmentally appropriate toys and equipment for the ages and stages of children you care for.

(2) Based on these factors, we may license you for the care of fewer children than your family home child care could house.

WAC 170-296-0330 Is there more than one category of license? We issue three types of licenses:

1. Initial (see WAC 388-296-0340);

2. Full (see WAC 388-296-0350); and

3. Probationary (see WAC 388-296-0440).

WAC 170-296-0340 When will the department issue an initial license to me? (1) If you are not currently licensed we may issue an initial license to you to provide child care when all the health and safety rules have been met, but you:

a. Cannot demonstrate compliance with the rules pertaining to:
   (i) Supervision;
   (ii) Capacity;
   (iii) Behavior management;
   (iv) Activity and routines; and
   (v) Child records and information.

b. Can provide a plan that is acceptable to us, to comply with rules found in subsection (1)(a) of this section.

(2) We may issue an initial license to you for a period not to exceed six months, renewable for a period not to exceed two years.

(3) We must evaluate your ability to follow all the rules contained in this chapter during the initial licensing period prior to issuing a full license.

WAC 170-296-0350 When will the department issue a full license to me? (1) We may issue a full license to you when you can demonstrate compliance with all rules contained in this chapter at any time that you have an initial license.

(2) We must not issue a full license to you if you do not demonstrate the ability to comply with all rules contained in this chapter during the period you have an initial license.

FINES, REGULATORY VIOLATIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTION

WAC 170-296-0360 What happens if I fail to follow the rules? (1) If you fail to follow the rules, we notify you of the violation in writing and unless the health, safety or welfare of children in care is threatened, we provide you with an opportunity to come into compliance before we take adverse licensing action. The notice provides:

a. A description of the violation and rule that was broken;

b. A statement of what is required to comply with the rules;

c. The date by which we require compliance; and

d. The maximum financial penalty (civil fine) that you must pay if you do not comply with the rules by the required date.
(2) We may fine you seventy-five dollars a day for each violation of the licensing rules.

(3) We may assess and collect the penalty with interest for each day you fail to follow the rules.

(4) We may impose a civil penalty in addition to other adverse actions against your license including probation, suspension and revocation.

(5) We may, but are not required to, withdraw the fine if you come into compliance during the notification period.

(6) If we assess a civil penalty you have the right to an adjudicative proceeding as governed by RCW 43.20A.215 and chapter 388-02 WAC.

(7) If you do not request an adjudicative proceeding you must pay the civil fine within twenty-eight days after you receive the notice.

WAC 170-296-0370 How does the department notify me if I am in violation of the licensing rules and what am I required to do? If you are in violation of the licensing rules we issue a notice to you called a facility licensing compliance agreement.

(1) You are required, with technical assistance from your licensor if you request it, to write a corrective action plan stating:

(a) How you plan to correct the violations; and

(b) When the violations will be corrected.

(2) You must:

(a) Sign the agreement;

(b) Return a copy of the completed agreement to us; and

(c) Comply with the agreement.

WAC 170-296-0380 How does the department determine the amount of time I have to make corrections? The length of time that you have to make corrections depends on:

(1) The seriousness of the violation;

(2) The potential threat to the health, safety and well-being of children in care; and

(3) The number of times you have failed to follow the rules.

WAC 170-296-0390 What does the department base a fine on? Fines are determined based on any violation of a licensing rule and according to the following conditions:

(1) You have allowed the existence of any condition that creates a serious safety or health risk;

(2) You or any person uses corporal punishment, or humiliating methods of control or discipline;

(3) You or any primary staff person fail to provide the required supervision;

(4) You fail to provide required light, ventilation, sanitation, food, water or heating;

(5) You provide care for more than the highest number of children permitted by the license; or

(6) You repeatedly fail to follow the rules. (Any repeat violation that has been the subject of a corrective action notification under WAC 388-296-0360.)

WAC 170-296-0400 Am I required to inform the public if the department has assessed a civil penalty to me? (1) You must post the final notice of a civil penalty in the licensed space of your child care where the public can easily view it; and

(2) You must keep the notice posted until we receive payment.

WAC 170-296-0410 What happens if I fail to pay the fine? If you fail to pay a fine within ten days after the fine assessment becomes final, we may suspend, revoke or not renew your license.

WAC 170-296-0420 Does the department assess an unlicensed child care? We may fine you seventy-five dollars per day for each day you provide unlicensed child care.

WAC 170-296-0430 What will happen if the department believes I am providing unlicensed child care? We send written notice to you if we think you are providing unlicensed child care. The notice explains:

(1) Why we think you are providing unlicensed child care;

(2) The law that prohibits unlicensed child care;

(3) That you must stop providing child care until you get a license;

(4) How to contact DCCEL;

(5) How to apply for a license;

(6) That the fine may be lifted if you apply for a license;

(7) Your right to an adjudicated proceeding if we assess a monetary penalty; and

(8) How you can ask for an adjudicative proceeding.

WAC 170-296-0440 When would the department issue a probationary license? (1) We may, but are not required to, issue a probationary license as part of a corrective action plan with a licensed provider. In addition to issuing you a probationary license, we may also assess civil penalties or other sanctions.
WAC 170-296-0450 When will my license be denied, suspended or revoked? (1) When you demonstrate that you cannot provide the required care for children in a way that promotes their safety, health and well-being we must deny, suspend or revoke your license.

(2) We must base our decision about whether to issue a probationary license on the following:
   (a) Intentional or negligent noncompliance with the licensing rules;
   (b) A history of noncompliance with the rules;
   (c) Current noncompliance with the rules; and
   (d) Any other factors relevant to the specific situation.

(3) When we issue you a probationary license you must give notification of your probationary license status to:
   (a) The parents or guardians of all children in your care, within five working days of receiving notification from us; and
   (b) New applicants for child care, before enrolling new children.

(4) The notification must be in writing and must be approved by us prior to being sent.

(5) Within ten working days of receiving notification of the probationary license, you must provide documentation to us that parents or guardians of all children in your care have been notified.

(6) We may issue a probationary license for up to six months. We may extend the probationary license for an additional six months.

(7) You must return your full license to us.

WAC 170-296-0460 Are there any other reasons that could potentially cause me to lose my license? (1) We may suspend or revoke your license if you go beyond the conditions of your license by caring for children with ages different than your license allows.

(2) Repeatedly fail to comply with the licensing requirements set forth in this chapter or any provision of chapter 74.15 RCW.

WAC 170-296-0470 How will the department notify me if my license is denied, suspended, or revoked? (1) We send you a certified letter and/or personally deliver a letter informing you of any decision to deny, suspend or revoke your license.

(2) In the letter we also inform you what you may do if you disagree with the decision to deny, suspend or revoke your license.

WAC 170-296-0480 What written procedures am I required to establish for my child care business? (1) You must develop written procedures for:
   (a) Keeping child records current;
   (b) Routine communication with parents about their child's activities;
   (c) Expectations of primary staff, assistants and volunteers;
   (d) Repeatedly fail to provide the required level of supervision for a child in care;
   (e) Repeatedly care for more children than your license allows;
   (f) Refuse to allow our authorized staff and inspectors requested information or access to your licensed space and premises, child and program files, or staff and children in care; or
   (g) Are unable to manage the property, fiscal responsibilities, or staff in your facility.

WAC 170-296-0490 What may I do if I disagree with the department's decision to deny, suspend, revoke, or modify my license? (1) You have the right to appeal any decision we make to deny, suspend, revoke or modify your license.

(2) Your right to appeal and the procedures for that process are outlined in RCW 43.20A.205 and 74.15.130, chapter 34.05 RCW and chapter 388-02 WAC.

BUSINESS PRACTICES

WAC 170-296-0490 What written procedures am I required to establish for my child care business? (1) You must develop written procedures for:
   (a) Keeping child records current;
   (b) Routine communication with parents about their child's activities;
(d) Emergency procedures including staffing emergencies, evacuation plans, sick or injured children and medical emergencies;
(e) Off-site activities;
(f) Confidentiality; and
(g) All other policies and procedures that you will follow in your child care business.
(2) You must train your staff and volunteers and have available to them the program’s philosophy and all written procedures listed in subsection (1) of this section.
(3) You must review all written policies and procedures and revise them when they no longer describe your current practice.

