

# PLEASE NOTE

This is a complete draft of the proposed Delacare: Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Center. Deleted, moved, and new text is shown as indicated in the key below. This draft is being offered for public comment prior to a draft being submitted to the Register of Regulations when another period of public comment will occur.

To facilitate comparisons to the current regulations, regulation numbers from the current *Delacare* center regulations were kept in this draft; as a result numbering of regulations in this draft may not always be sequential. The document, when finalized, will be renumbered appropriately.

## FORMATTING KEY

1. Text that is crossed out means that the text has been deleted from the regulations.

Example: ~~Text deleted~~

2. Text that is crossed out and highlighted in yellow means that the text has been moved from its present location in the regulations and inserted elsewhere in the document.

Example: ~~Text deleted here but moved to another location~~

3. Underlined text means those words have been added to the document.

Example: New Text Added

4. Text that is underlined and highlighted in yellow means that the text has been moved from another place in the document to this location.

Example: Text moved here from another location

5. Text that is highlighted in gray means the text will be deleted from the regulations and the information placed in a (to be created) accompanying information booklet.

Example: This text will be deleted from regulations and placed in an information booklet.

6. Text that is highlighted in blue indicates an incorrect regulation number is shown. The correct number will be added when the regulations are renumbered.

Example: Regulation #403 citation is incorrect

## INTRODUCTION

### LEGAL BASE

1. The legal base for these licensing ~~rules~~ regulations is in the Delaware Code, Title 31, Welfare, Part I, In General, Chapter 3, Child Welfare, Subchapter III. The Delaware Child Care Act, Subsections 341-345 and Title 29, State Government, Part VIII, Departments of Government, Chapter 90, Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families, Subsection 9003 (7).

### PURPOSE

2. The overall purpose of these ~~rules~~ regulations is the protection and promotion of the health, safety, well-being, and positive development of children who receive services in early care and education and school-age centers. These ~~rules~~ regulations reflect the baseline or minimum standards that shall be expected in Delaware's licensed early care and education and school-age centers. All licensed centers shall have the option to exceed the ~~rules~~ regulations or standards set by the Office of Child Care Licensing through participation in Delaware Stars for Early Success or the Licensee's own initiative.

## PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

### DEFINITION OF REGULATED SERVICE

3. Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers provide care, education, protection, supervision, or guidance for thirteen (13) or more children, including children who are related to the operator. Service is provided on a regular basis for periods of less than twenty-four (24) hours per day, unattended by parent or guardian, and for compensation. This definition shall include but is not limited to full and part time day care, child care, early care, early care and education, early childhood education, preschool, nursery school, extended care, extended day care, extended child care, independently operated kindergartens, before and /or after school care, school-age center, school-age care, out of school care, school's out care, school vacation/holiday care, and summer child care.
4. Early care and education and school-age centers located at public or private schools that are operated by an agency or individual other than the public or private school entity shall be required to be licensed under these ~~rules~~ regulations.
5. The following facilities that operate for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day shall be exempt from licensure under these ~~rules~~ regulations:
  - A. Camps issued ~~permits~~ ~~or exempted~~ by the Division of Public Health;
  - B. Summer schools or classes for religious instruction conducted by religious institutions during summer months for periods not to exceed four (4) weeks;
  - C. Programs established in connection with a religious institution, a business, or recreation center, or religious institution in which children are provided care for brief periods of time, while parents/guardians are on the premises, are readily accessible at all times on an on-call basis, and are able to resume control of the child immediately;
  - D. Programs that offer activities for children over the age of six (6) who attend at their own discretion on an 'open door' basis, where there is no compensation, and where there is

- no agreement, written or implied, between the program and the parent(s)/guardian(s) for the program to assume responsibility for the care of the child;
- E. Programs that offer care on an ad hoc, sporadic, and isolated basis in order to meet an emergency or special need; or
  - F. Any public or private school that provides regular and thorough instruction through at least the sixth (6) grade in the subjects prescribed for the schools of the State, in a manner suitable to the children of the same age and stage of advancement, and that reports to the State Board of Education pursuant to Delaware Code, Title 14, Chapter 27, Subchapter I, Subsection 2704. This exclusion shall include all programs operated by such schools and shall also include preschool education programs for ~~handicapped~~ persons who are disabled as defined by Delaware Code, Title 14, Chapter 31, Subchapter I, Subsection 3101 (4).

XXX. A person, organization, or entity shall not operate or provide child care services as defined in these regulations unless a License to do so is issued by the Office of Child Care Licensing. Anyone who violates a provision of Delaware Code, Title 31, Chapter 3, Subchapter III, known as The Delaware Child Care Act, may be fined not more than \$100 or imprisoned not more than 3 months, or both.

A. To maintain licensure, Licensees must comply with these regulations and applicable provisions of Delaware Code. Failure to do so may result in a correction plan and/or enforcement action, such as warning of probation, probation, suspension, revocation, and denial of a license. Decisions of the Office of Child Care Licensing may be appealed by the Licensee requesting a hearing within 10 days of notification of the pending enforcement action.

6. ~~The rules are divided into three (3) parts:~~

- ~~Part I - General Provisions~~
- ~~Part II - Night Care~~
- ~~Part III - School-Age Center~~

7. ~~To be licensed as an early care and education and school-age center, the General Provisions of Part I shall be met. In addition, centers shall also meet the following rules before providing night care or operating a school-age center:~~

- ~~A. To provide night care, an early care and education center shall also meet Part II rules;~~
- ~~B. To operate a school-age center, a center shall also meet Part III rules.~~

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

8. ~~“Administrative appeal hearing” means the process that entitles an applicant or Licensee the opportunity to appeal the Division’s decision to deny or revoke a license.~~

**XXX. “Administrator”** means the individual responsible for the supervision and administration of the Office of Child Care Licensing.

9. **“Adult”** means a person who has reached his or her eighteenth (18) birthday.

**XXX. “Agreement of Understanding”** means a formal written document that is part of an administrative action plan or part of a corrective action plan or used when a formal agreement is deemed necessary. between the Licensee and the Office of Child Care Licensing which clearly explains and memorializes what actions a licensee must take in order to maintain licensure.

10. **“Applicant”** means an individual, agency, corporation, or partnership applying for a license that is obtained from the Office of Child Care Licensing.

XXX. **“Background Check”** means a State (Delaware) and Federal (national) report of a person’s entire criminal history, a search of the Department’s child abuse and neglect records, and when applicable, a search of the Department of Health and Social Services’ adult abuse registry, or any other checks as required by State or Federal law.

XXX. **“Business Day(s)”** means any weekday Monday through Friday but not including the weekend (Saturday and Sunday) nor a State of Delaware legal holiday that falls on a weekday.

11. **“Center”** means the licensed early care and education and/or school-age center.

12. **“Certified Child Care Health Consultant”** means an independent contractor who has completed the National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultant Training and is trained to assist early care and education and school-age centers with health and safety issues.

13. **“Child”** means a person who has not reached the age of eighteen (18) years.

14. **“Child Abuse”** means any physical injury to a child by those responsible for the care, custody, and control of the child through unjustified force as defined in Delaware Code, Title 11, Chapter 4, Subsection 468 or through emotional abuse, torture, criminally negligent treatment, sexual abuse, exploitation, maltreatment, or mistreatment as defined in Delaware Code, Title 16, Chapter 9, Subchapter I, subsection 902.

XXX. **“Child Care”** also known as “early care and education” means the providing of care, education, protection, supervision, or guidance of children.

XXX. **“Child Care Licensing Specialist”** also known as “Licensing Specialist” means the individual in the an employee ment of the Office of Child Care Licensing and who is responsible for performing regulatory activities including monitoring, investigation, and enforcement activities-actions, and decisions for licensure as set forth in Delaware Code and these regulations. in the licensure of early care and education and school-age centers.

XXX. **“Child Care Licensing Supervisor”** also known as “Licensing Supervisor” means an employee of the Department of Children, Youth and their Families; Division of Family Services, Office of Child Care Licensing who is responsible for performing supervisory and regulatory actions including monitoring, investigations, enforcement actions, and decisions for licensure as set forth in Delaware Code and these Regulations.

15. **“Child Neglect”** means the failure to provide, by those responsible for the care, custody, and control of the child, the proper or necessary: education as required by law, nutrition, or medical, surgical or any other care necessary for the child’s well-being as defined in Delaware Code, Title 16, Chapter 9, Subchapter I, Subsection 902.

16. **“Child Sex Abuse”** means any act against a child that is described as a sex offense or child exploitation sexual offense or child exploitation as defined in Delaware Code, Title 11, Chapter 85, Subchapter IV, Subsection 8550 and Chapter 5, Subchapter II (Subpart D) and Subchapter V or any other applicable code.

17. **“Child with Disabilities”** means a child who has been diagnosed by a qualified professional as having a physical, intellectual, emotional, developmental, or chronic medical condition(s) or impairment(s) which would

require modifications in the regular program of activities for that child at a center or as defined by applicable Federal and State laws.

18. **“Clock Hour(s)”** means the actual number of hours or time a participant spends attending the instructional portion of training designed to develop or enhance early care and education or school-age care competencies.

19. ~~“Comprehensive Professional Development System” means an organized entity within an appropriate Department within the State of Delaware that promotes and coordinates systems and activities to advance the development of the early care and education and school-age care workforce. “Delaware First” has been the name under which a comprehensive professional development system was established for early care and education and school-age care professionals in Delaware~~

20. **“Complaint Investigation”** means the process followed by the Division to investigate effectively accusations that a Licensee is not in compliance with these Regulations or any applicable law. an accusation that a Center is not in compliance with the licensing rule(s) or the licensing law(s). Complaints may be written or oral and may be anonymous.

**XXX “Core Topic Areas or Core Areas”** are defined as child/youth development; environment and curriculum; social emotional development (positive behavior management); observation and assessment; health, safety, and nutrition; family and community; professionalism; and management and administration.

21. **“Corrective Action Plan”** means ~~the citing of the relevant rule(s) of non-compliance, a statement of the nature of the non-compliance, the action required to return to compliance and the date by which that compliance shall be attained.~~ a written document listing non-compliances that must be corrected, how they must be corrected, and the date by which they must be corrected.

22. **“Delaware First Professional Development System”** means the comprehensive professional development system for early child care and education and school-age care professionals in Delaware.

23. **“Department”** means the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families.

24. **“Denial”** means the process of refusing to grant a license after receipt of an original or renewal application. This constitutes refusal of official permission to operate.

25. **“Direct Child Care”** means the providing of care, education, protection, supervision, or guidance of children.

26. **“Direct Observation”** (of children or staff members) means that staff are physically present in the same room or area with children or other staff members, are visually monitoring the interactions of children and/or staff, and are alert to any problems that may occur.

27. **“Direct Voice Contact”** means a Licensee is required to speak directly with a Licensing Specialist, Licensing Supervisor, or Administrator from the Office of Child Care Licensing through a phone call or face-to-face contact. When direct voice contact is required, leaving a voice mail message is not acceptable.

28. **“Division”** means the Division of Family Services within the Department.

XXX. **“Division Director”** means the Director of the Division of Family Services.

XXX “Due Process” means the established procedure(s) designed to safeguard the rights of a Licensee.

29. **“Early Care and Education”** also known as “child care” means the care, education, protection, supervision, or guidance of children beginning at birth.

30. **“Early Childhood Administrator”** means a staff member with direct responsibility for the Center’s total program of services provided to children and their families, and including when applicable, the administrative aspects. The Early Childhood Administrator approves curriculum, and when also serving as the Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator develops and evaluates curriculum and implements and/or monitors implementation of curriculum and daily activities for children at the Center. The Early Childhood Administrator supervises ~~the Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator and when necessary, Early Childhood Teachers and all staff~~ and meets the qualifications specified in these rules regulations. #153 and when applicable, 154,155, 156, 158, and 159.

XXX. “Early Childhood Aide” means a staff member as described in these regulations who performs direct child care functions and related duties in this time-limited entry level position, works under the supervision of at least an Early Childhood Teacher and the direct observation of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher or Early Childhood Caregiver, has not completed the approved training required for the position of Early Childhood Intern, can never be alone with children, and meets the qualifications specified in these regulations.

31. **“Early Childhood Assistant Teacher”** means a staff member as described in these regulations who performs direct child care functions and related duties, works under the supervision of at least an Early Childhood Teacher ~~, and performs direct child care functions and related duties~~ and assists in the implementation of curriculum. This individual may supervise the Early Childhood Intern, Early Childhood Aide, Volunteers, and Substitutes and meets the qualifications specified in these regulations. ~~– The Early Childhood Assistant Teacher meets the qualifications specified in Rules # 161 and when applicable 162.~~

32. **“Early Childhood Caregiver”** means a staff member who was formerly a Caregiver at a particular Center licensed before the effective date of ~~these rules~~ January 1, 2007 regulations or transfers only to a Center licensed before the effective date of ~~these rules~~ January 1, 2007 regulations that is directly affiliated with the original Center and has qualified for this position at that same Center, and who works under the supervision of at least an Early Childhood Teacher and performs direct child care functions and related duties and assists in the implementation of curriculum. ~~The Early Childhood Caregiver~~ This individual may supervise the Early Childhood Intern, Early Childhood Aide, Volunteers, and Substitutes and meets the qualifications specified in these regulations. ~~Rule # 163.~~

33. **“Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator”** means a staff member who works under the supervision of the Early Childhood Administrator and is immediately responsible for the direct care, supervision, guidance, and education of children at the center. The Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator develops and evaluates curriculum and implements and/or monitors implementation of curriculum and daily activities for children at the Center. ~~The Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator~~ This individual may supervise Early Childhood Teachers, Early Childhood Assistant Teachers, Early Childhood Caregivers, Early Childhood Interns, Early Childhood Aides, Volunteers, and Substitutes, and meets the qualifications specified in these regulations. ~~in Rules #157 and when applicable, 158, and 159.~~

XXX. “Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator without a Degree” means a staff member who may fill this position provided that the Early Childhood Administrator is fully qualified as described in these Regulations with at least a Bachelor or Associate degree from a regionally accredited college/university. This individual is immediately responsible for the direct care, supervision, guidance, and education of children at the center. The Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator without a Degree develops and evaluates curriculum and implements and/or monitors implementation of curriculum and daily activities for children at the Center. He/She may supervise Early Childhood

Teachers, Early Childhood Assistant Teachers, Early Childhood Caregivers, Early Childhood Interns, Early Childhood Aides, Volunteers, and Substitutes, and meets the qualifications specified in these regulations

34. **“Early Childhood Intern”** means a staff member who performs direct child care functions and related duties and works under the supervision of an Early Childhood Teacher and the direct observation of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher or Early Childhood Caregiver, can never to alone with children, and meets the qualifications specified in these rules-regulations. ~~and performs direct child care functions and related duties and meets the qualifications specified in Rule #164 and when applicable, 165.~~

35. **“Early Childhood Teacher”** means a staff member who performs direct child care functions and related duties, works under the supervision of an Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator, and is immediately responsible for the direct care, supervision, guidance, and education of children at a Center. The Early Childhood Teacher implements the curriculum and daily activities for a group of children. The Early Childhood Teacher may supervise Early Childhood Assistant Teachers, Early Childhood Caregivers, Early Childhood Interns, Early Childhood Aides, Volunteers, and Substitutes and meets the qualifications specified in these rules-regulations. ~~Rule #160.~~

XXX. **“Enforcement Action”** means an administrative action or group of actions taken to promote compliance, such as Warning of Probation, Probation, Suspension, Denial, and Revocation of a license.