WAC 170-296-0500 What written information am I required to give to parents? You are required to give to parents a copy of the policies and procedures that you will follow in your family home child care. This written information must include:

(1) Enrollment and admission requirements;
(2) The fee and payment plan;
(3) A typical daily schedule, including hours of operation;
(4) Typical meals and snacks served, including guidelines on food brought from the child’s home;
(5) Permission for free access by the child's parent or guardian to all home areas used by the child, the child’s records, and the staff during your operating hours;
(6) Child abuse, neglect and exploitation reporting requirements;
(7) Child guidance and discipline;
(8) Requirements for maintaining accurate and up to date certificate of immunization status (CIS) records;
(9) No smoking policy;
(10) Policy regarding pets;
(11) Sign-in and sign-out procedures;
(12) Infant sleeping safety requirements to reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS);
(13) Nondiscrimination statement;
(14) Religious activities, if any;
(15) Transportation and field trip arrangements;
(16) Typical staffing plan when you are absent;
(17) Health care practices, including but not limited to information about the home's general health practices concerning:
(a) Injury prevention;
(b) Medication management;
(c) First aid, including medical emergencies;
(d) Plan for excluding persons whose presence on the premises is prohibited by regulations;
(e) Practices concerning an ill child;
(f) Communicable disease prevention, management and reporting;
(18) Disaster plan; and
(19) Supplies and clothing to be provided by the parents.

WAC 170-296-0510 What forms am I required to have before a child can attend my child care program? Prior to admission, you must have a file for each child that contains:

(1) A completed child's enrollment form that is signed and dated by the parent;
(2) Child's complete name, birth date and date admitted;
(3) Full name of parents, home and daytime telephone numbers and address;
(4) Name, address and home and daytime telephone numbers of two persons to contact in an emergency if the parent cannot be reached;
(5) Name, address, home and daytime telephone numbers of persons, if any, authorized to sign-in and sign-out the child;
(6) Name and telephone numbers of child's health care provider and dentist;
(7) Description of child's health history, date of the child's last physical exam, current medications, allergies, special dietary requirements and other identified special needs;
(8) Signed permission by parent to authorize emergency medical and dental care and associated transportation; and
(9) Completed immunization form listing types and dates of immunizations.

WAC 170-296-0520 How long must I keep child records and what am I required to document while operating my business? (1) A child's presence in the child care must be documented, on a daily basis, by the child's parent or guardian or an authorized person by using the sign-in and sign-out procedure for each child in attendance. The parent, guardian or authorized person must use their full signature when signing the child in and out of the child care.
(2) When the school age child arrives at or leaves the child care home due to school or off-site activities as authorized by the parent, you or your staff must sign out the child, and sign in the child on return to the home.
(3) Daily attendance records, listing the dates and hours of attendance of each child must be kept up-to-date and maintained in the licensed space of the family home child care for five years.
(4) When a child is no longer enrolled, the date of the child's withdrawal must be recorded in the child's file. You must maintain the child's file for at least five years from the child's last date of attendance. After five years the file may be destroyed or returned to the parent. The child's file must be made available for review by the child's parents and us during this period.
(5) You must call and report, within twenty-four hours to:
(a) Children's administration intake an incident or injury that occurred while the child was in attendance.
(b) DCCEL and to animal control any incident where a child is bitten by an animal while in attendance.
(c) DCCEL any fire on your premises that required the use of a fire extinguisher or the services of a fire department.

[Title 170 WAC—p. 69]
(6) You must submit a written incident report to the child’s parent and to your licensor within two working days of the same incident or injury as described in subsection (3) of this section.

(7) You must acquire written parental permission for field trips. You must notify parents in advance when you plan to use vehicles to transport children. Parents may grant general authorization for walking field trips.

(8) You must maintain all records and reports required by these regulations in an up-to-date manner at the facility. The records and reports are subject to inspection and you must allow us access to them at the time we request them.

WAC 170-296-0530 Am I required to keep child and family records confidential? You and your staff must observe confidentiality with regard to child and family records and family information. Confidential conversations regarding children and families must be held in private.

WAC 170-296-0540 What items am I required to post and where do I post them? You are required to post these items in the licensed space of your family home child care where the public can easily view them:

(1) The home’s child care license issued under this chapter;

(2) Evacuation plans and procedures, that include a written record of the required monthly fire drills and smoke detector checks;

(3) Emergency telephone numbers;

(4) Any civil penalty imposed; and

(5) You must post a notification advising parents that

(a) Copies of the most recent family home child care checklist for licensing renewal and facility licensing compliance agreement for any deficiencies noted; and

(b) Copies of the most recent family home child care monitoring checklist and facility licensing compliance agreement for any deficiencies noted.

WAC 170-296-0550 What change of circumstance must I report to my licensor? (1) Before making any change to your licensed space you must report to your licensor any changes you plan to make. Examples of changes include but are not limited to:

(a) Planned use of space not previously approved by us; and

(b) Plans for remodeling the home.

(2) You must also report any of the following changes to your licensor within twenty-four hours:

(a) The number and qualifications of you, your staff and volunteers that may affect the ability to carry out the specific activities and routines of the family home child care or meet the requirements of the WAC, such as a change in a person’s criminal history;

(b) A marriage, separation or divorce;

(c) Persons moving in or out of the household;

(d) Your phone number;

(e) Occurrence of a fire, structural change, or damage to the premises from any cause; and

(f) The serious illness or incapacity of you and any other member of your household.

WAC 170-296-0560 What are the occupancy restrictions for a family home child care? (1) Any home used for child care purposes for fewer than thirteen children is considered to be a Group R, Division 3 occupancy by the state building code.

(2) If a portion of the home is used for purposes that could pose a hazard such as an automotive repair shop, cabinet or furniture making or refinishing or similar use, a fire wall is required between the dwelling and the other use.

(3) One exit door from a family home child care must be of the pivoted or side hinged swinging type. You may use approved sliding doors for other exits.

(4) Each floor level used for family home child care purposes must have two exits, usually located at opposite ends of the building or floor.

(5) You must not use basements located more than four feet below grade level for family home child care purposes unless one of the following conditions exists:

(a) Two exit stairways from the basement open directly to the exterior of the building without entering the first floor;

(b) One of the two required exits opens directly to the exterior from the basement level and the other exit is an interior stairway with a self-closing door installed at the top or bottom leading to the floor above;

(c) One of the two required exits is a working window or door, approved for emergency escape or rescue, that opens directly to a public street, public alley, yard or exit court, and the other may be an approved interior or exterior stairway;

(d) A residential sprinkler system is provided throughout the entire home in accordance with standards of the National Fire Protection Association.

(6) Except as permitted in subsection (7) below, you must ensure that any floor located more than four feet above grade level is not occupied by children for family home child care purposes except for the use of toilet facilities while under supervision of a staff person.

(7) Family home child care is allowed on the second story if one of the following conditions exists:

(a) Two exit stairways from the second story open directly to the exterior of the building without entering the first floor;

(b) One exit opens directly to the exterior from the second story level, and a second interior stairway with a self-closing door installed at the top or bottom of the interior stair leading to the floor below; or
(c) A residential sprinkler system is provided throughout the entire building in accordance with standards of the National Fire Protection Association.

(8) The maximum distance from any point in the home to an exterior exit door must not exceed one hundred fifty feet.

(9) Every room used for child care (except bathrooms) must have:
   (a) At least one working window or door approved for emergency escape or rescue that opens directly into a public street, public alley, yard or exit court. The units must work from the inside to provide a full clear opening without the use of separate tools.
   (b) The net clear open area of an escape or rescue window must be a minimum of 5.7 square feet. The net clear open height dimension must be a minimum of twenty-four inches. The net clear open width dimension must be a minimum of twenty inches.
   (10) An escape or rescue window must have:
       (a) A finished sill height of not more than forty-four inches above the floor;
       (b) Doors leading to two separate exit ways; or
       (c) A door leading directly to the exterior of the building.
   (11) You may use a stationary platform under a window to attain the required forty-four inches above the floor.
   (12) Exit doors must be easy to open to the full open position.
   (13) Exit doors and windows must be of the type that can be opened from the inside without having to use a key. You must not use during child care hours:
       (a) Night latches;
       (b) Deadbolts;
       (c) Security chains; or
       (d) Manually operated edge or surface mounted flush bolts and surface bolts.
   (14) The locking arrangement on outside exit doors must automatically unlock when the doorknob is turned from the inside.
   (15) You must ensure that obstructions are not placed in corridors, aisles, doorways, doors, stairways or ramps.
   (16) You must not use for child care purposes any space that is accessible only by ladder, folding stairs or trap doors.
   (17) Every bathroom door lock must be designed to permit the opening of the locked door from the outside in an emergency. The opening device must be readily accessible to the staff.
   (18) Every closet door latch must be the type that children can open the door from inside the closet.