XXX. **“Experience”** means the practical knowledge, skill, or practice derived from documented direct participation in working with children birth through second grade in a group setting.

36. **“Family”** means a biological or adoptive father or mother, but may be interpreted broadly to include any person, whether related to the child by blood or not, who resides with the child, takes part in the child’s family life, and also may have responsibility for or legal custody of the child.

37. **“Field Trip”** means an excursion trip or program activity off the ~~Center-licensed site and is not a routine program outing property.~~

38. **“Governing Body”** means the person or group of persons with ultimate responsibility for and authority over the operation of a Center, as for example, an owner(s) or Board of Directors.

39. **“Group Size”** means the maximum number of children assigned to a specific staff member or group of staff members, occupying an individual classroom or well-defined physical space within a large room.

Need description of “well-defined physical space”

40. **“Health Care Provider”** means a professional who practices medicine with or without supervision and is sanctioned by an established licensing body. The most common types of health care providers include physicians, advance practice nurses (nurse practitioners), and physician assistants.

41. **“Individualized Educational Program”** (IEP) means a document written at least yearly ~~statement of a child’s~~ about the required services and education program for a child three (3) years of age or older with an identified disability. ~~educational program which identifies the required services for a child with disabilities or special needs, so that he or she may grow and learn during the school year. To develop an IEP, the local education agency officials and others involved in the child’s educational program meet to discuss education related goals.~~

42. **“Individualized Family Service Plan”** (IFSP) means a document written at least ~~once each~~ yearly about the required services for an infant or toddler (ages 0-2 years) with an identified disability. ~~By the parent(s)/Guardian(s) and personnel serving infants/toddlers with disabilities or special needs.~~

43. **“Infant”** means a child who is less than one (1) year old.

44. ~~“Informal Hearing” means a meeting between the Division and the licensee when a temporary suspension order has been issued.~~

45. **“Institutional Abuse”** means a child is the subject of abuse or neglect as defined in 40 Delaware Code, Title 10, Chapter 9, Subsection 901 while in an out of home setting such as a child care center. ~~when a person responsible for a child’s care in an out-of-home setting jeopardizes the well being of a child that results or may result in physical or emotional injury.~~

46. “License” means the document issued by the Office of Child Care Licensing’s granting of authority ~~through a written certification~~ to a Licensee at the Center’s location to operate under applicable State Laws.

XXX. **“License Extension”** means the process by which the period of an annual License is lengthened by an additional thirty (30) days because all conditions to issue an annual license have not been met and are not in the control of the Licensee.

47. **“Licensee”** means the entity legally responsible for a licensed Center.

XXX. **“Licensure”** means the issuing of a child care license by the Office of Child Care Licensing when the Applicant has demonstrated compliance with these regulations and applicable codes, regulations, and laws.

48. **“Licensing Specialist”** means the individual in the employment of the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families; Division of Family Services, Office of Child Care Licensing and is responsible for performing regulatory and enforcement activities in the licensure of early care and education and school-age centers.

49. **“Meal”** means breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

50. **“Night Care”** means care for any child between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. when the period includes any portion of the child’s normal sleeping hours.

51. **“Office of Child Care Licensing”** means the organization within the Department authorized under Delaware Code, Title 31, Chapter 3, Subchapter III, to promulgate and enforce ~~rules~~ regulations and standards for the conduct of child care, including the licensing thereof, and the development and implementation of policies and procedures.

52. **“Owner”** means the person(s), firm, partnership, association, organization, corporation, or governmental entity with legal and/or fiscal responsibility for and authority over the operation of the Center.

53. **“Parent(s)/Guardian(s)”** means a birth or adoptive parent, legal guardian, or any other person having responsibility for, or legal custody of, a child.

54. **“Preschool-Age Child”** means a child three (3) through five (5) years of age who is not yet attending a public or private kindergarten program. If a child is older than five (5) years of age and is not yet attending a public or

private kindergarten program, that child shall be considered in the pre-school age group until attending kindergarten or first grade, ~~which ever~~ whichever comes first.

XXX. **“Probation”** means a written notice of a specific enforcement action, approved by the Division Director, which directs the Licensee to correct all non-compliances and maintain compliance or face revocation or denial of the license.

55. **“Professional Development”** means the ~~continuous pursuit of~~ essential knowledge and skills to develop or enhance generally accepted competencies in the early care and education and school-age field.

56. **“Regularly or on a regular basis”** means early care and education and school-age care services which are available and provided at a center on more than one (1) day in any one (1) week.

XXX. **“Regulation(s)”** means a baseline or minimum standard required for a particular aspect of child care set forth in Delaware Administrative Code as established by the Office of Child Care Licensing and known as Delacare: Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers.

XXX. **“Routine Program Outing”** means an activity regularly occurring for children that appears on the classroom activity schedule and involves children leaving the center’s premises, such as a routine walk to a playground or a walk around the block.

57. **“Revocation”** means the process of rescinding a license during the effective dates of a license, withdrawing. ~~This constitutes revocation of official permission to operate.~~

58. **“Secretary”** means the Secretary of the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families.

59. **“Section 504 Plan”** means a document describing accommodations provided to a child to ensure full participation at the Center.

60. **“School-Age Administrator”** means a staff member of a School-Age Center as described in these regulations with direct or supervisory responsibility for the School-Age Center’s total program of services provided to children and their families including, when applicable, the administrative aspects. The School-Age Administrator approves curriculum and also, when not assigning such duties to a School-Age Site Coordinator, develops and evaluates curriculum and implements and/or monitors implementation of curriculum and daily activities for children at the School-Age Center. The School-Age Administrator supervises all school-age staff. ~~School-Age Site Coordinators and when necessary, School-Age Site Assistants and School-Age Interns and~~ meets the qualifications specified in Rule #439 these rules regulations.

XXX. **“School-Age Aide”** means a staff member of a School-Age Center as described in these regulations who performs direct child care functions and related duties in this time limited, entry level position, who works under the supervision of at least a School-Age Site Assistant, has not completed the approved training required for the position of School-Age Intern, can never to alone with children, and meets the qualifications specified in these regulations..

61. **“School-Age Care”** means care, education, protection, supervision, or guidance for school-age children ~~in any of the following circumstances:~~ before and/or after school, during school holidays, and/or during summer months.

62. **“School Age Center”** means a Center that exclusively provides care for school-age children.

63. **“School-Age Child”** means a child five (5) years of age or older or who is attending kindergarten or a higher grade. A child shall be considered school-age for staff/child ratio purposes beginning the first day attending kindergarten or first grade whichever comes first.

64. **“School-Age Intern”** as described in these regulations means a staff member of a School-Age Center who **performs direct child care functions and related duties**, works under the supervision of at least a School-Age Site Coordinator or School Age Site Assistant who is designated as responsible for the School-Age Center, under the direct observation of at least a School-Age Site Assistant ~~and performs direct child care functions and related duties~~, meets the qualifications specified in these regulations, and ~~can never to alone with children~~. ~~Rule #443 and, when applicable, 444.~~

65. **“School-Age Site Assistant”** as described in these regulations means a staff member of a School-Age Center who **performs direct child care functions and related duties**, works under the supervision of at least a School-Age Site Coordinator, ~~and performs direct child care functions and related duties~~ and assists in the implementation of curriculum. The School-Age Site Assistant who is designated as responsible for the School-Age Center may supervise ~~the~~ School-Age Interns, School-Age Aides, Volunteers, and Substitutes and meets the qualifications specified in these rules regulations. ~~Rule # 442.~~

66. **“School-Age Site Coordinator”** as described in these rules regulations means a staff member of a School-Age Center who **performs direct child care functions and related duties**, works under the supervision of the School-Age Administrator, and is immediately responsible for the day-to-day operations of the School-Age Center, direct care, supervision, guidance, and education of the children. The School-Age Site Coordinator implements curriculum and daily activities for children at the School-Age Center. Also, when assigned such duties, the School-Age Site Coordinator develops and evaluates curriculum, and monitors implementation of curriculum. The School-Age Site Coordinator may supervise School-age Site Assistants, School-Age Interns, School-Age Aides, Volunteers, and Substitutes and meets the qualifications specified in these regulations. ~~Rule#440 and, when applicable, 441.~~

XXX “Service Letters” as required by the Delaware Department of Labor, 19 Delaware Code, § 708, shall be sent to an employee’s current or last employer and previous child care and health care employers for the past five (5) years within five (5) days of hire. If completed service letters are not returned in a timely manner, the Licensee shall contact the employer to request that the service letter be completed and provided to the Licensee. The Licensee shall inform the Delaware Department of Labor when service letters are not returned and documentation placed in the employee personnel file.

67. **“Snack”** means supplemental food served between meals.

68. **“Staff or Staff Member”** means any full- or part-time employee of a Center including all substitutes and any volunteer working over five (5) days or 40 hours a year.

XXX. “Standards Complaint” means the oral or written accusation that a Center is not in compliance with these regulations.

69. **“Substitute”** means a paid staff member who is temporarily filling in for a position during the absence of a permanent staff member and works under the supervision of at least an Early Childhood Teacher, School-Age Site Coordinator, or School-Age Site Assistant who is designated as responsible for the School-Age Center and when necessary, under the direct observation of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, Early Childhood Caregiver, or School-Age Site Assistant.

XXX. “Supervised Experience” means successful completion of the process specified by the Office of Child Care Licensing to reduce the amount of experience required to qualify for designated Early Care and Education and School-Age Center or School-Age Center positions. A staff member must demonstrate during the designated period of continuous employment at a single licensed Delaware Early Care and Education and/or School-Age Center, the ability to create, select, present, and evaluate developmentally appropriate lessons, activities, and curriculum for individual children as well as for small and, where appropriate, whole groups of children. Demonstration must occur under the formal documented supervision of a qualified Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator with a degree at a single licensed Delaware Early Care and Education and School-Age Center or under the supervision of a School-Age Administrator or School-Age Site Coordinator with a degree at a single licensed School-Age Center.

70. “Supervision” (of children) means the appropriate number of staff members are physically present in the area or room, including outside, where children of any age are being cared for **and are providing watchful oversight and timely attention to children’s actions and needs.** ~~and are providing watchful oversight and timely attention to the children’s actions and needs.~~

71. “Supervision” (of staff) means performing monitoring and evaluation functions of assigned staff which includes the observation of interactions of assigned staff with children and families, staff’s adherence to the *Delaware: Rules Regulations for Early Child Care and Education and School-Age Centers*, and the Center’s policies and procedures. When performing monitoring functions, supervisory staff shall be physically present in the same room or area as assigned staff and directly observe staff to monitor on-going interaction with children

XXX. “Suspension Hearing” means a hearing to determine if the suspension of a license should be continued.

72. “Suspension Order” means a notice issued by the Office of Child Care Licensing directing that a Center’s services be discontinued as of a specified date with no services to children provided during the term of the Suspension Order, and that the license to operate a center has been suspended.

73. “Toddler” means a child who is ~~one (1) to three (3) years of age~~ between the age of twelve (12) months and less than thirty-six (36) months of age.

74. “Training” means ~~successful participation in~~ an organized professional development activity that is approved or accepted by the Office of Child Care Licensing as designed to develop or enhance the early care and education or school-age competencies.

75. “Variance” means the nontransferable written authorization issued by the Division to use alternative means which meet the intent of the specific licensing ~~rule-regulation(s)~~ and is based on the need(s) or circumstances(s) of the Center and does not endanger the health, protection or safety of children in care.

76. “Volunteer” means any person who provides an unpaid service or support to a Center. Volunteers shall be under the supervision of at least an Early Childhood Teacher, School-Age Site Coordinator, or School-Age Site Assistant who is designated as responsible for the School-Age Center and, when necessary, under the direct observation of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, Early Childhood Caregiver, or School-Age Site Assistant.

XXX. “Warning of Probation” means a written notice intended to alert the facility that it has committed or accumulated sufficient serious violations of licensing regulations which, if not promptly corrected, could lead to a recommendation to place the facility on Probation.

77. ~~“Working Day(s) means any weekday Monday through Friday but not including the weekend (Saturday and Sunday) and a State of Delaware legal holiday that falls on a weekday.~~

## **LICENSING PROCESS AND PROCEDURES**

### **LICENSE**

78. ~~To operate or maintain a Center, an agency, corporation, partnership, or individual shall must be issued a license. 87/83 This license remains the property of the Office of Child Care Licensing, is not transferable, assignable or subject to sale, and must be publicly displayed. by the Office of Child Care Licensing (87) not operate or maintain a Center unless issued a license to do so by the Office of Child Care Licensing.~~

### **Authority To Inspect**

79. ~~An applicant or Licensee shall must allow access to the premises for announced and/or unannounced monitoring visits and complaint investigations and access to any document(s) relevant to determining regulation compliance by any authorized representative of the Office of Child Care Licensing, of another State agency, or any local building, fire or health agency for the purposes of determining compliance with applicable provisions of these rules regulations. ~~On-site Inspections may be conducted without prior notice.~~~~

80. ~~An applicant or licensee shall permit any authorized representative of the Office of Child Care Licensing access to information, files and records relevant to determining compliance with applicable provisions of these rules and to interview any staff member, or child.~~

### **Issuance of License**

81. ~~To qualify for a license, an applicant or licensee shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Office of Child Care Licensing that the Center is in full or substantial compliance with applicable provisions of these rules.~~

82. ~~A license shall be issued only to the Center for which an application is made and for the address of the Center’s actual site once the applicant has successfully completed the application process and the Office of Child Care Licensing has determined compliance with these regulations and applicable provisions of Delaware Code.~~

### **Types of Licenses**

91. ~~The Office of Child Care License shall issue the following licenses:~~

~~A. An **Annual License** is issued when Licensee is in full compliance with applicable provisions of these regulations unless it is modified to a: provisional license; license extension or the license is surrendered, suspended or revoked prior to its expiration date.~~

~~B. An **Initial Provisional License**, applied for on a form provided and in a manner prescribed by the Office of Child Care Licensing, is issued for six (6) months after an onsite review shows compliance with applicable provisions of these regulations.~~

~~C. A **Provisional License** is issued after an onsite compliance review shows non-compliances that must be corrected before an annual license is issued and may be renewed if needed.~~

~~D. A **License Extension** is issued to allow additional time to meet conditions for an annual license that have not been met and are not in the control of the Licensee.~~

### **Provisional License**

93. ~~A provisional license may be issued when the Office of Child Care Licensing determines that:~~

- A. There is no serious risk to the health, safety and well-being of the children; and
- B. A licensee has submitted to the Office of Child Care Licensing and the Office of Child Care Licensing has approved a written corrective action plan.

94. A provisional license may be replaced with an annual license when the Office of Child Care Licensing determines that a licensee has corrected all violations in advance of the expiration date of the provisional license and has come into full or substantial compliance with applicable provisions of these rules regulations.

95. A request to replace a provisional license and to issue an annual license shall be made in writing by the Licensee. If the request is approved, an annual license shall be issued.

### Posting of License

83. A licensee shall post its current license to operate a Center in a place conspicuous to the public.

### License for Each Center Site Location

84. A separate application shall be made for each Center site location except for a [ 85] center that operates in two (2) or more buildings at the same site location which shall have the option of applying for a single license for all buildings at the site location.

85. A Center that operates in two (2) or more buildings at the same site location shall have the option of applying for a single license for all buildings at the site location, or for a separate license for each building at the site location.

86. An agency or individual who operates an early care and education and/or school-age Center at a public or private school but is not employed by the school shall be required to apply for a license for each Center site location.

87. A license shall not be transferable, assignable or subject to sale. [See 78.]

### Nullification of License

88. When a Center is sold, leased or discontinued or the operation has moved to a new location or the license has been revoked, the current license shall immediately become null and void.

### Complaint Procedure

89. An investigation by the Office of Child Care Licensing shall be made if a complaint is received regarding these rules regulations, *Delaware: Rules-Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers*. The Office of Child Care Licensing shall notify the Licensee that a complaint is being investigated. The results of the Office of Child Care Licensing's investigation shall be reported in writing to the Center investigated. If the complaint is substantiated or if any other violations are found as a result of the investigation, the licensee shall be required to

abate correct the violations and come into full or substantial compliance with State Law and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Office of Child Care Licensing.

A. Complaints relating specifically to laws, rules, or regulations of other governmental entities shall be referred to the appropriate entity for investigation and a request of the investigation findings made. At the time of the referral the Office of Child Care Licensing shall request a report on the investigation findings.

reason

90. An investigation by the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families, Division of Family Services, Office of Children's Services, Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit shall be made if a complaint is received regarding the abuse or neglect of a child at the Center by a staff member.

## **TYPES OF LICENSES**

### **Annual License**

91. An annual license is issued when the Office of Child Care Licensing determines that a licensee is in full or substantial compliance with applicable provisions of these rules.

92. An annual license is effective for one (1) year from the date of issuance, unless it is:

- A. Modified to a provisional license;
- B. Revoked;
- C. Surrendered prior to the expiration date; or
- D. Suspended.

96. An applicant shall apply for an Initial Provisional License on a form provided and in a manner prescribed by the Office of Child Care Licensing.

## **PROCEDURES FOR INITIAL LICENSURE**

97. Upon receipt of a completed application, an Office of Child Care Licensing representative shall:

- A. Review the application, confer with the applicant, and inspect the premises to determine whether the applicant has fully or substantially complied with applicable provisions of these rules;
- B. Make a recommendation to the Office of Child Care Licensing regarding the issuance of a license. If a license is granted, it shall be an initial provisional license issued for six (6) months. An annual license shall be issued when the Licensee fully or substantially meets the applicable provisions of these rules; or
- C. If an initial license to operate is denied, notify the applicant in writing of the reason(s) for denial and set forth the applicant's rights to an appeal from the decision.

98. The expiration date of the first annual license and each subsequent renewal of an annual license shall be at

one (1) year intervals from the initial date of issuance of the annual license.

## **PROCEDURES FOR License Renewal**

99. A licensee shall submit a written request to the Office of Child Care Licensing to seek a license renewal application form at least ninety (90) calendar days before the expiration date of the Center's license.

100. A Licensee shall obtain, complete and submit an completed application for a license renewal to the Office of Child Care Licensing at least sixty (60) calendar days before expiration of Center's current license. (101) When a Licensee makes timely and sufficient application for renewal of an annual license, the existing license shall not expire until the Office of Child Care Licensing makes a decision on the renewal application.

In order to avoid delay in your license renewal, it is important that the renewal application be received by OCCL at least sixty (60) calendar days before expiration of the current license. A compliance visit will be conducted by OCCL prior to the expiration of the current license. As compliance with Delacare Regulations is required at all times, non-compliances observed will be cited. Any non-compliances cited must be corrected prior to the expiration of the current license to avoid possible issuance of a provisional license.

101. When a licensee makes timely and sufficient application for renewal of an annual license, the existing license shall not expire until the Office of Child Care Licensing makes a decision on the renewal application.

102. A provisional license may be renewed when the Office of Child Care Licensing determines that a licensee has demonstrated good faith efforts to achieve compliance but requires additional time to achieve full or substantial compliance with applicable provisions of these rules.

## **Terms of a License**

103. The license shall contain and display the following:

- A. Status of the license: annual, provisional or extension;
- B. Effective date of the license;
- C. Expiration date of the license;
- D. The maximum number of children who may be served at one (1) time; and
- E. The applicable type of regulated service for which authorization to operate has been granted.

104. A Licensee shall operate a Center within the terms of its license.

## **Changes Affecting a License**

105. The Office of Child Care Licensing shall determine whether to modify a current license or to require the Licensee to submit an application for a new license when any of the following changes occur: there is a planned reduction, addition or substantial change in the indoor or outdoor spaces of the Center, a change in the name or capacity of the Center, or type of authorized regulated service occurs.

- A. A planned reduction, addition or substantial change in the indoor or outdoor spaces of the Center
- B. A change in the name of the Center;
- C. A change in the applicable type of regulated service authorized as defined in these rules regulations; or
- D. A change in Center capacity;

88. When a Center is sold, leased or discontinued or the operation has moved to a new location, the current license shall immediately become null and void.

### **ORDER TO SUSPEND LICENSE**

106. If the health, safety or well-being of children in care is in serious or imminent danger, the Office of Child Care Licensing may immediately suspend the license upon issuance of a verbal (followed by a written) suspension order or a written suspension order. The order shall state the reason(s) for the suspension. Within ten (10) working days of the issuance of the suspension order, the Division Director, or designee shall hold an informal hearing with the licensee or the licensee's representative.

### **DENIAL AND REVOCATION**

107. The Division may deny, or revoke a license for good cause including but not limited to the following
- A. Failure to comply with applicable provisions of State Law(s) or these rules;
  - B. Violation of the terms or conditions of its license;
  - C. Fraud or misrepresentation in obtaining a license or in the subsequent operation of the facility;
  - D. Refusal to furnish the Department with files, reports or records as required by the law;
  - E. Refusal to permit an authorized representative to gain admission to or conduct an inspection of the center during operating hours;
  - F. Engaging in any activity, policy, practice or staff member conduct that adversely affects or is deemed by the Division to be detrimental to the education, health, safety or well-being of children; or
  - G. Conduct that otherwise demonstrates unfitness by the owner, administrator or any staff member to operate a Center.

### **License Suspension**

106/107. The Division may suspend a license for failure to comply with these regulations or any federal, state, or local law. A suspension order may be verbal or written and the Licensee shall cease operation as required by the Office of Child Care Licensing. Any verbal suspension order shall be followed by a written suspension order within three (3) business days. A written suspension order shall state the reason(s) for the enforcement action.

A. Within ten (10) business days after the issuance of the written order, the Licensee must relinquish the child care license (if applicable) to the Office of Child Care Licensing or request a hearing.

B. Within ten (10) business days of the request for a hearing, the Division Director or his/her designee shall schedule the hearing to determine if the enforcement action will continue. The hearing must be held within thirty (30) days of the initial request for a hearing or the enforcement action will take effect. Extensions of time and continuances beyond the times specified shall be granted by the designated hearing officer only for good cause shown.

## APPEAL

~~108. If the Division denies or revokes a license to operate, the Division shall notify the licensee in writing at least ten (10) working days prior to taking such action, and specify the licensee's entitlement to appeal the decision and request an administrative appeal hearing. The Division shall notify the licensee in writing of the findings of its investigation and of the reasons for denial or revocation before taking such action.~~

### License Denial or Revocation

108. The Division may deny an application or revoke a license to operate for failure to comply with these regulations or any federal, state, or local law. The Division shall notify the Licensee in writing of its intent to deny an application or revoke a license, stating the reason(s) for the enforcement action, and specify the Licensee's entitlement to appeal the decision and request a hearing.

A. Within ten (10) business days after the issuance of the written notice, the Licensee must relinquish the child care license (if applicable) to the Office of Child Care Licensing or request a hearing.

(b) Within ten (10) business days of the request for hearing, the Division Director or his/her designee shall schedule the hearing to determine if the enforcement action will continue. The hearing must be held within thirty (30) days of the initial request for a hearing or the enforcement action will take effect. Extensions of time and continuances beyond the times specified shall be granted by the designated hearing officer only for good cause shown.

(c) The licensee whose license has been revoked or applicant whose application has been denied may not apply for a license from the Office of Child Care Licensing within a five (5) year period from the date of revocation or denial.

~~109. If a written or verbal request for a hearing is received by the Division within the ten (10) working days of the date the notice of denial or revocation was mailed, the Division shall ensure that an appeal hearing is held within thirty (30) working days from the date the request for an administrative appeal hearing is received, unless for good cause, the Hearing Officer grants postponement.~~

~~110. The administrative appeal hearing shall be conducted by a Hearing Officer who has had no previous involvement in the matter prompting the administrative appeal hearing.~~

111. If a Licensee requests an administrative appeal hearing in a timely manner, its existing license shall remain in effect until an official written decision has been rendered subsequent to the administrative appeal hearing; except that the Office of Child Care Licensing shall have the authority to suspend the license immediately whenever the health, safety or well-being of children in care is in serious or imminent danger.

112. If a Licensee does not make a timely request for an administrative appeal hearing to appeal the decision in accordance with **Rule #109** or does not request an administrative appeal hearing, the action to deny or revoke a license shall take effect thirty (30) working business days after the issuance of the notice.

However, if the health, safety or well-being of children in care is in serious or imminent danger, denial or revocation shall be effective immediately upon the issuance of a written notice by the Division.

### **RULE Regulation Variance**

113. Upon the written request of an applicant or licensee, the Division may grant a variance from any of these ~~rules regulations~~ if the applicant or licensee has documented to the satisfaction of the Division that the intent of the ~~specific rule regulation~~ shall be satisfactorily achieved in a manner other than that prescribed by the rule regulation and that the health, safety or well-being of children in child care is not in serious or imminent danger or risk thereof. ~~If the licensee fails to comply with the variance, the Division shall initiate necessary enforcement action.~~

113. All regulations must be complied with in their entirety unless the Applicant or Licensee submits a written request for a regulation variance to the Office of Child Care Licensing and receives approval. The variance request must document that the intent of the specific regulation shall be achieved in a manner other than that prescribed by the regulation and that the health, safety and well-being of children in child care is not in serious or imminent risk or danger. ~~If the Licensee fails to comply with the variance, the Division shall initiate necessary enforcement action.~~

114. The Division shall render its decision on the request in writing, including the conditions for which the variance is granted, and shall send a signed copy of the decision to the applicant or licensee. A copy of the decision shall be maintained on file by the Division and the Licensee.

115. The variance may be time-limited or may remain in effect for as long as the Licensee continues to maintain the health, care, safety, protection, supervision, and needed services of children.

116. The Division shall monitor the Licensee's compliance with the variance. ~~If the licensee fails to comply with the variance, the Division shall initiate necessary enforcement action.~~

## **ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION**

### **NOTIFICATION TO THE OFFICE OF CHILD CARE LICENSING**

117. ~~A Licensee shall notify the Office of Child Care Licensing in writing at least ninety (90) consecutive calendar days before the anticipated closing of the facility or program, or any changes of ownership, sponsorship, location, facility or program name, licensed capacity, or applicable type of regulated service being provided.~~

117. ~~A licensee shall notify the Office of Child Care Licensing in writing at least ninety (90) consecutive calendar days before any of the following changes occur:~~

- ~~A. A change of ownership or sponsorship;~~
- ~~B. A change of location;~~
- ~~C. A change in the name of the facility or program;~~
- ~~D. A change in the applicable type of regulated service being provided;~~
- ~~E. A change in licensed capacity; or~~
- ~~F. The anticipated closing of the facility or program.~~

118. A Licensee shall notify the Office of Child Care Licensing within five (5) ~~working business~~ days of the resignation or termination of the Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator.

119. A Licensee shall notify the Office of Child Care Licensing within one (1) ~~working~~ business day by direct voice contact (followed by a written report on a form provided by the Office of Child Care Licensing) during the Office of Child Care Licensing's working hours in the event of any fire, flood, or any other serious damage due to any natural or man-made disaster(s) that impact the ability to operate safely; injury of a child while in the care of a Center requiring inpatient or outpatient treatment; suspected abuse or neglect of a child while at the Center (after reporting the suspected abuse or neglect to the Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline, currently listed as 1-800-292-9582); or any known conviction(s) of a staff member including those which prohibit continued employment at the Center.

119. A licensee shall notify the Office of Child Care Licensing within one (1) working day by direct voice contact during the Office of Child Care Licensing's working hours if any of the following occur:

A. Any fire; flood; or any other serious damage due to any natural or man-made disaster(s) that impact the ability to operate safely;

B. Injury of a child while in the care of a Center requiring inpatient or outpatient treatment. The direct voice contact shall be followed by a written report on a form provided by the Office of Child Care Licensing;

C. Suspected abuse or neglect of a child while at the Center including immediately calling the 24-hour Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline (currently listed as 1-800-292-9582) to report the abuse or neglect; or

D. Any known conviction(s) of a staff member including those which prohibit continued employment at the Center, see Rules Regulations #138-140.

120. A Licensee shall immediately notify the Office of Child Care Licensing by direct voice contact during the Office of Child Care Licensing's working hours of the death of a child while in care. If a death occurs after such working hours, the Licensee shall immediately call the 24-Hour Child Abuse/Neglect hotline (currently listed as 1-800-292-9582).

## GOVERNING BODY

121. A Licensee shall have an identifiable owner and/or functioning governing body with responsibility for and authority over the operation of the Center. The owner or governing body shall designate a person to function as the Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator of the Center.

A. A Licensee of a privately-owned Center shall have documents identifying the name(s) and address(es) of owner(s).

B. A corporation, partnership or association shall have documents, when applicable, identifying all members of the governing body; their addresses; their terms of membership; officers of the governing body; and terms of office of all officers.

C. A Licensee shall have a procedure for informing all parents/guardians of children attending the Center of the identities of governing body members.

122. The owner or governing body of a Center shall ensure that the Licensee complies with all applicable local, State and Federal Laws and regulations.

~~123. A Licensee shall have an organized system of business management and sufficient staff, space, and equipment to fulfill, at a minimum, administrative, fiscal, clerical, cleaning and maintenance, food services, direct child care, and supervisory functions.~~

~~123. A licensee shall have an organized system of business and management and sufficient staff, space and equipment to fulfill the following functions:~~

~~A. Administrative functions;~~

~~B. Fiscal functions;~~

~~C. Clerical functions;~~

~~D. Cleaning and maintenance functions;~~

~~E. Food services functions;~~

~~F. Direct child care functions; and~~

~~G. Supervisory functions.~~

## **INSURANCE COVERAGE**

124. A Licensee shall secure and maintain on file written documentation of motor vehicle, fire and comprehensive general liability insurance, as required by State Law(s).

## **RECORDS**

125. A Licensee shall maintain files and records applicable to licensing.

126. A Licensee shall keep daily attendance records for a minimum period of six (6) months for children identifying the hours of children's attendance each day.

A. A Licensee shall establish a system for taking attendance ~~when the children arrive and depart the Center and periodically throughout each day~~ to ensure the whereabouts of each child children-in attendance at any given time.

## **PUT IN IM: EXPLAIN LOCATION**

~~A. A licensee shall establish a system for taking attendance when the children arrive and depart the Center and periodically throughout each day to ensure the whereabouts of children in attendance at any given time.~~

127. A Licensee shall keep a written record for a minimum period of six (6) months of the daily work

assignment, position, and hours of all staff members to ensure the whereabouts of each staff member in attendance at any given time .

the daily schedule of all staff members, including their position—titles, and their exact hours worked throughout the hours of operation at the Center.