WAC 170-296-0570 What are the requirements for hazardous areas of my home? If you have rooms or spaces containing any of the following commercial-type items or utilities, they must be separated from the family home child care or any exits by a fire wall:
   (1) Kitchen;
   (2) Boiler;
   (3) Maintenance shop;
   (4) Janitor closet;
   (5) Laundry;
   (6) Woodworking shop;
   (7) Flammable or combustible storage;
   (8) Painting operation; or
   (9) Parking garage.

WAC 170-296-0580 What are the requirements for smoke detectors in my home? (1) You must have smoke detectors in all sleeping and napping rooms.
   (2) If your home has more than one story or a basement, you must install a smoke detector on every story and in the basement.
   (3) If a story or basement is split into two or more levels, you must install the smoke detector in the upper level, except that when the lower level contains a sleeping or napping area, you must locate a smoke detector on each level.
   (4) When sleeping or napping rooms are on an upper level, you must place the smoke detector on the ceiling of the upper level in close proximity to the stairway and in each sleeping or napping room.
   (5) If the ceiling height of a room open to the hallway serves sleeping or napping rooms exceeds that of the hallway by twenty-four inches or more, you must install smoke detectors in both the hallway and the sleeping or napping room.
   (6) Smoke detectors must sound an alarm audible in all areas of the building.
   (7) In new construction, required smoke detectors must receive their primary power from the building wiring. The wiring must be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for over current protection.
   (8) Smoke detectors may be battery operated when installed in existing buildings or buildings without commercial power.
   (9) Where battery operated smoke detectors are installed, you must keep on the premises at least one extra battery of the type and size specified for the battery operated smoke detector.
   (10) You must test single station smoke detectors at monthly intervals or in a manner specified by the manufacturer. You must keep a record of the testing on the premises.

WAC 170-296-0590 Am I required to have other ways to sound a fire alarm? In addition to single station smoke detectors, you must provide an alternate method for sounding a fire alarm in your family home child care. A police type whistle or similar device is adequate for meeting this requirement, as long as you use that method only for emergency evacuations.

WAC 170-296-0600 Are there requirements for fire extinguishers? (1) You must have at least one approved 2A,
10B: C rated fire extinguisher on each floor level occupied for child care use. You must locate the extinguisher along the path of the main fire exits. The maximum travel distance to an extinguisher must not exceed seventy-five feet.

(2) Fire extinguishers must be operationally ready for use at all times.

(3) You must keep fire extinguishers on a shelf or mounted in the bracket provided for this purpose so that the top of the extinguisher is not more than five feet above the floor.

(4) You must ensure and have written documentation that fire extinguishers receive annual maintenance certification by a firm specializing in and licensed to do that type of work. Maintenance means a thorough check of the extinguisher to include examination of:

(a) Mechanical parts;
(b) Extinguishing agent; and
(c) Expelling means.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0600, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0600, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0610 What must I do to prevent fire in my home? (1) You must request the local fire department to visit your home to become familiar with the facility and to assist in planning evacuation or emergency procedures. If your local fire department does not provide this service, you must document that you made the request.

(2) You must keep furnace rooms free of lint, grease and rubbish accumulations and other combustibles and suitably isolated, enclosed or protected.

(3) You must store flammable or combustible materials away from exits and in areas that are not accessible to children. You must not allow combustible rubbish to accumulate, so you must remove it from the building or store it in closed, metal containers.

(4) You must keep all areas used for child care clean and neat, making sure that all waste generated daily is removed from the building and disposed of in a safe manner outside the building. All containers used for the disposal of waste material must be of noncombustible materials with tops. You must keep electrical motors dust-free.

(5) You must not leave on-open-flame devices capable of igniting clothing, or leave them unattended or allowed to be used in a way that could result in an accidental ignition of children's clothing. You must not use, or allow the use of candles during operating hours.

(6) You must keep a working flashlight available for use as an emergency power source.

(7) You must properly maintain all electrical circuits, devices and appliances. Circuits must not be overloaded. You must not use extension cords and multiplug adapters in place of permanent wiring and proper receptacles.

(8) You must not use portable space heaters of any kind in areas of the child care home or building during child care hours.

(9) Approved numbers or addresses must be placed on all new and existing homes and in the driveway to the house when the house is not visible from the road. You must place the numbers or address in a position where it is plainly visible and legible from the street or road fronting the property. To be more visible, the numbers must contrast with their background.

(10) If you have fireplaces, woodstoves or similar devices, the local building official must approve them and any connections. Where open flames or hot surfaces are accessible, you must erect approved barriers to prevent children from coming in contact with the open flames or hot surfaces.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0610, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0610, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0620 What are the requirements for maintaining my sprinkler system? If you have a sprinkler system in your home, you must have it tested on an annual basis by a person or agency licensed to test sprinkler systems. The results of the system test must be documented on forms provided by the licensor and maintained at the home for inspection by the licensor.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0620, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0620, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0630 Must I have a fire evacuation plan? You must develop a written fire evacuation plan. The evacuation plan must include an evacuation floor plan, identifying exit doors and windows, and must be posted at a point clearly visible to the assistant and parents. Plans must include the:

(1) Action to be taken:
(a) By the person discovering a fire;
(b) For evacuation of the building and assuring accountability of the children; and
(c) Pending arrival of the fire department.

(2) Method to be used for sounding an alarm on the premises.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0630, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0630, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0640 Must I have fire evacuation drills? You must:

(1) Conduct a fire evacuation drill for each shift of operation at least once each month;

(2) Maintain and post in the licensed area of your home:
(a) The fire safety record including date and time of fire drills; and
(b) Your evacuation plan.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0640, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0640, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-0650 Are there any requirements for staff training related to fire safety? You and each staff person and volunteer must be familiar with all elements of the fire evacuation plan and capable of:

(1) Operating the fire extinguisher installed on the premises;

(2) Testing smoke detectors (single station types); and
(3) Conducting frequent inspections of the home to identify fire hazards and take action to correct any hazards discovered during the inspection.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0650, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06, Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0650, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

WAC 170-296-0700 How often must staff wash their hands? Staff and volunteers must wash their hands with soap and warm running water after:

(1) Toileting or assisting children with toileting;
(2) Diapering a child;
(3) Using the bathroom;
(4) Attending to an ill child;
(5) Before and after preparing, serving, or eating food;
(6) Before and after giving medications;
(7) Handling, feeding or cleaning up after animals;
(8) Handling bodily fluids;
(9) Being outdoors or involved in outdoor play; and
(10) As needed.

WAC 170-296-0710 How often must children wash their hands? You and your staff must ensure that children thoroughly wash their hands or assist children with thoroughly washing their hands with soap and warm running water after:

(1) Using the toilet;
(2) The child is diapered;
(3) Outdoor play;
(4) Playing with animals;
(5) Touching body fluids (such as blood or after nose blowing or sneezing);
(6) Before and after the child eats or participates in food activities; and
(7) As needed.

WAC 170-296-0720 What are the physical structure and equipment safety requirements for a family home child care? You must keep the equipment and the physical structures, inside and outside of your home, safe and clean for the children you serve. You must not use your licensed space, both indoor and outdoor areas of the home where the children are being cared for, for any other business purpose during your operating hours. You must:

(1) Maintain your home or building that includes the child care space and all child care equipment in a clean and sanitary condition, free of hazards, and in good repair;
(2) Have stairways, steps and walkways that are well lit. Stairways must be equipped with securely mounted handrails within the reach of young children;
(3) Have gates or other physical barriers, that prevent infants and toddlers from accessing stairways;
(4) Have emergency lighting devices, such as a flashlight, available and in good working condition;
(5) Provide furnishings in the licensed space of your child care that are safe, comfortable and match the developmental levels of all of the children in the home to include the size of the child, their abilities and activities;
(6) Have furniture, equipment and climbing structures that are clean, sturdy, without sharp edges and do not present hazards. Bookcases and other shelving units must not present a tipping or falling hazard;
(7) Have washable, water-resistant floors in your bathrooms, kitchens, and any other rooms exposed to moisture (this applies to anyone newly licensed on or after the date this rule takes effect);
(8) Provide non-removable electrical outlet covers to all outlets accessible to children if you care for children five years and younger or other persons with limited mental capacity or who might be endangered by access to electrical outlets;
(9) Have an unlocking device readily accessible to you and your staff for closet and bathroom doors that can be locked. You must not use a locking or fastening device on the outside of the door, that would prevent free escape;
(10) Ensure that toys for infants and toddlers (or children at those developmental levels) are large enough to prevent swallowing or choking. Examples of some of the types of small objects that should be kept off the floor are:
(a) Pins of any type;
(b) Coins;
(c) Balloons; and
(d) Any small toys that are smaller than one and three-fourth inches in diameter.
(11) Ensure that all art and play materials, for children under the age of three, are nontoxic;
(12) Not have plastic bags, styrofoam objects and vinyl or latex gloves accessible to children under three years of age;
(13) Prevent entrapment by ensuring there are no openings on indoor and outdoor climbers and platforms between three and one-half inches and nine inches;
(14) Securely anchor to the ground climbing equipment and swings that have provisions for anchors. The play area must be arranged so children playing on one piece of equipment do not interfere with children playing on another piece of equipment;
(15) Ensure that chains on swings have protective coverings and that swing seats are made of soft material with no sharp edges;
(16) Ensure that tricycles and bicycles with chains have guard chains, and that children on bicycles, roller blades, skateboards, or scooters wear helmets;
(17) Not use wheeled baby walkers; and
(18) Not allow trampolines and rebounders in your licensed space.