## **Enrollment**

364. A Licensee shall ensure that the daily population at the Center is in accordance with any capacity restrictions on the Center's license.

365. A Licensee shall provide any parent(s)/guardian(s) who is inquiring about or planning to enroll a child into the Center with information detailing his or her right to inspect the active record and complaint files of the Center as described in Delaware Code, Title 31. As a part of the enrollment or application process, the Licensee shall require the parent(s)/guardian(s) to read and sign *The Parents Right to Know Act* form and keep the signed document on file at the Center.

A. A copy of the signed document shall be given to the parent(s)/guardian(s).

B. In the event that the parent(s)/guardian(s) do not enroll the child, the signed document shall be kept on file for a minimum period of six (6) months as proof of presenting the information.

366. A child ~~not~~ shall attend the Center only when the information listed in Regulation XXX is obtained from the parent(s)/guardian(s), placed in the child's on-site confidential file, and updated regularly.

A. Child's first and last name;

B. Child's birth date;

C. Child's home address;

D. Child's home phone number and/or parent's/guardian's cell phone number;

E. Parent(s)/guardian(s)' name(s);

F. Parent(s)/guardian(s)' place(s) and hours of employment;

G. Parent(s)/guardian(s)' work phone number(s);

H/I. Written authorization from parent(s)/guardian(s) and name(s) of person(s) other than parent(s)/guardian(s) to be notified in an emergency situation when parent(s)/guardian(s) cannot be contacted or to whom the child may be released;

J. Written authorization from parent(s)/guardian(s) for child's emergency medical care;

K/L. Child's medications and medical or food allergies, if applicable;

L. Child's medical or food allergies; and

L. Child's current immunization record (or notarized religious or medical exemption from immunization); and

M. Name and phone number of the child's health care provider.

367. A Licensee shall ensure that enrollment procedures involve a meeting with the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the child, if appropriate, to:

A. Determine if the Center's program can effectively meet the child's developmental and educational

needs, abilities, likes and dislikes, and what to determine any accommodations or other planning may be needed to do so; and

B. Provide an opportunity for the parent(s)/guardian(s) and child to observe the Center and program.

### Release Of Children

412 & 412A. A Licensee shall provide to all parents/guardians of children in attendance, staff, substitutes, and volunteers, a copy of the written policies and procedures for the routine and emergency release of children that includes documentation of the release of the child from the responsibility of Center staff only to a person authorized by the parent or guardian.

A. Documentation of the release of the child from the responsibility of Center staff only to an authorized person authorized by the parent or guardian;

B. Emergency release of children as individually requested by parents/guardians including identifying the caller prior to releasing a child;

C. Release of the child to any person not known to Center staff prior to releasing the child and including documentation of verification kept for at least twenty-four (24) hours;

D. A person not authorized to receive a child, or a person who appears to be intoxicated or otherwise incapable of bringing the child home safely, requests release of a child; and

E. Situations in which a non-custodial parent attempts to claim the child without the consent of the custodial parent/guardian.

### Child Files

128. A Licensee shall have an on-site confidential file for each child at enrollment and (129) A Licensee shall have a procedure to ensure that all information supplied by parents/guardians is continuously updated kept current and available to staff member(s) responsible for a particular child on a need-to-know basis that includes: including:

| Child Files   |
|---|
| A. The child's first/last name, date of birth, home address, and home telephone number including parent(s)/guardian(s)' cell phone number(s) if applicable;           |
| 366E/F/G. Parent(s)/guardian(s)' name(s), place(s) and hours of employment, and work phone number(s);   |
| B. Emergency telephone numbers for the parent(s)/guardian(s) and other designated person(s) while the child is in care;   |
| C. Name and telephone number of the child's health care provider;   |
| K. &(366L) Health appraisal and immunization record (or notarized religious or medical exemption from immunization); information as required by Rule Regulation #316; |
| D. Identifying information for all persons authorized to pick the child up from the Center;   |
| N. If applicable, relevant copies of court orders on custody and visitation arrangements provided by the parent(s)/guardian(s);                                       |
| E/F. Date of enrollment and hours/days child is scheduled to attend the Center;   |

|  |
|--|
| G/H. A statement of the child's medical, developmental, or educational special needs including copies of any IEP, IFSP and Section 504 plan if provided by the parent(s)/guardian(s) and information on any allergies, existing illnesses or injuries, previous serious illnesses or injuries, and any prescribed and non-prescription medication including those for both continuous, long-term and emergency situations; |
| I/J. Written consents authorization(s) from parent(s)/guardian(s) for: emergency medical treatment, release of child, and if applicable, special dietary needs, swimming activities, administration of medication, television and computer use, and permission for transporting the child on a routine or off-premises basis;  |
| M/L. Administration of medication records of a child and injury and illness records including copies of reports submitted to the Office of Child Care Licensing as required by these regulations; and  |
| O. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) signature forms as required by Federal, State, or local governments or the Office of Child Care Licensing, such as receipt of information specified in <i>The Parents Right to Know Act</i> .   |

- ~~A. The child's first/last name, date of birth, home address, and home telephone number including parent(s)/guardian(s) cell phone number(s) if applicable;~~
- ~~366E/F/G. Parent(s)/guardian(s) name(s), place(s) and hours of employment, and work phone number(s);~~
- ~~B. Emergency telephone numbers for the parent(s)/guardian(s) and other designated person(s) while the child is in care;~~
- ~~C. Name and telephone number of the child's health care provider;~~
- ~~K. &(366L) Health appraisal and immunization record (or notarized religious or medical exemption from immunization); information as required by Rule Regulation #316;~~
- ~~D. Identifying information for all persons authorized to pick the child up from the Center;~~
- ~~N. If applicable, relevant copies of court orders on custody and visitation arrangements provided by the parent(s)/guardian(s);~~
- ~~E. Date of enrollment;~~
- ~~F. The hours a child is scheduled to attend the Center;~~
- ~~E/F. Date of enrollment and hours/days child is scheduled to attend the Center;~~
- ~~G. A statement of any special problems, medical, developmental, or educational needs of the child including allergies, existing illnesses or injuries, previous serious illnesses or injuries and any prescribed medication including those for emergency situations;~~
- ~~G/H. A statement of the child's medical, developmental, or educational special needs including copies of any IEP, IFSP and Section 504 plan if provided by the parent(s)/guardian(s) and information on any allergies, existing illnesses or injuries, previous serious illnesses or injuries, and any prescribed and non-prescription medication including those for both continuous, long-term and emergency situations;~~
- ~~H. If provided by the parent(s)/guardian(s), for a child who has been identified as a having disability or special need, copies of IEP, IFSP and Section 504 plan, and records of the child's progress in meeting developmental and educational goals, including copies of assessments and referrals to special services;~~
- ~~I. Written authorization from the parent(s)/guardian(s) for emergency medical care;~~
- ~~I/J. Written consents authorization(s) from parent(s)/guardian(s) for: emergency medical treatment, release of child, and if applicable, special dietary needs, swimming activities, administration of medication, television and computer use, and permission for transporting the child on a routine or off-premises basis;~~

There may be other consent forms desired by a program such as photo release, media release, etc.

~~J. Transportation permission, if appropriate;~~

~~M/L. Administration of medication records of a child and injury and illness records including copies of reports submitted to the Office of Child Care Licensing as required by these regulations, by Rules #119B & 120 and copies of reports required by Rule #337;~~

~~N. If provided by the parent(s)/guardian(s), court orders on custody and visitation arrangements; and~~

~~O. The original copy of *The Parents Right to Know Act* form signed by the parent(s)/guardian(s).~~

~~O. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) signature forms as required by Federal, State, or local governments or the Office of Child Care Licensing, such as receipt of information specified in *The Parents Right to Know Act*.~~

~~129 A Licensee shall have a procedure to ensure that all information supplied by parents/guardians is continuously updated and available to staff member(s) responsible for a particular child on a need-to-know basis.~~

### Personnel Files

130. A Licensee shall have a personnel file for each staff member including all substitutes, and volunteers working over five (5) hours a week or forty (40) days a year. This file shall be maintained onsite for at least six (6) months after employment/association terminates and shall include:

| <b>Personnel Files</b> |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>A/C.</b>            | Personal data sheet or application containing the employee's name, date of birth, home address, phone, education, and work experience;  |
| <b>B.</b>              | Date of employment or volunteer start date, termination date (as applicable);   |
| <b>E.</b>              | Release of employment history form, Service Letters obtained and/or pertinent documentation, or three (3) letters of reference if no previous employment;   |
| <b>F.</b>              | Documents attesting to Professional development plan (not required for substitutes and volunteers);   |
| <b>X.</b>              | Documents attesting to Qualifications certification or qualifications documentation;  |
| (142A)                 | Written records of required medical examinations <b>health appraisal that includes verification of the employee's ability to perform essential job functions and conducted within one (1) year of hire date and submitted within the first month of employment;</b>   |
| (142B)                 | Written evidence on file at the center within the first month of employment of freedom from communicable tuberculosis verified within one year prior to the date of initial employment at the Center, with further testing <u>if there are specific concerns about the provider's health or every fifth year of employment; and in accordance with current guidelines of the Delaware Division of Public Health (current website is <a href="http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/chca/files/childcaremanual.pdf">www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/chca/files/childcaremanual.pdf</a>);</u>          |
| <b>H.</b>              | A statement signed by the staff member stating the staff member's status relative to conviction, current indictment or involvement in any criminal activity involving violence against a person, child abuse or neglect; possession, sale or distribution of illegal drugs; sexual misconduct; gross irresponsibility or disregard for the safety of others; or serious violations of accepted standards of honesty or ethical behavior; or any case of child abuse or neglect substantiated by the Division of Family Services or the respective responsible entity in any other state or country; |
| <b>I.</b>              | Verification of fingerprinting form and release form and verification of adult abuse registry check;  |

|    |  |
|----|--|
| K. | If transporting children, a copy of a current driver's license;  |
| L. | Copy of job description;   |
| X. | <u>Proof of Child Abuse and Neglect reporting procedures established by the center have been reviewed with employee;</u>   |
| M. | Orientation form that includes written documentation that the information as required <u>in these regulations per Rule #176</u> was initially and periodically reviewed; and |
| N. | Record of <u>attendance at training regarding annual training hours and/or meeting qualifications.</u>   |

130. ~~A licensee shall have a personnel file for each staff member. The personnel file shall include:~~
- ~~A/C. Personal data sheet or application containing the employee's name, date of birth, home address, phone, education, and work experience;~~
  - ~~A. Name, date of birth, home address and telephone number;~~
  - ~~B. Date of employment or volunteer start date, termination date (as applicable);~~
  - ~~C. Initial application form;~~
- D. Two (2) reference letters;
- ~~E. Release of employment history form, Service Letters obtained and/or pertinent documentation, or three (3) letters of reference if no previous employment;~~
  - ~~F. Documents attesting to Professional development plan (not required for substitutes and volunteers);~~
  - ~~X. Documents attesting to Qualifications certification or qualifications documentation;~~
  - ~~G. (142A) Written records of required medical examinations health appraisal that includes verification of the employee's ability to perform essential job functions and conducted within one (1) year of hire date and submitted within the first month of employment;~~
  - ~~H. (142B) Written evidence on file at the center within the first month of employment of freedom from communicable tuberculosis verified within one year prior to the date of initial employment at the Center, with further testing if there are specific concerns about the provider's health or every fifth year of employment; and in accordance with current guidelines of the Delaware Division of Public Health (current website is [www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/chca/files/childcaremanual.pdf](http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/chca/files/childcaremanual.pdf)).~~
  - ~~B. Written evidence on file with the Center within the first month of employment of freedom from communicable tuberculosis verified within one (1) year prior to the date of initial employment at the Center, with further testing required every fifth year of employment or as prescribed by current Delaware Department of Public Health requirements; and~~
  - ~~H. A statement signed by the staff member stating the staff member's status relative to conviction, current indictment or involvement in any criminal activity involving violence against a person, child abuse or neglect; possession, sale or distribution of illegal drugs; sexual misconduct; gross irresponsibility or disregard for the safety of others; or serious violations of accepted standards of honesty or ethical behavior; or any case of child abuse or neglect substantiated by the Division of Family Services or the respective responsible entity in any other state or country;~~
  - ~~I. Verification of fingerprinting form and release form and verification of adult abuse registry check;~~
  - ~~J. Release form and verification of adult abuse registry check;~~
  - ~~K. If transporting children, a copy of a current driver's license;~~
  - ~~L. Copy of job description;~~

- X. ~~Proof of Child Abuse and Neglect reporting procedures established by the center have been reviewed with employee;~~
- M. ~~Orientation form that includes written documentation that the information as required in these regulations per Rule #176 was initially and periodically reviewed; and~~
- N. ~~Record of attendance at training regarding annual training hours and/or meeting qualifications; and~~
- O. ~~Date of termination.~~

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### PERSONNEL POLICIES

#### General

131/131A. A Licensee shall have written personnel policies and practices that at a minimum include **procedures for hiring, discipline, dismissal, suspension, and lay-off of staff in accordance with applicable laws,** and make them available to all staff and prospective staff.

- ~~A. These policies shall include, as appropriate, procedures for hiring, discipline, dismissal, suspension and lay-off of staff in accordance with applicable laws.~~
- ~~B. A statement signed by the staff member on the orientation form shall confirm that the particular staff member has reviewed the relevant personnel policies and practices and has had the opportunity to ask questions and receive clarification.~~

132. A licensee shall have written job descriptions for every job position at the Center.

#### General Qualifications

133. **BEST PRACTICE:** A Licensee shall have on file for each staff member at least two (2) letters of reference from two (2) adults who are familiar with the staff member but who are not related to the staff member. These references shall verify that the staff member is of good character and reputation, respects and understands children, and is sensitive to meeting their needs.

134. A Licensee shall ensure that each staff member has an understanding of and respect for children and their needs and for a child's family and culture. **For those staff members assigned direct child care duties, this includes, but is not limited to meeting children's physical needs such as feeding and diapering, supervising children's activities, supporting children's physical, intellectual, social and emotional growth, dealing with emergencies in a calm manner, and carrying out methods of positive behavior management as stipulated in these rules regulations and within the responsibilities of their particular position.**

135. **SEE DEFINITIONS:** A Licensee shall require a staff member to sign a release of employment history form and obtain Service Letters from the staff member's current or most recent previous employer. In addition, if the staff member was employed in a health care facility and/or child care facility within the past five (5) years, the Licensee shall also obtain a service letter from such employer(s). **Service letters shall be sent to employers within five (5) days of hire. If the employer fails to send the required service letter in a timely manner, the Licensee**

shall contact the employer to request that the service letter be completed and provided to the Licensee. The Licensee shall inform the Delaware Department of Labor when service letters are not returned and documentation placed in the employee personnel file.

- ~~A. ——— Volunteers who will be alone with children shall be required to provide service letters regardless of time spent at the Center providing unpaid services; or~~
- ~~B. ——— Volunteers who are not alone with children and are providing unpaid services of less than five (5) days or forty (40) hours a year shall not be required to provide service letters.~~

136. A Licensee shall ensure that employment background checks and criminal record checks are conducted on all staff with fingerprinting by the Delaware State Police scheduled or completed prior to the first day of employment. The fingerprinting verification form shall be submitted as proof of being fingerprinted. (136A). Staff members shall be required to provide the fingerprint verification form to the licensee as proof of being fingerprinted and may not be alone with children until the fingerprint verification receipt is received. Results of all record checks shall be placed in the employee's file.