WAC 170-296-0730 What are the requirements for the location of a family home child care? (1) Your home must be located in an area that is well drained, and is free
from hazardous conditions. Some examples of hazards are natural or manmade water hazards such as lakes or streams, ponds, steep banks, ravines, and drainage ditches. Abandoned wells and holes must be filled in or sealed.

(2) The safety of the children in care is essential. You must discuss with your licensor any potential hazardous conditions, considering the children's ages, behaviors, and abilities.

(3) If we decide that hazardous conditions are present at the home location you must write a supervision plan for the children in care.

WAC 170-296-0740 What are the requirements for emergency aid vehicle access to my home? (1) Your home must be accessible to emergency vehicles.

(2) Your address must be clearly visible on your house or mailbox.

WAC 170-296-0750 What steps must I take to ensure children's safety around outdoor bodies of water? (1) You must ensure children in your care are safe around bodies of water.

(2) You must empty and sanitize portable wading pools daily, and as needed when in use.

(3) You or a qualified primary staff person must directly supervise all children in your care when they have access to wading pools, swimming pools and other bodies of water that are in your licensed space.

(4) You must lock hot tubs and spas, and not use these during your operating hours.

(5) You must place a five-foot fence, designed to discourage climbing, and have a locked gate around a pool of water. This includes swimming pools that are above or below ground level and ornamental pools. Bodies of water hazardous to young children must be inaccessible to children when you or a primary staff person are not providing direct supervision during your operating hours.

(6) A certified lifeguard must be on duty when children are using a public or private (other than your own) swimming pool, lake, river, pond, ocean or any other body of water used for swimming.

WAC 170-296-0760 What measures must I take for pest control? (1) You must keep your premises free from pests, using the least toxic method possible. This includes rodents, flies, cockroaches, fleas, and other insects.

(2) You must notify parents, guardians and any other interested party forty-eight hours in advance of the application of pesticides.

WAC 170-296-0770 What are the requirements regarding pets and animals at a family home child care? (1) All pets that have access to children, whether kept indoors or outside, must be in good health, show no evidence of disease and be nonaggressive.

(2) Dogs and cats must have the required immunizations.

(3) You must dispose of all pet waste daily and keep litter boxes inaccessible to children at all times.

(4) You must have an area separate from the outdoor play space for pets to relieve themselves.

(5) Staff must always be present when children play with pets.

(6) If you have a pet, tell parents before enrolling the child. Some children have allergies that require the parent to make other child care arrangements.

(7) Children and staff must wash their hands after handling pets or pet items.

(8) Reptiles can carry salmonella. If reptiles are present, you must have safeguards in place to limit potential risk of transmission.

(9) You must have a written plan, approved by your licensor, describing how you will protect children from health hazards, such as snake bites, if you have "exotic" pets such as iguanas, venomous or aggressive snakes, spiders, and some turtles.

WAC 170-296-0780 Are alcoholic beverages allowed during operating hours? You, and any other person associated with the operation of your business and care of children must not drink alcohol or allow others to consume alcohol on your premises during your operating hours.

WAC 170-296-0790 Is smoking permitted around children? (1) You must prohibit smoking in your family home child care during all hours of operation (licensed or unlicensed space), and in motor vehicles while transporting children.

(2) You may permit adults to smoke outdoors in unlicensed space and out of view of children.

WAC 170-296-0800 May I have weapons at my home? (1) You must keep weapons and ammunition in secure, locked storage, at all times during your operating hours. "Secure, locked storage" means a locked storage container, gun cabinet, gun safe, or other storage area made of strong, unbreakable material.

(2) If the cabinet has a glass or other breakable front, the guns need to be secured with a cable or chain placed through the trigger guards securing the guns in the storage unit.

(3) You must store all firearms unloaded.
WAC 170-296-0810 Are there requirements for the storage of medications? You are required to:

1. Keep all medications, including pet medications, vitamins and herbal remedies, in locked storage. For example, a pad lock, lock with key or a magnetic lock;
2. Store external medications separately from internal medications for the child in care;
3. Store medications according to the manufacturer or pharmacy instructions; and
4. Store pet and human medications in separate places.

WAC 170-296-0820 Are there requirements for storing dangerous chemicals or other substances? (1) You are required to store the following items in a place that is inaccessible to children, persons with limited mental capacity, or anyone who might be endangered by access to the following products:

- Cleaning supplies;
- Toxic or poisonous substances;
- Aerosols;
- Items with warning labels;
- Cosmetics; and
- Personal hygiene products.

2. When containers are filled with toxic substances from a stock supply, you must label the containers.

3. Toxic substances must be stored separately from food items.

WAC 170-296-0830 Are first-aid supplies required? You must keep a first-aid kit on hand for immediate use, in the licensed space of your child care, on a field trip and in your vehicle if you transport children. The first-aid kit must include:

1. Nonsterile protective gloves;
2. Band-Aids of various sizes;
3. Small scissors and tweezers;
4. Ace bandages;
5. Sterile gauze pads;
6. An ice pack;
7. A mercury free thermometer for taking a child's temperature;
8. A large triangular bandage (sling);
9. Adhesive tape;
10. A one-way CPR barrier or mask;
11. A current first-aid manual; and
12. At least one unexpired bottle of Syrup of Ipecac that must be given only at the direction of a poison control center.

WAC 170-296-0840 What are the requirements for health care policies and procedures for a family home child care? You must maintain current written health care policies and procedures that include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

1. When a child should not attend due to illness;
2. Cleaning and disinfecting procedures;
3. Reporting communicable diseases;
4. Infection control methods to include personal hygiene, hand washing, toileting, diapering, and laundering;
5. Food handling procedures;
6. Prevention of the transmission of communicable diseases:
   a. Use of sanitizing chemicals; and
   b. Cleaning and sanitizing toys and play materials.
7. Medication management, including steps to be taken if medication is incorrectly administered;
8. Providing first aid;
9. Care of minor illnesses;
10. Actions to be taken for medical emergencies;
11. Infant care procedures when infants are under care;
12. Children with special needs; and

WAC 170-296-0850 Must all children in my care have current immunizations? (1) You are required to track each child's immunization status. To be sure children have the required immunizations for their age, you must:

a. Ensure the child has a completed, current certificate of immunization status form (CIS) submitted on or before the first day of care;
   b. Develop a system to audit and update, as scheduled, the information on the CIS form;
   c. Meet any requirement of the department of health WAC 246-100-166; and
   d. Have available in your licensed space the CIS forms for review by the licensor.

2. You may accept a child who is not current with immunizations on a conditional basis if immunizations are:
   a. Initiated before or on enrollment; and
   b. Completed as rapidly as medically possible.

3. You may exempt the immunization requirement for the child if the parent or guardian:
   a. Signs a statement expressing a religious, philosophical or personal objection; or
   b. furnishes a physician's statement of a valid medical reason for the exemption.

WAC 170-296-0860 What must I do to prevent the spread of infections and communicable diseases? (1) You must take precautions to guard against infections and communicable diseases.

2. You, your staff and volunteers with a reportable communicable disease in an infectious stage, as defined by the department of health, must not be on duty until you, your
staff and volunteers have approval from the local health department for returning to work.

(3) Applicants for a license, staff, volunteers and persons sixteen years and older authorized to have access to children in a family home child care must have a tuberculin (TB) skin test by the Mantoux method of testing. They must have this skin test upon being employed or licensed unless the person has evidence:

(a) Of negative testing within the previous twelve months;

(b) That they have a negative chest X ray since previously having a positive skin test; or

(c) Of having completed adequate preventive therapy or adequate therapy for active tuberculosis.

(4) The department does not require a tuberculin skin test if a physician indicates that the test is medically unadvisable.

(5) Persons whose tuberculosis skin test is positive must have a chest X ray within thirty days following the skin test.