~~A signed statement by the employee stating the date, time, and location of the fingerprinting appointment is required for a scheduled appointment and shall be placed in the employee's file.~~

136. ~~A licensee shall require staff members to be fingerprinted for child care by the Delaware State Police as soon as they are offered and accept a position hired or schedule an appointment to be fingerprinted no later than the fifth working day.~~

- ~~A. Staff members shall be required to provide the fingerprint verification form to the licensee as proof of being fingerprinted. An employee not be alone with children until the fingerprint verification receipt is received.~~

~~Volunteers must always be supervised by a staff person who is at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher or School-Age Site Assistant and may not be alone with children. Volunteers providing services of less than five (5) days or forty (40) hours a year shall not be required to have background checks. Volunteers providing unpaid services of more than five (5) days or forty (40) hours a year are required to have background checks.~~

- ~~A. ——— Volunteers who will be alone with children shall be required to have background checks regardless of time spent at the Center providing unpaid services; or~~
- ~~B. ——— Volunteers who are not alone with children and are providing unpaid services of less than five (5) days or forty (40) hours a year shall not be required to have background checks.~~

137. A Licensee shall request the results of complete an adult abuse registry check through the Department of Health and Social Services' website [<http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dltcrp/Default.aspx>] or other available mechanism for applicable staff members as soon as they are hired or no later than the fifth working day. on or before their first day of employment.

138. A Licensee shall not employ or retain any person as a staff member ~~with~~: who is prohibited or disqualified from working in child care in Delaware.

- ~~A. Any conviction, current indictment or substantial evidence of involvement in any criminal activity involving; violence against a person; child abuse or neglect; possession, sale or distribution of illegal drugs; sexual misconduct; gross irresponsibility or disregard for the safety of others; or serious violations of accepted standards of honesty or ethical behavior;~~

~~i. The Licensee may, at its own discretion, make exceptions to the above ~~rule~~ regulation when it is documented that the health and safety of children would not be endangered~~

except as prohibited by the Child Protection Registry Law as defined in Delaware Code, Title 16, Chapter 9, Subchapter II, Subsection 923.

139/140. The Licensee shall not employ or retain in any capacity any person convicted of any offense defined as child sex abuse in Delaware Code, Title 11, Chapter 85, Subchapter IV, Subsection 8550 or whose child or children are removed from his/her custody because of abuse or neglect.

~~140. A licensee shall not employ or retain in any capacity any person convicted of any offense defined as child sex abuse in Delaware Code, Title 11, Chapter 85, Subchapter IV, Subsection 8550.~~

141. A Licensee shall inform staff members that alcohol or other drug use that adversely affects essential job functions is unacceptable and of the prohibition of unlawful use, possession, manufacture, distribution of controlled substances or alcoholic beverages in the workplace.

### **ADULT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

~~142. Within the first month of employment for every staff member, a Licensee shall have a health appraisal on file completed within one (1) year prior to the date of employment, attesting to:~~

- ~~A. Written report from a health care provider of a health appraisal attesting to the health of the staff member, including the ability to perform essential job functions as described in Rule #134, these Regulations.~~
- ~~B. Written evidence on file with the Center within the first month of employment of freedom from communicable tuberculosis verified within one (1) year prior to the date of initial employment at the Center, with further testing required every fifth year of employment or as prescribed by current Delaware Department of Public Health requirements; and~~
- ~~C. Written evidence of when necessary, follow-up of any known health problem of the staff member affecting or potentially affecting his/her ability to care for children.~~

~~338. A licensee shall ensure that a staff member does not provide personal care to or have direct contact with children during normal working activities when that staff member is known to have a communicable or other reportable disease which is readily contagious to others, whether the person has symptoms or is a carrier of such disease.~~

~~A. A staff member shall not be involved in food preparation or serving, if so indicated by the symptoms or illness. The Division of Public Health shall be notified of the reportable communicable disease and consulted to determine the most appropriate action, including exclusion.~~

338. 338. A licensee shall ensure that a staff member does not provide personal care to or have direct contact with children during normal working activities when that staff member is known to have a communicable or other reportable disease which is readily contagious to others, whether the person has symptoms or is a carrier of such disease. A Licensee shall inform the Division of Public Health of any reportable communicable disease in accordance with Division's procedures; attendance of staff shall be under Public Health's direction.

## **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

143. A Licensee shall provide each staff member of the Center written information governing the reporting provision of the Delaware child abuse and neglect law(s) and regulations, Center policies and procedures for reporting and documenting suspected abuse and neglect as part of orientation, and maintain on file written documentation of their receipt of this information.
144. A Licensee shall not discourage, inhibit, penalize, threaten, or otherwise impede any staff member from reporting any suspected or alleged incident of child abuse or neglect or assisting in the investigation of such reports.
145. A Licensee shall develop, adopt, follow, and maintain on file written policies and procedures for handling any incident of suspected child abuse or neglect which occurs while a child is in or out of the Center's care to comply with applicable laws. The policies and procedures shall contain provisions specifying that:
- A. The Licensee shall immediately make an oral report of any suspected abuse or neglect to the Child Abuse Report Line as required by Law;
  - B. The Licensee immediately shall take remedial action to protect children from harm;
  - C. Center staff shall not contact the parent/guardian of a child who is the alleged victim of abuse or neglect to advise them that a report has been made or that an investigation is underway.
  - C. ~~The licensee shall take long-term corrective action to eliminate the factors or circumstances that may have caused or may have otherwise resulted in a continuing risk of abuse or neglect to children if the abuse or neglect occurred at the Center by a staff member;~~
  - D. ~~Any staff member alleged to have perpetrated an incident of child abuse or neglect shall not have direct contact with any child, but may, at the discretion of the licensee, or be reassigned to other duties that do not involve contact with children until the investigation of the incident has been completed; and~~
  - E. ~~The licensee shall take disciplinary action, up to and including termination as required by Rules these Regulations #138-140 and by Law, against any staff member who committed an act of child abuse or neglect and document that action in the staff file.~~

### **XXX. Allegations of Abuse or Neglect Against a Staff Member**

- A. The Licensee shall take long-term corrective action to eliminate the factors or circumstances that may have caused or may have otherwise resulted in a continuing risk of abuse or neglect to children if the abuse or neglect occurred at the Center by a staff member; and
- B. Any staff member alleged to have perpetrated an incident of child abuse or neglect shall not have direct contact with any child, but may, at the discretion of the Licensee, or be reassigned to other duties that do not involve contact with children until the investigation of the incident has been completed; and
- C. The Licensee shall take disciplinary action, up to and including termination as required by Rules these Regulations #138-140 and by Law, against any staff member who committed an act of child abuse or neglect and document that action in the staff file.

## ORIENTATION

176. A Licensee shall document that all staff members, all substitutes, and volunteers working more than five (5) days or 40 hours a year have been given an orientation training session prior to working with children with the opportunity to ask questions and receive clarification at the beginning of employment at the Center and periodic updates as information is revised on their job function(s), child care licensing regulations (a copy of which shall be readily accessible to staff), and center policies on the following:

~~G. Applicable licensing regulations and the location of a copy of the complete regulations which shall be readily accessible to all staff.~~

~~A. Emergency and evacuation procedures;~~

~~A./B/C. Center policies on Emergency, disaster, and evacuation plans and procedures; personnel and administrative policies; positive behavior management; safe sleep procedures; routine and emergency health care including health exclusions and recognition of the symptoms of childhood illnesses including reportable communicable diseases; child accident and injury procedures; administration of medication; child care goals, and program for children; recordkeeping; family involvement; safety and sanitation procedures; nutrition and food safety; transporting children, if applicable; and release of children;~~

~~C. Center personnel and administrative policies;~~

~~D. Recognition of the symptoms of child abuse and neglect, and the child abuse and neglect law and reporting requirements, and Center's procedures to report abuse and neglect;~~

~~E. Recognition of the symptoms of childhood illnesses, including reportable communicable diseases; child abuse, sexual abuse and neglect; and~~

~~F. Information on any other Federal or State Laws or regulations applicable to children and families in care including non-discrimination. and~~

~~G. Applicable licensing rules regulations and the location of a copy of the complete rules regulations which shall be made available at the Center for staff review whenever requested. readily available to all staff.~~

~~A contracted entertainer who performs and is not alone with children does not need orientation.~~

## OWNER OF A CENTER

146/148. The Owner of a Center shall be considered an Active Owner and staff member and actively involved if present at the Center during regular hours of operation for seven (7) or more hours per week and is shall be required to follow all rules regulations concerning a staff member of the Center including completion of criminal background and adult abuse registry checks. Inactive Owners of a Center or those working less than seven (7) hours per week shall not be considered staff nor assume any direct child care duties and shall assign day-to-day operational responsibilities to an Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator.

~~147. The Owner of a Center shall only count toward staff/child ratios if fully qualified as at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, Early Childhood Caregiver or School-Age Site Assistant if left alone with children or as at least an Early Childhood Intern or School-Age Intern if not left alone with children.~~

148. Inactive Owners of a Center or those working less than seven (7) hours per week shall not be considered staff nor assume any direct child care duties and shall assign day-to-day operational responsibilities to an Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator.

### Qualifications Procedures

#### STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

149. For a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules regulations, the licensee shall ensure that a staff member who is already in a particular position or a new hire at that Center:

- A. Has four (4) calendar years from the effective date or no later than January 1, 2011 to meet the qualifications of an Early Childhood Administrator, Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator or Early Childhood Teacher.
- B. Has two (2) calendar years from the effective date or no later than January 1, 2009 to meet the qualifications of an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, Early Childhood Caregiver, or Early Childhood Intern.
- C. Is eligible for the time-limited periods to qualify for a particular position provided that person remains at that Center or transfers only to a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules regulations and is directly affiliated with the original Center. A Center directly affiliated with the original Center shall mean that the staff member is still employed by the same parent organization/company and at least retains all years of service when transferred.
- D. Has a written profession development plan kept in that staff member's personnel file that documents the particular position desired, the goals to achieve that position, the progress made toward the position at least on a yearly basis, and the target date for goal completion when working toward qualifying for a particular position during the time-limited period.

XXX. A Licensee shall ensure that sufficient qualified staff as described in these regulations are hired and retained in order to meet requirements of these regulations. A copy of the qualifications certificate and letter of approval shall be maintained in the employee's file.

150/151 A. A licensee shall ensure that each staff member at a Center submits within thirty (30) days of hire, true and accurate written documentation to the Office of Child Care Licensing or its designee that showing how a the staff member is fully qualified for a particular position. Proof of qualifications, the qualifications certificate and letter of approval, shall be maintained in the employee's file. The Office of Child Care Licensing shall determine what education, training, or experience is acceptable as an equivalent to meeting stated qualifications. When applicable, credits from a regionally accredited college/university based on specific topic areas/titles may serve as a substitute for other equivalent training as approved or accepted by the Office of Child Care Licensing or its designee.

Supervised experience may be substituted for the required experience for designated positions and will reduce the amount of experience required by one-half.

A. Proof of qualifications, the qualifications certificate and letter of approval, shall be maintained in the employee's file. Qualifications shall be submitted to the Office of Child Care Licensing's designee within thirty (30) days of hire. Until a qualifications certificate is issued, copies of the following documents shall be required in the employee's file: are received. Proof of qualifications includes copies of photo identification

with date of birth, verification of experience, high school diploma or GED recognized by the Delaware Department of Education or diploma from a regionally accredited college/university, and copies of training certificates, transcripts or staff training records.

B. The Licensee shall, whenever possible, verify that the documents required to meet the qualifications for any position under these Regulations are true and accurate.

1. A Licensee or staff member shall not alter, manufacture or submit false documents that are required to prove that an individual has met the qualifications for any position under these Regulations.

2. Altering or manufacturing or aiding in such actions will result in the denial or withdrawal of approval of staff member's qualifications and may result in an enforcement action.

3. Cases in which deception has been used to obtain or attempt to obtain a staff qualification approval will be referred to the Office of the Attorney General.

Upon approval from the Office of Child Care Licensing, the licensee shall ensure that the letter of approval for each qualified staff member is filed in that staff member's personnel file. The documentation shall consist of copies of training certificates, transcripts, diploma(s), or staff training records.

The specific requirements for Supervised Experience shall include:

- Actions to be taken to become qualified through this option documented in the employee's Professional Development Plan;
- The dates by which the Supervised Experience will begin and be completed;
- Informing OCCL prior to beginning the process of Supervised experience;
- Evaluated work experience shall include a minimum of six (6) observations documented in written form and occurring at least in 30 day intervals;
- Each observation shall be followed by a case conference which includes feedback, coaching and direction.
- In an Early Care and Education Center, observations shall be documented on a form provided by the Office of Child Care Licensing and conducted by a qualified Early Childhood Administrator or Early Curriculum Coordinator with a Degree for Early Childhood positions of Curriculum Coordinator, Teacher, and Assistant Teacher;
- In a School-Age Center, observations shall be documented on a form provided by the Office of Child Care Licensing and conducted by a qualified School-Age Administrator or Site Coordinator with proof of a regionally accredited college/university degree for School-Age positions of Site Coordinator and Site Assistant; and
- Documentation of all requirements including observations and follow-up conferences must be provided to OCCL or its designee.

XXX. Any person qualified for a position contained in these regulations prior to the effective date of these regulations shall retain that qualification, with the exception of those whose qualification certificates have an expiration date such as those qualified with a Child Development Associate credential (CDA). Any person applying to be qualified for a position contained in these revised regulations must meet the requirements contained in these regulations to be qualified.

151. — A licensee shall ensure that a staff member qualifying for a particular position in a Center may, when applicable, use college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university based on specific topic areas/titles, substitutions for college/university credits, or other training that is demonstrated to be equivalent to a particular qualification in these rules regulations all as approved or accepted by the Office of Child Care Licensing or its designee.

152. — A licensee shall ensure that a person appointed to a position at a Center that becomes newly licensed subsequent to the effective date of these regulations shall meet the qualifications of these rules for that position.

### **Early Childhood Administrator**

153. A licensee shall ensure that the Early Childhood Administrator of the Center is at least twenty-one (21) years of age and meets one (1) of the following qualifications:

- A. — At least an Associate Degree from an accredited college or university in or in a field related to child development, early childhood education, psychology, social work, special education, elementary education, nursing, human services or business administration including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits in course content covering at least three (3) of the following topic areas: child development, developmental curriculum planning, positive behavior management, health & safety, nutrition, family/community, and professionalism; and twenty-four (24) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;
- B. — At least a Bachelor degree from an accredited college or university including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits in course content covering at least three (3) of the following topic areas— child development, developmental curriculum planning, positive behavior management, health & safety, nutrition, family/community, and professionalism; and twenty-four (24) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting or;

154. — An Early Childhood Administrator, who before the effective date of these rules regulations was known as the Program Director at a particular Center and qualified for that position with a Bachelor or Associate degree and twelve (12) college/university credits in child development or early childhood education, shall be able to apply those particular college/university credits to the credit requirement of Rule Regulation #153 provided that person remains at that original Center or transfers only to a Center licensed before the effective date of these regulations and is directly affiliated with the original Center.