(6) The department does not require retesting at the time of license renewal, unless the licensee or staff person believes they have been exposed to someone with tuberculosis or if their health care provider recommends testing.

WAC 170-296-0870 How do I manage medications for children? You must meet specific requirements for managing prescription and nonprescription medication for children under your care. Only you or another, primary staff person may perform the functions described in this section.

(1) You must have written approval of the child's parent or legal guardian to give the child any medication. This approval must not exceed thirty days.

(2) You must:

(a) Keep a written record of all medications you give a child;

(b) Return any unused medication to the parent or legal guardian of the child;

(c) Give certain classifications of nonprescription medications, only with the dose and directions on the manufacturer's label for the age or weight of the child needing the medication. These nonprescribed medications include but are not limited to:

(i) Nonaspirin, fever reducers or pain relievers;

(ii) Nonnarcotic cough suppressants;

(iii) Decongestants;

(iv) Anti-itching ointments or lotions intended specifically to relieve itching;

(v) Diaper ointments and talc free powders intended specifically for use in the diaper area of children; and

(vi) Sun screen.

(3) You must not administer any nonprescribed medication for the purpose of sedating a child;

(4) You must not administer any prescribed medication in an amount or frequency other than that prescribed by a physician, psychiatrist or dentist;

(5) You must not give one child's medications to another child; and

(6) You must not use any prescribed medication to control a child's behavior unless a physician prescribes the medication for management of the child's behavior.

WAC 170-296-0880 What are the requirements for labeling and dispensing of medications to children? The only medicine you may accept from the child's parent or legal guardian is medicine in the original container labeled with:

(1) The child's first and last names;

(2) The date the prescription was filled;

(3) The medication's expiration date; and

(4) Legible instructions for the administration of the drug (manufacturer's instructions or prescription label) that include:

(a) How to give the medication;

(b) How often to give the medication; and

(c) How to store the medications (proper temperature).

WAC 170-296-0890 When may children take their own medicine? (1) You may permit children under your care to take their own medicine if:

(a) They are physically and mentally capable of properly taking the medicine; and

(b) The child's parent or legal guardian approves in writing.

(2) You must keep the written approval by the child's parent or legal guardian in your records.

(3) When children take their own medication, you must keep the medication and medical supplies locked and inaccessible to other children and unauthorized persons.

(4) You or a primary worker must observe and document that the medication was taken.

WAC 170-296-0900 Are there general nutrition requirements? The meals and snacks you prepare and serve must meet the requirements of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Food Program, with the addition of:

(1) A minimum of one serving of vitamin C fruit, vegetable or juice daily; and

(2) Servings of food high in vitamin A, provided three or more times weekly.

WAC 170-296-0910 How often must I feed children in my care? (1) You must provide the child in care for ten or less hours a minimum of:

(a) Two or more snacks and one meal; or

(b) Two meals and one snack.
(2) You must provide the child in care for ten or more hours a minimum of, two or more meals and two snacks.

(3) You must provide a snack for the child arriving after school.

(4) The time interval between providing the child with food, during the day, can be no more than three and one-half hours.

(5) The time interval between the evening meal or snack and breakfast must not be more than twelve hours.

(6) The child in evening care must be fed dinner when the child did not receive dinner at home before arriving.

(7) The child in overnight care must be offered breakfast in the morning if the child remains in the home after the child's usual breakfast time.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0910, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0910, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**WAC 170-296-0920 What are the requirements for meals and snacks served to children in my care?**

(1) Food must be prepared and stored in a safe and sanitary manner and served at required intervals.

(2) If you do not furnish meals, you must have the required supplemental food available in the event that no meal is provided by the parent or if the meal provided by the parent does not meet the required nutritional value.

(3) If you provide meals:

(a) You must accommodate any food preferences for religious or medical reasons. If the meal patterns or serving sizes do not meet the child's nutritional needs, you must obtain a medical statement from the parent documenting the appropriateness of the variation.

(b) The servings must be in portions suitable for the size and age of the child in care. You must have a sufficient amount of food available to children to permit second helpings.

(4) You must refrigerate perishable food, milk and formula.

(5) You must make safe drinking water available to children at all times and must offer at intervals that are responsive to the needs of the individual children.

(6) You may use:

(a) Disposable cups and plates if discarded after use; and

(b) Disposable plastic eating utensils if they are not easily broken by young children and are discarded after use.

(7) You may not use styrofoam cups for infants or toddlers.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0920, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0920, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**WAC 170-296-0940 Are there special requirements for serving milk?**

The type of milk served to children is determined by the child's age.

(1) Serve only breast milk or formula to the child zero to twelve months of age;

(2) Serve whole pasteurized milk or breast milk to children twelve to twenty-four months of age;

(3) Serve only pasteurized milk or pasteurized milk product to children over twenty-four months of age.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0940, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0940, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**WAC 170-296-0950 What home canned foods may I use?**

You may not use any home canned food for the children in your care due to the risk of bacteria that may grow in food improperly canned, causing serious illness.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0950, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0950, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**WAC 170-296-0960 What requirements must I meet for feeding infants?**

You must meet the following requirements for feeding infants:

(1) All formulas and breast milk must be in clean and sanitized bottles with nipples and labeled with the child's name and date prepared.

(2) If the bottle has been sitting at room temperature for an hour or more, you must throw away the contents.

(3) You must keep bottle nipples covered when not in use.

(4) If you reuse bottles and nipples, you must wash and sanitize them.

(5) You must hold infants while feeding.

(6) Infants who are nine months of age or over, who want to hold their own bottles may be placed in a highchair if you or a primary staff person remain in the room, within eyesight.

(7) You must take bottles from the child when the child finishes feeding, or when the bottle is empty.

(8) You must not prop a bottle when feeding an infant.

(9) You must not give a bottle or sippy cup to a child who is lying down.

(10) You must not use a microwave oven to warm formula or breast milk in a bottle used for feeding.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-0960, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-0960, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**SPACE REQUIREMENTS AND EQUIPMENT**

**WAC 170-296-0970 Are there requirements for the rooms that I use to provide child care?**

(1) You must use rooms that are the required size, and furnishings that are developmentally appropriate to the ages and number of children being served to actively engage in recreational and informal educational activities;

(2) You must provide accessible storage space for each child in care to store their clothes and personal possessions; and

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[Title 170 WAC—p. 77]
WAC 170-296-0980 What does the room temperature need to be? You must:
(1) Maintain the temperature within your licensed space at:
   (a) A minimum of sixty degrees Fahrenheit when children are sleeping or napping; and
   (b) Sixty-eight degrees Fahrenheit or more when the children are awake.
(2) Utilize electrical fans or an air conditioner to cool the house when the inside temperature reaches or exceeds eighty degrees Fahrenheit. Consider the age and needs of the children under your care in determining which temperature is appropriate.

WAC 170-296-0990 What are the kitchen requirements? You must provide, use and maintain equipment to properly store, prepare, and serve food to meet the needs of the children under your care.
(1) Appliances must be installed so that you can easily clean them and the areas around them.
(2) Food contact surfaces must be free of cracks and crevices.
(3) Range tops, ovens and refrigerators must be clean.
(4) Wash tables with soap and water before and after each meal.
(5) Wash counters with soap and water prior to food preparation.
(6) If you cannot clean and sanitize dishes and utensils as required, use only disposable items.
(7) Keep pets and their food out of the food preparation area. If this is not always possible keep pets out of the kitchen while you are preparing food.

WAC 170-296-1000 How do I wash, rinse and sanitize dishes and eating utensils? You must use a dishwasher or the "three compartment method" which is a combination of sink compartments or dishpans made of plastic or other non-porous material:
(1) Fill one sink compartment or dishpan with hot tap water and dishwashing detergent, and wash the items in this compartment.
(2) Fill the second compartment or dishpan with hot tap water, and rinse the items in this compartment.
(3) Fill the third compartment or dishpan with cool water and one teaspoon liquid chlorine bleach for each gallon of water, and dip the items in this compartment to sanitize.
(4) Place the items in a rack to air-dry.
**WAC 170-296-1050** What are the requirements for the use of cribs? (1) You must provide a child under two years with a single-level crib, toddler bed, or playpen for napping until you and the parent agree that the child can safely use a mat, cot or other approved sleeping equipment.

(2) Crib must have no more than two and three-eighths inches space between vertical slats when used for infants less than six months of age.

(3) Cribs, toddler beds, and playpens must:
   (a) Have clean, firm, snug fitting mattresses covered with waterproof material that is easily cleaned and sanitized, with out tears or tape; and
   (b) Be made of wood, metal, or approved plastic with secure latching devices.

(4) Each crib or bed must be arranged to allow staff access to children.

(5) Children must not sleep in car seats, swings or other similar equipment.

**WAC 170-296-1060** What sleeping arrangements must I make to reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)? You must follow the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) for putting infants down to sleep.

(1) You must put infants to sleep on their backs to reduce the risk of SIDS unless you have a written note in the infant's file from both the parent and the infant's health care provider requesting another sleeping position;

(2) Once infants are able to turn over, continue to place them on their back to sleep. If the infant has turned over while sleeping you do not need to return the infant to his or her back;

(3) Place the infant inside the crib, infant bed or playpen on a firm mattress with a tight fitting sheet;

(4) You must not use soft fluffy bedding, stuffed toys, pillows, crib bumpers and similar items in the crib;

(5) You must make sure that the infant's head and face remain uncovered during sleep;

(6) You must not allow smoking around the infant; and

(7) You must not let the infant get too warm during sleep.

**WAC 170-296-1070** What are the requirements for beds? (1) Each child in overnight care must have their own bed. The bed must be at least twenty-seven inches wide with a clean and comfortable mattress in good condition.

(2) For each child in care who is two years and older, you must provide a pillow and pillowcase, blankets, and sheets. A slumber bag, designed for indoor use can substitute for a blanket and sheet.

(3) Pillows must be covered with waterproof material or be washable.

(4) Bedding must be clean.

(5) If the child using the mattress is not toilet trained, you must provide waterproof mattress covers or moisture resistant mattresses.

(6) You may use toddler beds with a standard crib mattress that is sufficient in length and width for the child's size.

(7) You must not allow children under the age of six years to use loft style beds or upper bunks of double-deck beds.

(8) You may use a mat for napping but not as a substitute for a bed.

**WAC 170-296-1080** What is the requirement for napping and resting? (1) You must offer and supervise a rest period of at least thirty minutes for the child;

(a) Five years of age and under who remain in care more than six hours; or

(b) Showing a need for rest.

(2) You must not require or force children to sleep.

(3) You must provide a space, away from the napping children, for quiet play for the children who don't require sleep.

**DIAPER CHANGING AND BATHING FACILITIES**

**WAC 170-296-1090** What are the requirements for diapers and diaper changing areas? (1) You must separate diaper changing areas from areas where food is stored, prepared or served.

(2) There must be a sink for handwashing close to the diaper changing area with running hot and cold water. This sink must not be used for food preparation and clean up.

(3) You must have a sturdy, easily cleanable structure, or mat with a nonabsorbent surface for diaper changing. If you use a mat it must be large enough to prevent the surface underneath from becoming contaminated with bodily fluids.

(4) You and your staff must wash hands before and after diapering each child.

(5) You and your staff must maintain contact with the child being diapered at all times while changing diapers.

(6) For cleaning children, you must:
   (a) Use either disposable towels or clean cloth towels that have been washed and sanitized between each use; and
   (b) Assist a child in handwashing, after changing the diaper.

(7) You and your staff must place the diaper, without rinsing, directly into a waste container (used only for soiled diapers) that has a tight cover, is lined with a disposable plastic trash bag, and is within arm's reach of the diaper changing area.

(8) You and your staff must use:
   (a) Disposable diapers;
   (b) A commercial diaper service;

(2007 Ed.)
(c) Reuseable diapers supplied by the child's family; or
(d) Washable training pants.

(9) You and your staff must clean and sanitize (one tablespoon chlorine bleach per quart of cool water) diaper changing areas between each use or you must use a nonabsorbent, disposable covering that you discard after each use.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1090, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1090, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-1100 What are the requirements for bathing children in care? When bathing children, you or a primary staff person must:

(1) Directly supervise preschool age and younger children at all times; and
(2) Use a nonskid pad in the bathtub if the bathtub does not have a nonskid surface.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1100, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1100, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

UTILITIES AND WASTE DISPOSAL

WAC 170-296-1110 Do I need a telephone? (1) You must have at least one working land line telephone in the licensed space of your facility for incoming and outgoing calls during the time children are present. This allows the 911 emergency operator to track the address or location where the emergency call is made from.

(2) You must provide a working phone for each level of the home in which the child care operates.

(3) The use of answering machines or voice mail is permitted only when they are fully operational and located where staff can hear them.

(4) The telephone must be accessible for incoming and outgoing emergency use at all times.

(5) You must post the following emergency numbers near the telephone:
   (a) Fire;
   (b) Police;
   (c) Ambulance;
   (d) Poison center;
   (e) 911, address and directions to your home;
   (f) Child protection services.

(6) You must provide your current phone number, at all times, to the parents or guardians of the children in your care and your licensor.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1110, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1110, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-1120 What are the lighting requirements? You must:

(1) Locate light fixtures and provide lighting that promotes good visibility for the safety and comfort of children in your care; and
(2) Use nonhazardous light fixture covers or shatter resistant (or otherwise made safe) light bulbs or tubes for ceiling lights in the play space.

[Title 170 WAC—p. 80] [06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1120, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1120, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-1130 What are the requirements for ventilation? (1) You must ensure that your licensed space is ventilated for the health and comfort of the children under your care.

(2) An operational mechanical exhaust fan to the outside must ventilate toilet rooms and bathrooms that do not have windows opening to the outside.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1130, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1130, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-1140 What are the requirements for drinking water? You must provide:

(1) Drinking water supplied from:
   (a) A public water supply regulated by Washington state department of health drinking water operations or the local health authority as appropriate; or
   (b) An individual water supply operated and maintained in a manner acceptable to the local health authority; or
   (c) Commercially bottled water.

(2) Disposable paper cups or individual drinking cups.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1140, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1140, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-1150 What are the requirements for sewage and liquid wastes? Your home must discharge sewage and liquid wastes into a public sewer system or into an independent septic system maintained so as not to create a public health nuisance as determined by the local health authority.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1150, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1150, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

LAUNDRY, SINKS, AND TOILETS

WAC 170-296-1160 What are the requirements for laundry facilities? We have specific requirements for laundry facilities. You must:

(1) Have separate and adequate facilities for storing soiled and clean linen;
(2) Provide a washer and dryer, or make other arrangements for getting laundry done on a regular basis;
(3) Directly supervise when laundry equipment is accessible to children and is in use; and
(4) Ensure that the clothes dryer is vented to the outdoors.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1160, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1160, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-1170 What are the requirements for washing laundry used in child care? You must use an effective way to clean laundry contaminated with urine, feces, lice, scabies, or other potentially infectious materials. You must clean laundry through temperature control or the use of chemicals.

(2007 Ed.)
WAC 170-296-1180 What are the requirements for handwashing sinks? (1) You must supply children with warm running water for handwashing. The water must be kept at a temperature range of not less than eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit and not more than one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit.

(2) Locate children's handwashing facilities in or next to rooms used for toileting.

(3) You must provide the child with soap and paper towels for washing and drying their hands and face.

(4) Handwashing sinks must be of appropriate height and size for children in care or you must furnish safe, easily cleanable platforms impervious to moisture.

WAC 170-296-1190 What are the requirements for toilets and toileting? You must provide:

(1) A minimum of one indoor flush-type toilet;

(2) Privacy for toileting for children of the opposite sex who are four years of age and older and for other children demonstrating a need for privacy;

(3) A mounted toilet paper dispenser and toilet paper for each toilet; and

(4) Toilets that are of appropriate height and size for children in care or you must furnish safe, easily cleanable platforms impervious to moisture.

WAC 170-296-1200 Must a family home child care have toilet training equipment for children? (1) A family home child care must have developmentally appropriate toilet-training equipment, when the home serves children who are not toilet trained.

(2) Privacy for toileting for children of the opposite sex who are four years of age and older and for other children demonstrating a need for privacy;

(3) A mounted toilet paper dispenser and toilet paper for each toilet; and

(4) Toilets that are of appropriate height and size for children in care or you must furnish safe, easily cleanable platforms impervious to moisture.

WAC 170-296-1210 What are the requirements for indoor play areas? (1) Your indoor play area must contain a minimum of thirty-five square feet of useable floor space per child. This space is considered in determining child capacity of the home, and must be available for use by children at all times. We must not count the following as part of the thirty-five square feet per child requirement:

(a) Storage areas;

(b) Bathrooms;

(c) Hallways;

(d) Closets;

(e) Furnace rooms;

(f) Stationary equipment; and

(g) Any other furniture not used by children.