155. — A licensee shall ensure that the Early Childhood Administrator who manages the Center's administrative duties such as human resources/personnel and fiscal has at least three (3) college/university credits or forty-five (45) clock hours of training in administration which may be included in the total number of college/university credits required for the position unless such duties are not the responsibility of the Early Childhood Administrator.

- A. — A written plan approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing shall be required if such duties are not the responsibility of the Early Childhood Administrator. The written plan shall identify the person/entity performing these duties, and the qualifying factors regarding the person/entity. Any changes involving the person/entity performing these duties shall require a new plan approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing.

156. — An Early Childhood Administrator, who before the effective date of these rules regulations was known as the Program Director at a particular Center shall be able to serve as the Early Childhood Administrator provided that person remains at that original Center or transfers only to a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules regulations, directly affiliated with the original Center, and meets all of the following qualifications:

- A. — Has three (3) college/university credits, or forty-five (45) clock hours of training in administration related to operating a Center unless such duties are not the responsibility of the Early Childhood Administrator as state in Rule Regulation #155;
- B. — Meets at least one (1) of the qualifications of an Early Childhood Teacher as stated in Rule Regulation #160;
  - i. — For Rule Regulation #160D, the nine (9) college/university credits may be in early childhood education or child development; and
- C. — Has an Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator on staff that meets the qualifications of that position with at least an Associate degree as stated in Rule Regulation #157B.

### Early Childhood Administrator

153. A Licensee shall ensure that the Early Childhood Administrator of the Center is at least twenty-one (21) years of age and meets the following education and experience qualification:

A. ~~At least an Associate or Bachelor Degree from a regionally accredited college or university including at least fifteen (15) credit hours from a regionally accredited college/university with at least three (3) credit hours in child development/learning, environment/curriculum, social emotional development, and observation/assessment and eighteen months (18) experience working with children ages birth through second grade in a group setting. Possession of an Administrator’s credential issued by the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), its designee, or by another state’s body authorized in that state as the professional development entity for its early childhood workforce may substitute for three (3) college/university credits. Three (3) months supervised student teaching of children birth through second grade may substitute for six (6) months of the required experience.~~

| <u>Education</u>   | <u>Area of Study/Major</u> | <u>Regionally Accredited College/University Credits<sup>1</sup></u>   | <u>Experience<sup>2</sup></u>  |
|--|----------------------------|---|--|
| <u>At least a Bachelor Degree or Associate Degree from a regionally accredited college or university</u> | <u>All areas of study</u>  | <u>Fifteen (15) credit hours from a regionally accredited college/university with at least three (3) credit hours in child development/learning, environment/curriculum, social emotional development, and observation/assessment</u> | <u>Eighteen months (18) experience working with children ages birth through second grade in a group setting.</u> |

<sup>1</sup> Possession of an Administrator’s credential issued by the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), its designee, or by another state’s body authorized in that state as the professional development entity for its early childhood workforce may substitute for three (3) college/university credits.

<sup>2</sup> Three (3) months supervised student teaching of children birth through second grade may substitute for six (6) months of the required experience.

155. A Licensee shall ensure that the Early Childhood Administrator who manages the Center's administrative duties such as human resources/personnel and fiscal has at least three (3) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university or forty-five (45) clock hours of training in administration which may be included in the total number of college/university credits required for the position unless such duties are not the responsibility of the Early Childhood Administrator.

A. A written plan approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing shall be required if such duties are not the responsibility of the Early Childhood Administrator. The written plan shall identify the person/entity performing these duties, and the qualifying factors regarding the person/entity. Any changes involving the person/entity performing these duties shall require a new plan approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing.

~~A. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Early Childhood Education, three (3) months supervised student teaching and nine (9) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~B. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Elementary Education or Elementary Special Education including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education, three (3) months supervised student teaching and nine (9) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~C. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university in business administration or a related business field with at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education including at least three (3) credit hours in each of child development, developmental curriculum planning, and positive behavior management and twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~D. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education including at least three (3) credit hours in each of child development, developmental curriculum planning, and positive behavior management and twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~E. At least an Associate degree from an regionally accredited college or university in Early Childhood Education, three (3) months supervised student teaching and twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~F. At least an Associate degree from a regionally accredited college or university in business administration or a related business field with at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education including at least three (3) credit hours in each of child development, developmental curriculum planning, and positive behavior management and eighteen (18) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~G. At least an Associate degree from a regionally accredited college or university including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education including at least three (3) credit hours in each of child development, developmental curriculum planning, and positive behavior management and eighteen (18) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting.~~

156. An Early Childhood Administrator without a degree, who before the effective date of these January 1, 2007 rules Regulations was known as the Program Director at a particular Center, shall be able to serve as the Early Childhood Administrator provided that person remains at that original Center or transfers only to a Center licensed before the effective date of these January 1, 2007 rules Regulations directly affiliated with the original Center, ~~and meets all of the following qualifications:~~ that has a qualified Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator with at least an Associate Degree functioning in that role.

~~A. Has three (3) college/university credits, or forty five (45) clock hours of training in administration related to operating a Center unless such duties are not the responsibility of the Early Childhood Administrator as stated in Regulation #155;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ B. Meets at least one (1) of the qualifications of an Early Childhood Teacher as stated in Regulation #160;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ C. For Regulation #160D, the nine (9) college/university credits may be in early childhood education or child development; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ D. Has an Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator on staff that meets the qualifications of that position with at least an Associate Degree as stated in Regulation #157B.~~

### Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator

157. A Licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator is at least 20 years of age and meets one (1) of the following education and experience qualifications:

| <u>Education</u>   | <u>Area of Study/Major</u>   | <u>Regionally Accredited College/University Credits</u>  | <u>Experience</u> <sup>1</sup>  |
|--|--|--|---|
| <u>Bachelor Degree from a regionally accredited college or university</u>  | <u>Early Childhood Education, Child Development, Elementary Education, or Elementary Special Education</u> | <u>Fifteen (15) credits hours from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education including six (6) credits in early childhood curriculum development and planning</u> | <u>Three (3) months supervised student teaching birth through second grade</u><br><br><u>--or--</u><br><u>Six (6) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting</u> |
|  | <u>All other areas of study/majors</u>   | <u>Same as above</u>   | <u>Six (6) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting</u>  |
| <u>Associate Degree from a regionally accredited college or university</u> | <u>Early Childhood Education, Child Development, Elementary Education, or Elementary Special Education</u> | <u>Fifteen (15) credits hours from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education including six (6) credits in early childhood curriculum development and planning</u> | <u>Three (3) months supervised student teaching birth through second grade</u><br><br><u>--and--</u><br><u>Three (3) months experience working with children birth through</u>                              |

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  |  |  | second grade <u>in a group setting</u>  |
|  | <u>All other areas of study/majors</u> | Same as above  | <u>Twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting</u>      |
| <u>High School Diploma or equivalent recognized by Delaware Department of Education</u>                                  | <u>All areas of study</u>              | <u>Fifteen (15) credits hours from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education including six (6) credits in early childhood curriculum development and planning</u> | <u>Twenty-four (24) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting</u> |
| <sup>1</sup> <u>Supervised experience may be substituted for the required experience and will reduce it by one-half.</u> |  |  |   |

156C. An Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator without a degree may fill this position provided that the Early Childhood Administrator is fully qualified as described in these Regulations with at least a Bachelor or Associate degree from a regionally accredited college/university.

A. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Early Childhood Education and three (3) months supervised student teaching; or

B. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Elementary Education or Elementary Special Education including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education of which six (6) college/university credits shall be in early childhood curriculum development and planning, three (3) months supervised student teaching, and three (3) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or

C. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education of which six (6) college/university credits shall be in early childhood curriculum development and planning and six (6) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or

D. At least an Associate Degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Early Childhood Education or Early Childhood Special Education, three (3) months supervised student teaching, and three (3) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or

E. At least an Associate Degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Elementary Education or Elementary Special Education including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education of which six (6)

~~college/university credits shall be in early childhood curriculum development and planning and nine (9) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~F. At least an Associate Degree from a regionally accredited college or university including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education of which six (6) college/university credits shall be in early childhood curriculum development and planning and twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~G. At least a high school diploma or its equivalent recognized by the Delaware Department of Education and successful completion of at least fifteen (15) college/university credits from a regionally approved college/university in child development or early childhood education of which six (6) college/university credits shall be in early childhood curriculum development and planning and twenty-four (24) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting.~~

~~22.6.3.2. This option of Curriculum Coordinator without a Degree is possible when the Early Childhood Administrator is fully qualified with a least a Bachelor or Associate degree from a regionally accredited college/university. All criteria for the position of Curriculum Coordinator without a Degree, as described in these Rules, shall be met.~~

~~22.6.3.4. The requirement for "Supervised Experience" shall be met by the employee demonstrating during the designated period of continuous employment, the ability to create, select, present, and evaluate developmentally appropriate lessons, activities and curriculum appropriate to individual children as well as to small and, where appropriate, whole groups of children under the formal documented supervision of a qualified Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator With a Degree at a single licensed Delaware Early Care and Education Center.~~

~~22.6.3.4.1. This work experience option must be included in the employee's Professional Development Plan and include the goal of meeting the qualification, the actions to be taken to achieve the goal and the specific time frame in which this is to be accomplished.~~

~~22.6.3.4.2. OCCL must be informed of the intent to qualify an employee by way of this option.~~

~~22.6.3.4.3. Evaluated work experience must include a minimum of six (6) observations documented in written form and occurring at least in 30 day intervals, each followed by a case conference which includes feedback, coaching and direction. The observations shall be documented on a form provided by the Office of Child Care Licensing and conducted by a qualified Early Childhood Administrator or Early Curriculum Coordinator with a Degree. Documentation of all requirements including observations and follow-up conferences must be provided to OCCL.~~

~~22.6.3.5. Approval received as a Curriculum Coordinator through this option is valid only at the site at which it was earned.~~

### **Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator without a Degree**

~~22.6.4.4.1. The requirement for "supervised experience" shall be met by the teacher demonstrating during a six (6) month period of continuous employment as a teacher, the ability to create, select, present, and evaluate developmentally appropriate lessons, activities and curriculum appropriate to individual children as well as to small and, where appropriate, whole groups of children under the formal documented supervision of a qualified Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator with a Degree at a single licensed Delaware Early Care and Education Center.~~

~~— 22.6.4.4.2. This work experience option must be included in the employee's Professional Development Plan and include the goal of meeting the qualification, the actions to be taken to achieve the goal and the specific time frame in which this is to be accomplished. OCCL must be informed of the intent to qualify an employee by way of this option.~~

~~— 22.6.4.4.3. Evaluated work experience must include a minimum of six (6) observations documented in written form and occurring at least in 30 day intervals, each followed by a case conference which includes feedback, coaching and direction. The observations shall be documented on a form provided by the Office of Child Care Licensing and conducted by a qualified Early Childhood Administrator or Early Curriculum Coordinator with a Degree. Documentation of all requirements including observations and follow-up conferences must be provided to OCCL.~~

~~22.6.4.5. Approval received as a Curriculum Coordinator without a Degree through this option is valid only at the site at which it was earned.~~

### **Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator – Specialized Training**

158. ~~— A licensee shall ensure that either the Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator has successfully completed three (3) college/university credits, which may be included in the total number of college/university credits required for the position, or forty-five (45) clock hours of training in infant and/or toddler development and curriculum if the Center serves infants and/or toddlers.~~

158. A Licensee shall ensure that the individual functioning as either the Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator has successfully completed fifteen (15) clock hours of approved training in infant and/or toddler development and curriculum if the Center serves infants and/or toddlers. The clock hours may be translated from the college/university credits and included in the total number of college/university credits required for the position.

159. A Licensee shall ensure that the individual functioning as either the Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator has successfully completed fifteen (15) clock hours of training in school-age care if the Center serves school-age children. The clock hours may be translated from the college/university credits and included in the total number of college/university credits required for the position. A Center employing a qualified individual who functions as a School-Age Administrator shall be exempt from this requirement.

**Early Childhood Teacher**

160. A Licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Teacher is at least eighteen (18) years of age and meets one (1) of the following education and experience qualifications:

| <u>Education</u>  | <u>Area of Study/Major</u>   | <u>Regionally Accredited College/University Credits</u>  | <u>Experience</u> <sup>1</sup>  |
|---|--|--|---|
| <u>Bachelor Degree</u><br><u>or</u><br><u>Associate Degree</u><br><u>from a</u><br><u>regionally</u><br><u>accredited college</u><br><u>or university</u> | <u>Early Childhood</u><br><u>Education, Child</u><br><u>Development,</u><br><u>Elementary</u><br><u>Education, or</u><br><u>Elementary Special</u><br><u>Education</u> | <u>Six (6) credits in child</u><br><u>development or early</u><br><u>childhood education</u>   | <u>Three (3) months supervised</u><br><u>student teaching birth through</u><br><u>second grade</u><br><u>--or--</u><br><u>Six (6) months experience working</u><br><u>with children birth through second</u><br><u>grade in a group setting</u> |
|   | <u>All other areas of</u><br><u>study/majors</u>   | <u>Six (6) credits in child</u><br><u>development or early</u><br><u>childhood education</u>   | <u>Six (6) months experience working</u><br><u>with children birth through second</u><br><u>grade in a group setting</u>  |
| <u>High School</u><br><u>Diploma or</u><br><u>equivalent</u><br><u>recognized by</u><br><u>Delaware</u><br><u>Department of</u><br><u>Education</u>       | <u>All areas of study</u>  | <u>Nine (9) credits in child</u><br><u>development or early</u><br><u>childhood education of which</u><br><u>three (3) credits must be in</u><br><u>each of early childhood</u><br><u>education, child development,</u><br><u>and positive behavior</u><br><u>management.</u><br><br><u>-or-</u><br><br><u>Valid Child Development</u><br><u>Associate Credential (CDA)</u><br><br><u>-or-</u><br><br><u>Successful completion of</u><br><u>Training for Early Care and</u><br><u>Education 1 and 2 (TECE 1</u><br><u>and TECE 2)</u><br><br><u>-or-</u><br><br><u>Montessori Infant and Toddler</u><br><u>Full/Associate Credential or</u><br><u>Montessori Early Childhood</u> | <u>Twelve (12) months experience</u><br><u>working with children birth through</u><br><u>second grade in a group setting</u>  |

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
|   |  | <p>Full/Associate Credential from a MACTE approved training program</p> <p>-or-</p> <p>Successful completion of a vocational/technical high school's three (3) year program in early childhood education approved by Delaware's Department of Education</p> <p>- or-</p> <p>Successful completion prior to 2007 of a one (1) year early childhood diploma program from a two (2) year</p> |  |
| <p><sup>1</sup>Supervised experience may be substituted for the required experience and will reduce it by one-half.</p> |  |   |  |

List credentials currently offered.