(2) You must designate an area that is developmentally appropriate and safe for children less than twenty-four months of age to allow opportunities for:

(a) Large and small muscle development;

(b) Crawling and exploring;

(c) Sensory stimulation;

(d) Development of communication; and

(e) Learning self-help skills.

(3) You must provide appropriate lighting and ventilation for all activity areas.

WAC 170-296-1220 What are the requirements for an outdoor play area? (1) You are required to provide a safe and securely fenced play area, or an enclosed outdoor play area that we have approved.

(2) The fenced or approved enclosed outdoor play area must prevent child access to roadways and other dangers.

(3) The fence or enclosure must protect the play area from unauthorized exit or entry. Any fence or enclosure must be at least four feet high and designed to discourage climbing (chain link fencing is acceptable).

(4) Spacing between vertical slats must be no greater than three inches.

(5) The outdoor play area must directly adjoin the indoor premises or be reachable by a safe route and method approved by your licensor.

(6) The outdoor play area must promote the child's active play, physical development, and coordination.

(7) You must provide daily opportunities for children to participate actively in outdoor play.

(8) You must not place climbing equipment on concrete, asphalt, wood or similar surfaces.

(9) You must provide a fall zone of a minimum of six feet in all directions from stationary climbing equipment. The fall zone must be free of objects that could harm a falling child on impact.

(10) The ground cover under climbing equipment must be soft enough to absorb falls and prevent injury. Examples of ground cover that will absorb a fall include cedar chips, pea gravel and rubber-like materials.

WAC 170-296-1230 What are the size requirements for an outdoor play area? You must ensure the outdoor play area at your family home child care facility contains a minimum of seventy-five square feet of useable play space for each child you are licensed for.

WAC 170-296-1240 What are the requirements for outdoor play equipment? You must provide a variety of age
appropriate play equipment of sufficient quantity for the children in your care. For example:

1. Climbing equipment;
2. Tires for swings;
3. Age appropriate woodworking tools;
4. Play tools for water, mud and sand;
5. Ride-on toys, wheelbarrows, scooters, tricycles and bikes;
6. Bats, balls and sports equipment;
7. Gardening equipment;
8. Jump ropes; and
10. All outdoor play equipment that needs installation must be installed as required by the manufacturers instructions and maintained in good condition.

WAC 170-296-1250 What are the requirements I must follow when I transport children? When you transport children under your care, you must follow these requirements.

1. You must keep the vehicle in a safe operating condition;
2. The driver must have a valid driver's license;
3. There must be at least one staff person other than the driver in a vehicle when:
   a. Staff-to-child ratio guidelines require a second staff person (see WAC 388-296-1350(3)); or
   b. The child's specific needs require a second staff person;
4. The driver or owner of the vehicle must be covered under an automobile liability insurance policy;
5. The number of passengers must not exceed the vehicle's seat belts;
6. All persons in the vehicle must use seat belts or approved child passenger restraint systems, as required by law, whenever the vehicle is in motion;
7. You must have a first-aid kit and a copy of the child's completed enrollment form in the vehicle; and
8. You must perform an attendance count of children when getting in and out of the vehicle to prevent accidentally leaving a child in the vehicle.

WAC 170-296-1260 What are the requirements for protecting a child under my care from abuse or neglect? As part of ensuring a child's health, safety and welfare, you must protect children under your care from all forms of child abuse, child neglect and exploitation as required by RCW 26.44.030.

CHILD GUIDANCE AND DISCIPLINE

WAC 170-296-1280 What requirements must I follow when guiding and disciplining children? (1) You and your staff must use positive methods of guidance and discipline that promote self-control, self-direction, self-esteem and cooperation. For example, redirection, planning ahead to prevent problems, reinforcing appropriate behavior and encouraging children to express their feelings and ideas instead of solving problems with force.

2. You are responsible for disciplining children in your care. This responsibility may only be delegated to a primary staff person.
3. Your expectations of children's social behavior must be appropriate to each child's level of development.
4. Discipline must be fair, reasonable, consistent, and related to the child's behavior.
5. You and your staff must not make derogatory, shaming or humiliating remarks in the presence of children or families.
6. You must protect children from the harmful acts of other children.

WAC 170-296-1290 What types of disciplinary practices must not be used? (1) You, your staff, volunteer, anyone residing in your home or on the premises, or parents must not use any form of inappropriate discipline or corporal punishment such as, but not limited to:

a. Spanking children with a hand or object;
   b. Biting, jerking, kicking, hitting, or shaking the child;
   c. Pulling the child's hair;
   d. Pushing, shoving or throwing the child;
   e. Inflicting pain as a punishment;
   f. Name calling, shaming or using derogatory comments;
   g. Threatening the child with physical harm; and
   h. Threatening or intimidating the child.

2. You, your staff, volunteer, anyone residing in your home or on the premises must not use methods that interfere with a child's basic needs. These include, but are not limited to:

a. Depriving the child of sleep;
   b. Not providing required food, clothing or shelter;
   c. Restricting a child's breathing;
   d. Interfering with a child's ability to take care of their own hygiene and toilet needs; and
   e. Not providing required medical or emergency dental care.

WAC 170-296-1300 Is the use of physical restraint allowed? (1) You must first use efforts other than physical restraint to redirect or de-escalate a situation.

2. If a child's behavior poses an immediate risk to physical safety, you may use a soft hold as a temporary method to prevent the child from hurting themselves or others.
WAC 170-296-1320 What types of restraint are not acceptable for children? You, your staff, volunteer, anyone residing in your home or on the premises must not use:

1. Physical restraint as a form of punishment or discipline;
2. Mechanical restraints, including but not limited to handcuffs and belt restraints;
3. Locked time-out rooms;
4. Physical restraint techniques that restrict breathing, or inflict pain as a strategy for behavior control, or that might injure a child. These include, but are not limited to:
   a. Restriction of body movement by placing pressure on joints, chest, heart, or vital organs;
   b. Sleeper holds, which are holds used by law enforcement officers to subdue a person;
   c. Arm twisting;
   d. Hair holds;
   e. Choking or putting arms around the throat; and
   f. Chemical restraints.

WAC 170-296-1330 What must I do following an incident that involved using physical restraint? You must:

1. Review any incident of physical restraint to ensure that the decision to use physical restraint and its application were appropriate;
2. Report the incident to the child's parent;
3. Document the incident in the child's record; and
4. Obtain consultation from the licensor and public health nurse so that further use of restraint may be eliminated.

WAC 170-296-1340 What incidents involving children must I report? (1) You or your staff must report any of the following incidents immediately to your local children's administration intake staff, and your licensor:

a. Suspected child abuse, neglect or exploitation;
   b. Death of a child;
   c. Child's suicide attempt;
   d. Use of physical restraint that is alleged to be improper, excessive, or results in injury;
   e. Sexual contact between two or more children;
   f. Disclosures of sexual or physical abuse by a child in care;
   g. Injury requiring professional medical treatment;
   h. Unexpected or emergent health problems that require off-site professional medical treatment;
   i. Medication that is given incorrectly;

(2) You or your staff must report immediately, any of the following incidents to the child's parent or legal guardian:

a. Suicidal or homicidal ideation, gestures, or attempts;
   b. Unexpected health problems;
   c. Any incident of medication administered incorrectly;
   d. Physical assaults that resulted in injury;
   e. Runaways;
   f. Missing children; and
   g. Use of physical restraints for routine behavior management.

CAPACITY AND STAFFING RATIOS, AND SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN

WAC 170-296-1350 What are the capacity and the ratio of child care staff to children based on? The number and ages of the children must determine the number of staff and group size in attendance.

1. All children in the home, including the provider's or other staff's own children, must be counted in determining the staff to child ratio and group size.
2. All children under the age of twelve visiting the home count in capacity. Children attending with a parent or responsible adult do not count in capacity as long as the parent or adult remains with and is responsible for the children;
3. The required staff to child ratios in the following chart must be met at all times.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE RANGE OF CHILDREN UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE</th>
<th>STAFF AND EXPERIENCE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF CHILDREN ALLOWED</th>
<th>NUMBER OF CHILDREN ALLOWED ON THE PREMISES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INYEARS</td>
<td>(a) Licensee</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) Licensee with one year experience</td>
<td>2 - 11</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) Licensee with one year experience</td>
<td>5 - 11</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(d) Licensee with one year of licensed child care experience plus one staff person or volunteer</td>
<td>Birth - 11</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(e) Licensee with two years’ of licensed child care experience and one three credit early childhood education (ECE) course or 30 clock hours of ECE training</td>
<td>3 - 11</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(f) Licensee with two years’ of licensed child care experience and one three credit ECE course of 30 clock hours of ECE training, one staff person or volunteer</td>
<td>Birth - 11</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Title 170 WAC—p. 83]
(5) Our determination of capacity must include all children eleven years of age or younger on the premises. (Except as provided for in the subsection (2) above.)