~~A. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Early Childhood Education and three (3) months supervised student teaching; or~~

~~B. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Elementary Education or Elementary Special Education including at least six (6) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education and three (3) months supervised student teaching; or~~

~~C. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university including at least six (6) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood and meets the requirements for an alternative route to certification for early childhood education as specified by the Delaware Department of Education; or~~

~~D. At least a Bachelor degree from a regionally accredited college or university including at least six (6) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education and at least three (3) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or;~~

~~E. At least an Associate degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Early Childhood Education and three (3) months supervised student teaching; or~~

~~F. At least an Associate degree from a regionally accredited college or university in Elementary Education or Elementary Special Education including at least six (6) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood education and three (3) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ G. At least an Associate Degree from a regionally accredited college or university including at least six (6) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in child development or early childhood and six (6) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ H. At least a high diploma or its equivalent recognized by the Delaware Department of Education and successful completion of the Delaware Department of Labor's Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program and nine (9) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting or six (6) months supervised experience; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ 1. The nine (9) months experience required for this position may be waived provided that during the apprenticeship period the criteria and documentation for Supervised Experience are successfully completed and submitted to OCCL for Approval.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ I. At least a high school diploma or its equivalent recognized by the Delaware Department of Education and a valid Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) that is current and has not expired and twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting or six (6) months supervised experience; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ J. At least a high school diploma or its equivalent recognized by the Delaware Department of Education and successful completion of any two of the following credentials issued by the Delaware Department of Education or other relevant equivalent credentials aligned with the Delaware Early Learning Foundations (ELFs): infant/toddler, preschool, family child care, and inclusion and twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting or six (6) months supervised experience; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ K. At least a high school diploma or its equivalent recognized by the Delaware Department of Education and successful completion of both "Training for Early Care and Education 1 & 2 (TECE 1 & 2)" and twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting or six (6) months supervised experience; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ L. At least a high school diploma or its equivalent recognized by the Delaware Department of Education and successful completion of nine (9) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university that includes three (3) credits in early childhood education, three (3) in child development and three (3) in positive behavior management and twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting or six (6) months supervised experience; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Forty-five (45) clock hours in Social/Emotional Development may substitute for the three (3) college/university credits.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ M. At least a high school diploma recognized by the Delaware Department of Education with successful completion of a vocational/technical high school's three (3) year program in early childhood education approved by Delaware's Department of Education and twelve (12) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting or six (6) months supervised experience.~~

~~XXX An employee may become qualified as an Early Childhood Teacher by successfully completing one of the above listed educational requirements and successfully completing at least six (6) months supervised experience instead of the nine (9) or twelve (12) months experience listed above.~~

**Early Childhood Assistant Teacher**

161. A Licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher is at least 18 years of age and meets one (1) of the following education and experience qualifications:

| <u>Education</u>   | <u>Area of Study/Major</u> | <u>Regionally Accredited College/University Credits</u>   | <u>Experience</u> <sup>1</sup>   |
|--|----------------------------|---|--|
| High School Diploma or equivalent recognized by Delaware Department of Education | All areas of study         | <p>Six (6) credits in child development or early childhood education of which three (3) credits must be in early childhood education and three (3) in child development</p> <p>-or-</p> <p>Successful completion of Training for Early Care and Education 1 (TECE 1)</p> <p>-or-</p> <p>Successful completion of a traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood education approved by Delaware's Department of Education</p> | <p>Six (6) months experience working with children birth through second grade in a group setting</p> <p><sup>1</sup>Supervised experience may be substituted for the required experience and will reduce it by one-half.</p> |

**Early Childhood Caregiver**

163. A Licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Caregiver is at least eighteen (18) years of age, and before the effective date of these January 1, 2007 Regulations rules, was in the position formerly known as a Caregiver at a particular Center and received approval by OCCL to continue in that capacity prior to January 1, 2009. Successful completion of the training required for this position is time-limited to two (2) calendar years from the effective date of these Regulations as stated in Regulation ~~#149B~~. The position of Early Childhood Caregiver is acceptable provided that person remains at that original Center or transfers only to a Center licensed before the effective date of these January 1, 2007 Regulations rules and is directly affiliated with the original Center.

The Early Childhood Caregiver shall meet the following qualification:

- A. Demonstrates successful completion of a total of sixty (60) clock hours of training based on the early care and education core topic areas and divided into each of the following: Child/Youth Development (fifteen (15) clock hours), Environment & Developmental-Curriculum Planning (twelve (12) clock hours), Positive Behavior Management Social Emotional Development (twelve (12) clock hours), Health (three (3) clock hours), Safety (three (3) clock hours), Nutrition (three (3) clock hours), Family/ &Community (six (6) clock hours), and Professionalism (six (6) clock hours). Such clock hours taken prior to the effective date of these January 1, 2007 Regulations or during the time-limited period shall count toward this position.

## Early Childhood Intern

164/165. An Early Childhood Intern may count in the staff: child ratio, must always be under the direct supervision of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, and may not be alone with children. A Licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Intern is at least sixteen 16 years of age, at least four (4) years older than any child in his or her direct care, and meets one (1) of the following education qualifications:

| <u>Education</u>  |
|---|
| <u>Successful completion of at least a single fifteen (15) hour training course for center-based care such as Delaware First's "Child Development" or "Introduction to Center-Based Care" recognized by the Office of Child Care Licensing;</u> |
| <u>-or-</u>   |
| <u>At least successful completion of three (3) college/university credits from a regionally approved college/university in either child development or early childhood education;</u>   |
| <u>-or-</u>   |
| <u>Successful completion of the education requirement for any higher level position contained in these regulations.</u>   |

A. Successful completion of at least a single fifteen (15) hour training course for center-based care recognized by the Office of Child Care Licensing;

B. At least successful completion of three (3) college/university credits from a regionally approved college/university in either child development or early childhood education; or

C. Successful completion of the education requirement for any higher level position contained in these regulations.

A.D. Fifteen (15) year olds may be hired only if they are attending a vocational/technical high school three (3) year program in early childhood education or a traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood. Documentation proving enrollment in such programs shall be on file at the Center.

At least successful completion of Delaware First's Child Development or Introduction to Center-Based Early Care and Education.

## Early Childhood Intern

164/165. An Early Childhood Intern must be at least 16 years of age (or 15 years of age if attending a vocational/technical high school's three (3) year program in early childhood education or a traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood with verification of enrollment maintained on file at the Center, always work under the direct supervision of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher or Early Childhood Caregiver, may not be alone with children, and may count in the staff: child ratio. An Early Childhood Intern under the age of 18 must be at least four (4) years older than any child in his or her direct care. An Early Childhood Intern must also meet one (1) of the following education qualifications:

- A. ~~Successful completion of at least three (3) college/university credits from a regionally approved college/university in either child development or early childhood education.~~
- B. ~~Successful completion of at least a single fifteen (15) hour training course in child development, early childhood education, or center-based care recognized by the Office of Child Care Licensing or its designee.~~

### **Early Childhood Aide**

XXX. An Early Childhood Aide must be at least 16 years of age (or 15 years of age if attending a vocational/technical high school's three (3) year program in early childhood education or a traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood with enrollment documentation on file at the Center), always work under the direct supervision of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher or Early Childhood Caregiver, may not be alone with children, and will count in the staff: child ratio only during the first twelve (12) months of cumulative employment as an Early Childhood Aide. An Early Childhood Aide under the age of 18 must be at least four (4) years older than any child in his or her direct care.

Anyone working as an Early Childhood Aide who does not qualify as an Early Childhood Intern within twelve (12) months of continuous employment as an Early Childhood Aide, will no longer count in the staff: child ratio.

The Professional Development Plan for the Early Childhood Aide must include the goal of meeting the qualification of Early Childhood Intern, the actions to be taken to achieve the goal and the specific time frame in which this is to be accomplished.

### **Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator**

157. ~~A licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator is at least twenty (20) years of age and meets one (1) of the following qualifications:~~
- A. ~~At least a high school degree or its equivalent and successful completion of fifteen (15) college/university credits in child development or early childhood education of which six (6) college/university credits shall be in early childhood curriculum development and planning and thirty-six (36) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in group setting;~~
  - B. ~~At least an Associate degree from an accredited college or university in or in a field related to child development, psychology, social work, special education, nursing or human services, including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits of child development, or early childhood education and twenty-four (24) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;~~
  - C. ~~At least an Associate degree from an accredited college or university in early childhood education and twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting; or~~
  - D. ~~At least a Bachelor degree from an accredited college or university including at least fifteen (15) college/university credits of child development or early childhood education and twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting.~~

### **Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator – Specialized Training**

158. ~~A licensee shall ensure that either the Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator has successfully completed three (3) college/university credits, which may be included in the total number of college/university credits required for the position, or forty-five (45) clock hours of training in infant and/or toddler development and curriculum if the Center serves infants and/or toddlers.~~

**A licensee shall ensure that either the Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator has successfully completed fifteen (15) clock hours of approved training in infant and/or toddler development and curriculum if the Center serves infants and/or toddlers. The clock hours may be translated from the college/university credits and included in the total number of college/university credits required for the position.**

159. ~~A licensee shall ensure that either the Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator has successfully completed fifteen (15) clock hours of training in school-age care if the Center serves school-age children. The clock hours may be translated from the college/university credits and included in the total number of college/university credits required for the position.~~

### **Early Childhood Teacher**

160. A licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Teacher is at least eighteen (18) years of age and meets one (1) of the following qualifications:

- A. ~~At least a high school degree or its equivalent and successful completion of both “Training for Early Care and Education 1 & 2” and twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;~~
- B. ~~At least a high school degree or its equivalent and a valid Child Development Associate Credential that is current and has not expired and twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;~~
- C. ~~At least a high school degree or its equivalent and successful completion of the Delaware Department of Labor’s Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program and twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;~~
- D. ~~At least a high school degree or its equivalent and successful completion of nine (9) college/university credits – three (3) in early childhood education, three (3) in child development and three (3) in positive behavior management and twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;~~
  - i. ~~Forty-five (45) clock hours in positive behavior management may substitute for the three (3) college/university credits.~~
- E. ~~At least a high school degree with successful completion of a vocational/technical high school three (3) year program in early childhood education approved by Delaware’s Department of Education and twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;~~
- F. ~~At least a high school degree or its equivalent and successful completion of the course work toward~~

~~a Montessori Infant and Toddler Full/Associate Credential or a Montessori Early Childhood Full/Associate Credential from a MACTE-approved training program and twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;~~

~~G. At least a high school degree or its equivalent and successful completion of a one (1) year early childhood diploma program from a two (2) year college and twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;~~

~~H. At least an Associate degree from an accredited college or university with six (6) college/university credits in child development, or early childhood education and three (3) months of supervised student teaching or twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting; or~~

~~I. At least a Bachelor degree from an accredited college or university including at least six (6) college/university credits of child development or early childhood education and three (3) months of supervised student teaching or twelve (12) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting.~~

### ~~Early Childhood Assistant Teacher~~

~~161. A licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher is at least eighteen (18) years of age and meets one (1) of the following qualifications:~~

~~A. At least a high school degree or its equivalent and successful completion of "Training for Early Care and Education 1" and six (6) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting;~~

~~B. At least a high school degree with successful completion of the traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood as recognized by the Office of Child Care Licensing and six (6) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting; or~~

~~C. At least a high school degree or its equivalent and successful completion of six (6) college/university credits three (3) in early childhood education and three (3) in child development and six (6) months of experience working with children preschool age or younger in a group setting.~~

~~162. A staff member who, before the effective date of these rules regulations, was in the position formerly known as a Caregiver at a particular Center shall have one (1) of the following opportunities to qualify for the position of Early Childhood Assistant Teacher. These opportunities shall be time-limited to two (2) calendar years from the effective date of these rules regulations as stated in Rule Regulation #149B.~~

~~A. Demonstrate through the development of a portfolio that prior training and experience is equivalent to the information taught in "Training for Early Care and Education 1". Successful completion of this option shall be receiving a grade of seventy-five percent (75%) or better and is recognized as equivalent to completing "Training for Early Care and Education 1" and is applicable toward advancing to higher positions in any Center.~~

~~B. Pass a test recognized by the Office of Child Care Licensing as equivalent to the information taught in "Training for Early Care and Education 1". Successful completion of this option shall be receiving~~

a grade of seventy-five percent (75%) or better and is recognized as equivalent to completing "Training for Early Care and Education 1" and is applicable toward advancing to higher positions in any Center.

### **Early Childhood Caregiver**

163. A licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Caregiver is at least eighteen (18) years of age, and before the effective date of these rules regulations, was in the position formerly known as a Caregiver at a particular Center.

Successful completion of the training required for this position is time-limited to two (2) calendar years from the effective date of these rules regulations as stated in Rule Regulation #149B. The position of Early Childhood Caregiver is acceptable provided that person remains at that original Center or transfers only to a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules regulations and is directly affiliated with the original Center. The Early Childhood

Caregiver shall meet the following qualification:

A. Demonstrates successful completion of a total of sixty (60) clock hours of training based on the early care and education core topic areas and divided into each of the following: Child Development (fifteen (15) clock hours), Developmental Curriculum Planning (twelve (12) clock hours), Positive Behavior Management (twelve (12) clock hours), Health (three (3) clock hours), Safety (three (3) clock hours), Nutrition (three (3) clock hours), Family/Community (six (6) clock hours), and Professionalism (six (6) clock hours). Such clock hours taken prior to the effective date of these regulations or during the time-limited period shall count toward this position.

### **Early Childhood Intern**

164. A licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Intern is at least sixteen (16) years of age and meets one (1) of the following qualifications:

A. At least successful completion of either *Delaware First's* "Introduction to Child Care" or "Child Development" completed within twelve (12) months of employment;

B. At least successful completion of three (3) college/university credits in either child development or early childhood education.

i. Fifteen (15) year olds may be hired only if they are attending a vocational/technical high school three (3) year program in early childhood education or a traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood. Documentation proving enrollment in such programs shall be on file at the Center.

165. A licensee shall ensure that an Early Childhood Intern under the age of eighteen (18) does not provide direct child care to children who are close in age. Such an Early Childhood Intern shall be at least four (4) years older than any child in his or her direct care.

## STAFFING

166. A Licensee shall ensure that the Center has ~~at least one (1)~~ a staff member who functions as and meets the qualifications for the position of Early Childhood Administrator.

167. A Licensee shall ensure that the Center has ~~at least one (1)~~ a staff member who functions as and meets the qualifications for the position of Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator.

168. An Early Childhood Administrator shall also be able to serve as the Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator ~~if the following circumstances have been met:~~ provided the Early Childhood Administrator meets the qualifications with at least an Associate degree as stated in these regulations and :

- A. ~~The Early Childhood Administrator meets the qualifications with at least an Associate degree as stated in Rule Regulation #153A;~~ and
- A. The Center has a capacity of sixty (60) or fewer children; or
- B. The Licensee shall ensure through a written plan approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing that the Center's administrative duties such as human resources/personnel and fiscal are not the responsibility of the Early Childhood Administrator. The written plan shall identify the person/entity performing these duties, and the qualifying factors regarding the person/entity. Changes involving the person/entity performing these duties shall require a new plan approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing.

169. A Licensee shall ensure that a staff member who meets the qualifications and functions as for the position of an Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator is at the Center at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the hours of operation.

A. If neither the Early Childhood Administrator or the Early Childhood Curriculum are present, an Early Childhood Teacher must be present, informed of his/her responsibility to function temporarily in this administrative capacity, and will be the appointed person to respond to requests by the Office of Child Care Licensing. Documentation of this temporary assignment must be available.