(6) You must ensure that only you and/or a primary staff person, eighteen years of age or older, has sole responsibility for the child in care.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1350, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1350, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**WAC 170-296-1360 What am I required to do to supervise children?**

(1) You must ensure that the required number of staff supervise children.

(2) You, or a primary staff person, must be within sight or hearing of the children in your care, both inside and outside, so that you or a primary staff person are capable of intervening to protect the health and safety of the children.

(3) Preschool age children and younger must be within sight and hearing of you or a primary staff person when outside.

(4) The supervision you provide must ensure that you are aware of what the children are doing at all times and can promptly assist or redirect activities when necessary.

(5) If you are unable to view children in your licensed space you must continually go to that area to check on them.

(6) Children must not be on a floor level of the home unless you or a primary staff person is on the same floor level. When deciding how close to supervise, you must consider the following:

(a) Ages of the children (sleeping or napping infants must be in the main child care space and subject to continual checks);

(b) Individual differences and abilities;

(c) Layout of the house and play area;

(d) The risk associated with the activities children are engaged in; and

(e) Your outdoor play area and nearby hazards.

(7) A baby monitor or video monitor must not take the place of the required supervision for children in your care.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1360, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1360, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

**WAC 170-296-1370 What types of play materials, equipment and activities must I provide for the children in my care?**

(1) You must provide developmentally appropriate and culturally relevant activities and materials in the required quantity and variety to meet the needs and interests of children being served. The daily schedule must promote:

(a) Social skills (for example: Opportunities for sharing, caring and helping);

(b) Positive self-concepts (for example: Encouraging children to draw pictures and tell stories about themselves and their families);

(c) Language and literacy (for example: Reading books, songs, conversation, story telling, scribbling and drawing);

(d) Physical development in both indoor and outdoor settings, strengthening large and small muscles and encouraging eye-hand coordination, body awareness, rhythm and movement (for example: Finger plays, obstacle courses and puzzles); and

(e) Creative expression and appreciation for the arts (for example: Creating art work as process rather than product, dance, movement, dramatic play, music and materials that represent a variety of cultures).

(2) The daily schedule must provide:

(a) Individual, small group and large group activities;

(b) Many opportunities for success through open-ended activities (for example: Blocks, play dough and sand/water and praising effort, not just results);

(c) An environment of respect for individual and cultural diversity (for example: Acknowledging and respecting each child's unique qualities and integrating positive culturally relevant experiences into daily activities);

(d) Opportunities for children to solve problems, initiate activities, experiment and gain mastery through learning by doing;

(e) Opportunities to explore science, dramatic play, music, language arts and mathematical concepts;

(f) A balance between staff-directed and child-initiated activities. Staff voices must not dominate the overall sound of the group; and

(g) Infants and toddlers with ample opportunities to move about freely in a safe area.

(3) If television/video viewing occurs it must not be in place of planned activities and must be:

(a) Educational;

(b) Designed for children; and

(c) Age-appropriate alternatives to television must be available for children during TV or video watching and appropriate for the number and ages of the children in care.

(4) You must have the required outdoor play equipment for the number and ages of the children that you serve (see WAC 388-296-1240).

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1370, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1370, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**WAC 170-296-1380 Are there additional requirements regarding American Indian children?** When one or more American Indian child receives care at the home, the licensee must in consultation with the parent, establish a plan to provide resources and training designed to meet the social and cultural needs of such children.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1380, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1380, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**WAC 170-296-1390 How am I required to interact with the children in my care?** You, your staff and volunteers must:

(1) Treat each child with consideration and respect, and with equal opportunities to take part in all developmentally appropriate activities;

(2) Appropriately hold, touch and smile at children;

(3) Speak clearly to children at their eye level;

(4) Be available and responsive to children, encouraging them to share experiences, ideas and feelings;

(5) Sit with children during meals when possible;

(6) Listen to children with attention and respect;
(7) Attend to children when they cry;
(8) Perform nurturing activities including diapering, toileting, feeding, dressing and resting taking into consideration of the parent's own nurturing practices, when the practices are developmentally appropriate and when the practices would not constitute a violation of these regulations. These activities must be performed in a relaxed, reassuring and individualized manner, which is developmentally appropriate and promotes the child's learning self-help and social skills; and
(9) You, your staff, volunteers and family members having access to the children in your care must not use profanity or obscene language.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1390, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1390, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

**STAFF POSITIONS, QUALIFICATIONS AND ONGOING STAFF TRAINING**

WAC 170-296-1400 What are the responsibilities of the family home provider? (1) You are responsible for the overall management of your family home child care business. (2) You must ensure your family home child care business complies with the minimum licensing requirements contained in this chapter.

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1400, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1400, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-1410 What are the required staffing qualifications for child care? (1) You, a primary staff person, assistant, volunteer, and other person associated with the operation of the business who has access to the child in care must:
  (a) Meet the qualifications in WAC 388-296-0140;
  (b) Not have committed or been convicted of child abuse or any crime involving physical harm to another person; and
  (c) Not have been disqualified from working in a licensed child care setting or have had a license revoked.
(2) The licensee must:
  (a) Be eighteen years of age or older;
  (b) Be the primary child care provider;
  (c) Ensure compliance with minimum licensing requirements under this chapter; and
  (d) Have completed one of the following prior to or within the first six months of obtaining an initial license:
     (i) Twenty clock hours or two college quarter credits of basic training approved by the Washington state training and registry system (STARS);
     (ii) Current child development associate (CDA) or equivalent credential or twelve or more college quarter credits in early childhood education or child development; or
     (iii) Associate of arts or AAS or higher college degree in early childhood education, child development, school age care, elementary education or special education.
(3) Child care staff must be:
  (a) Fourteen years of age or older if an assistant; or
  (b) Eighteen years of age or older if a primary worker and assigned sole responsibility for the child in care.
(4) You and your staff must meet the following qualifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Background Check</th>
<th>TB Test</th>
<th>STARS Training</th>
<th>First Aid and CPR</th>
<th>HIV/AIDS and bloodborne pathogens training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Licensee</td>
<td>Eighteen years of age</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary child care staff</td>
<td>Eighteen years of age</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child care assistant/volunteer</td>
<td>Fourteen years of age; (directly supervised by the licensee or a primary staff)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>If counted in staff to child ratio</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[06-15-075, recodified as § 170-296-1410, filed 7/13/06, effective 7/13/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 74.15.030, chapters 74.12 and 74.15 RCW. 04-18-082, § 388-296-1410, filed 8/31/04, effective 10/1/04.]

WAC 170-296-1420 Must I be present while children are at my family home child care? (1) You must be present and in the licensed space of your family home child care during the majority of your operating hours.
(2) You must notify your licensor and obtain advanced approval if you plan to be away from the child care business for more than the majority of the time the child care is in operation.

(07 Ed.)

(3) When you are absent from the child care business you must leave a qualified primary staff person in charge. This person must meet the same qualifications that we require of you.
(4) You may leave a qualified assistant eighteen years or older in charge of the child care business to allow for medical, dental and other necessary appointments for periods not to exceed two hours.

[Title 170 WAC—p. 85]
WAC 170-296-1430 Are child care assistants and volunteers allowed to provide care to a group of children without supervision? (1) You may have a child care assistant and volunteer support you at your family home child care facility while under the direct supervision of you or a primary staff person; and (2) You must not assign to a person under eighteen years of age sole responsibility for a group of children.

WAC 170-296-1440 Am I required to offer training to my staff? You must: (1) Discuss with the staff your policies and procedures as well as the rules contained in this chapter; (2) Provide or arrange for your staff to have training for the services that you provide to children under your care; (3) Include in your training monthly practice of fire drills and disaster training for each staff; (4) Update bloodborne pathogen information on an annual basis; (5) Ensure that staff and volunteers keep CPR and first aid training current if they are required to have it; (6) Record the amount of time and type of training provided to staff; and (7) Keep this information in staff files or in a separate training file and make this information available to DCCEL upon request.

WAC 170-296-1450 What personnel records must I have? You, the primary staff, assistant, and volunteer must have on file at the home: (1) An application, including work and education history (resume); (2) Documentation of criminal history and background inquiry form submission; (3) A record of the tuberculin skin test results, X ray, or an exemption to the skin test or X ray; (4) Documentation of HIV/AIDS training and bloodborne pathogen information; (5) Documentation of current CPR and first-aid training, when applicable; and (6) Documentation of basic and annual STARS training when applicable.