A. ~~B.~~ If an Early Childhood Administrator is responsible for two (2) or more Centers, each with capacities of sixty (60) or fewer children, a staff member who meets the qualifications for the position of an Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator shall be at each Center at least fifty percent (50%) of the hours of operation.

170. A Licensee shall follow a one (1) to four (4) ratio of Early Childhood Teachers to Early Childhood Assistant Teachers, Early Childhood Caregivers and Early Childhood Interns as indicated in the table below:

| Early Childhood Teacher(s) | Total # of Early Childhood Assistants, Caregivers, & Interns & and Aides |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1                          | 1 to 4   |
| 2                          | 5 to 8   |
| 3                          | 9 to 12  |
| 4                          | 13 to 16   |
| 5                          | 17 to 20   |
| 6                          | 21 to 24   |
| 7                          | 25 to 28   |
| 8                          | 29 to 32   |
| 9                          | 33 to 36   |
| 10                         | 37 to 40   |
| (continue as needed)       |  |

- A. The ratio of Early Childhood Teachers to Early Childhood Assistant Teachers, Early Childhood Caregivers, and Early Childhood Interns, and Early Childhood Aides shall be based on the number of staff as needed to comply with staff/child ratios as stated in Rule these Regulations #185. A Licensee may choose to use more staff than required without needing to increase the number of Early Childhood Teachers. Part-time staff members working in the positions of Early Childhood Assistant Teachers, Early Childhood Caregivers, and Early Childhood Interns, and Early Childhood Aides may be grouped as one (1) Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) when their combined part-time work schedules add up to the equivalent of a full-time staff person at the Center.

### Direct Child Care Duties

171/192. A licensee shall ensure that s Staff charged with caring for children are shall not be given other duties which would interfere with providing care to children. A Licensee shall ensure that providing child care is the primary focus for all direct-care staff during the hours of operation and that supervision of each child is provided at all times.

### Staff Communication

195. A Licensee shall have an organized system of documented communication among staff to ensure that any staff member assuming responsibility for a child or children, as for example during shift changes, is informed of any significant information, problem, need, or special circumstance involving the child or children.

Staff shall not participate in activities that include but are not limited to socializing, or entertaining friends, family or others; using, playing with or watching television, VCRs DVDs, computers or other electronic equipment; unnecessarily communicating with others on the telephone, cell phone, computer, or other communication

equipment, doing intensive cleaning, repairs, and remodeling tasks and involving oneself in personal leisure pursuits.

**Ratios, Group Size, and Supervision**

185/190A. A Licensee shall ensure that direct supervision of children is provided at all times through the assignment of qualified staff physically present and working with children to maintain follow the following minimum staff: child ratios and maximum group sizes for each age group listed during normal daily activities at the Center or during routine transportation provided by the Center as indicated in the table below:

|                              | <b>Age of Child</b>   | <b>Minimum Staff/Child Ratio</b> | <b>Maximum Group Size</b> |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Infant</b>                | <b>Under 1 Year</b>   | <b>1:4</b>                       | <b>8</b>                  |
| <b>Young Toddler</b>         | <b>1 to 2 Years</b>   | <b>1:6</b>                       | <b>12</b>                 |
| <b>Older Toddler</b>         | <b>2 to 3 Years</b>   | <b>1:8</b>                       | <b>16</b>                 |
| <b>Young Preschool Child</b> | <b>3 to 4 Years</b>   | <b>1:10</b>                      | <b>20</b>                 |
| <b>Older Preschool Child</b> | <b>4 to 5 Years or older<br/>(Not yet in attending K* or higher 4<sup>st</sup> grade)</b> | <b>1:12</b>                      | <b>24</b>                 |
| <b>School-Age Child</b>      | <b>5 Years or older<br/>(at least in attending K* or higher 4<sup>st</sup> grade)</b>     | <b>1:15</b>                      | <b>30</b>                 |
| <b>*K = Kindergarten</b>     |   |                                  |                           |

187/188. A licensee shall maintain the full staff/child ratio for infants at all times and a staff member shall be assigned to care for specific infants and toddlers within their group. A Licensee shall ensure that f For mixed age groups, the staff/child ratio and group size requirements are that for the age of the youngest child present.

368. A Licensee shall ensure that staff work with the parent(s)/guardian(s) to create and utilize a positive transition plan when admitting a new child into the Center using such procedures as the exchange of pertinent information concerning the child, phased-in entry to the program and the assignment of a primary staff member especially for an infant or toddler.

369. A Licensee shall ensure that staff create and utilize a positive transition plan when admitting a child new to the Center or when moving a child from a particular group or room. due to a child's age change or reassignment of staff members using such procedures as the exchange of pertinent information concerning the child, and phased-in entry to a new room, group, and/or with a newly assigned staff member(s).

191. A Licensee shall ensure that during nap times when children are sleeping for children one (1) year and older during nap times when children are sleeping, at least one-half (1/2) of the normal staff complement as required by Rule #185 in these regulations are physically present with each group of children and directly observing the children. (187)The full staff: child ratio for infants shall be maintained at all times.

192. — A licensee shall provide supervision of children at all times.

**PUT IN IM FOR BEST PRACTICE: Having at least 2 staff on site at all times.**

193. A Licensee shall have at least two (2) staff present when seven (7) or more children one (1) year and older are present. When six (6) or fewer children one (1) year and older are present with only one (1) staff member, that staff member must be qualified at least as an Early Childhood Teacher.

A. The Licensee shall have emergency procedures providing immediate access to emergency service and additional staff when only one (1) staff member is present with children at the Center.

B. When only one (1) staff member is present with children, that staff member shall have no other responsibilities than direct child care during that time.

194. A licensee shall ensure that during times When children are normally arriving at the beginning of the day and leaving at the end of the day, the segregation of age groups for children one (1) year and older will not be required but that there is shall be an organized approach to the supervision of and accountability for children and staff/child ratios are still shall be maintained.

### Substitute and Volunteer Staff

172. A Licensee shall have substitute staff that who are at least sixteen (16) years of age, including documentation of their qualifications to fill a particular position during the absences of permanent staff.

172/172A. A substitute who that is temporarily filling in for a position in which he or she is is not fully qualified shall be allowed to count toward child/staff ratios for a maximum of thirty (30) days in a single position if supervised by at least the designated Early Childhood Teacher or designated School-Age Site Assistant who has been assigned responsibility for the Early Care and Education or School-Age Center, may not be alone with children, and School-Age Site Coordinator or School-Age Site Assistant in a School-Age Center who is designated as responsible for the School-Age Center, and must be under the direct observation of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, Early Childhood Caregiver, or School-Age Site Assistant at all times.

A. When a the position of Early Childhood Administrator is vacant for thirty (30) days or more, a substitute qualified as an administrator must fill that position. the person or persons substituting in that position shall be fully qualified for the position.

A. When it is known beforehand that a position will be temporarily available for two (2) or more months continuously, the person or persons substituting in that position after thirty (30) days shall be fully qualified for the position throughout the whole time period.

### Volunteer Staff

XXX. Volunteers without a complete personnel file may not be alone with children and must always be supervised by a staff person who is at least the designated Early Childhood Teacher or designated School-Age Site Assistant who has been assigned responsibility for the Early Care and Education or School-Age Center and must be under the direct observation of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, Early Childhood Caregiver, or School-Age Site Assistant at all times including while transporting children or on field trips.

173. A Licensee shall ensure that volunteers are at least sixteen (16) years of age and counted for the purposes of staff/child ratios only when it is documented that they are fully qualified for the particular position in which they are volunteering and present at the Center for seven (7) or more hours a week.

A. A Licensee shall ensure that a substitute or volunteer may be fifteen (15) years old only if they are attending a vocational/technical high school three (3) year program in early childhood education or a traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood. Documentation proving enrollment and attendance in such programs shall be on file at the Center.

174. A volunteer who is not fully qualified for the particular position shall not may be counted toward staff: child staff/child ratios.

A. Volunteers providing unpaid services of less than five (5) days or forty (40) hours a year shall not be required to have background checks. Volunteers providing unpaid services of more than five (5) days or forty (40) hours a year are required to have background checks.

A contracted entertainer who performs and is not alone with children may not be counted toward staff:child ratios.

A. ~~Volunteers who will be alone with children shall be required to have background checks regardless of time spent at the Center providing unpaid services; or~~

B. Volunteers who are not alone with children and are providing unpaid services of less than five (5) days or forty (40) hours a year shall not be required to have background checks.

A licensee shall ensure that volunteers present less than seven (7) hours a week not counted toward staff/child ratios, and must be under the supervision of at least an Early Childhood Teacher, School-Age Site Coordinator, or School-Age Site Assistant who is designated as responsible for the School-Age Center and under the direct observation of at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, Early Childhood Caregiver, or School-Age Site Assistant at all times and not be alone with the children at any time.

175. ~~A licensee shall ensure that a substitute or volunteer may be fifteen (15) years old only if they are attending a vocational/technical high school three (3) year program in early childhood education or a traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood. Documentation proving enrollment and attendance in such programs shall be on file at the Center.~~

## ANNUAL TRAINING

177. A Licensee shall ensure and document that all staff, including an actively involved Owner ~~and the Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator,~~ participate in annual training aligned with the program's license period and directly related to the staff member's position. Staff members ~~in positions described in these Regulations~~ providing direct child care and working twenty-five or more hours per week shall participate in at least eighteen (18) clock hours of training annually. ~~Staff members in positions described in these Regulations~~ providing direct child care and working less than twenty-five ~~or more~~ hours per week shall participate in at least nine (9) clock hours of training annually. Staff members not providing direct child care shall participate in at least three (3) clock hours of training annually. Only owners, substitutes, or volunteers that work or volunteer less than seven (7) hours per week shall be exempt from the annual training requirements. Training taken in clock hours must cover a minimum of three (3) core areas unless the staff member is applying credits for successfully completing a regionally accredited college/university course, successfully working toward a credential issued by the Delaware Department of Education, or when the training is six (6) or more clock hours in length.

- A. Annual training required for newly hired staff shall be prorated based on their date of hire. After full time staff have been employed for six (6) months or longer, 1.5 clock hours of training per partial or full month employed rounded up to the next whole number must be completed by the license expiration date. After part-time staff have been employed for six (6) months or longer, 0.75 clock hours of training per full or partial month employed rounded up to the next whole number must be completed by the license expiration date.

#### PLACE CHART IN MANUAL

- A. For staff members providing or involved in the administration of child care services or curricula and program development or implementation, ~~direct child care,~~ all training shall be within topics or core areas associated with gaining or enhancing the knowledge and skills that child care professionals should be able to demonstrate in working with children and families. Topic shall include the following core areas: ~~improving quality in the early care and education and school-age care. Topics shall include the following core areas:~~ Child/Youth Development; ~~Developmental Environment & Curriculum; Planning;~~ Positive Behavior Management; ~~Social/Emotional Development;~~ Health & Safety; Nutrition; Family & Community; Professionalism; and ~~Management & Administration.~~
- B. For staff members not providing direct child care such as those assigned only to clerical, janitorial and food service duties, training shall be in topics specific to the job functions of their particular position.
- C. Training in CPR, First Aid and Administration of Medication shall not count toward a staff member's annual training requirement even when required for a particular position.
- D. Training hours must be completed within the one (1) year period aligned with the annual license period.
- E. Training taken in clock hours must cover a minimum of three (3) core areas unless the staff member is applying credits for successfully completing a college/university course, successfully working toward a credential issued by the Delaware Department of Education, or when the training is six (6) or more clock hours in length.

~~178. A licensee shall ensure that staff members complete annual training during the time period beginning at the start date and ending at the expiration date of the Center's license.~~

#### **ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

179. A Licensee shall ensure that a written professional development plan is completed on a form approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing for each staff member holding a position with qualifications defined in these Regulations within thirty (30) days of hire and updated annually. This plan shall be maintained in the individual's staff file and include professional development goals for the upcoming year. ~~each year all staff members complete individual Professional Development Plans which includes input from the staff member and is approved by the Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator.~~

The Professional Development Plan shall at least include written documentation of: the following:

- A. ~~Current qualifications;~~
  - B. ~~Annual goal(s) for the individual staff member's professional development;~~
    - 1. ~~All trainings/courses successfully completed within the last twelve (12) months~~
    - 2. ~~A review of progress since the completion of the previous plan and how listed training relates to goals;~~
    - 3. ~~Identification of areas where education/training is or may be needed to improve/strengthen the individual's competencies needed to meet the responsibilities and duties of his/her position effectively; toward a degree; or to prepare the individual for career advancement; and~~
    - 4. ~~Approval by the Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator.~~
  - C. ~~Progress made toward the goal(s);~~
  - D. ~~All training completed by the staff member during that particular year including copies of training certificates and/or proof of successful completion of the training; and~~
  - E. ~~How listed training is related to goals.~~
180. ~~A licensee shall ensure that the individual Professional Development Plans are available for review by the Office of Child Care Licensing as a part of the Center's annual licensure renewal process.~~

#### FIRST AID AND CPR TRAINING

181. ~~A Licensee shall document that all staff qualified to be alone with children in all positions, except Early Childhood and School-Age Interns and Aides, have within six (6) months from the date of hire and maintain current certification have proof of completing a classroom-based First Aid course and a classroom-based every three (3) years and receive current certification in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) which requires a skill demonstration and is appropriate to the ages of the children they are assigned to care for.~~

**(184) At least one (1) staff member properly certified in First Aid and CPR training applicable to the ages of the children must be present during all hours of operation when children are in attendance including the beginning and end of the day and during off-site activities such as outings or field trips.**

- A. ~~Staff who are assigned to care for children eight (8) years of age and younger shall have proof of completing a classroom based First Aid course applicable to infants and/or children and receive current certification in CPR for infants and/or children which requires demonstration of knowledge.~~
- B. ~~Staff who are assigned to care for children nine (9) years of age and older shall have proof of completing a classroom based First Aid course applicable to children and adults and receive current certification in CPR for adults which requires demonstration of knowledge.~~

182. ~~A licensee shall ensure that staff members complete First Aid and CPR training within six (6) months from the date of hire.~~

183. ~~A licensee shall ensure that staff of a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules regulations shall have six (6) months from the effective date of these rules regulations to complete First Aid and CPR training.~~

184. A licensee shall ensure that at least one (1) staff member with classroom-based First Aid and CPR training which requires demonstration of knowledge applicable to the ages of all children at the Center is present during all hours of operation when children are in attendance including the beginning and end of the day and during off-site activities such as outings or field trips.

**NUMBER OF STAFF RATIOS, GROUP SIZE, AND OVERSIGHT**

185. A licensee shall ensure that direct supervision of children is provided at all times through the assignment of qualified staff physically present and working with children to maintain follow the following minimum staff/child ratios and maximum group sizes for each age group listed during normal daily activities at the Center as indicated in the table below:

|                              | <b>Age of Child</b>   | <b>Minimum Staff/Child Ratio</b> | <b>Maximum Group Size</b> |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Infant</b>                | <b>Under 1 Year</b>   | <b>1:4</b>                       | <b>8</b>                  |
| <b>Young Toddler</b>         | <b>1 to 2 Years</b>   | <b>1:6</b>                       | <b>12</b>                 |
| <b>Older Toddler</b>         | <b>2 to 3 Years</b>   | <b>1:8</b>                       | <b>16</b>                 |
| <b>Young Preschool Child</b> | <b>3 to 4 Years</b>   | <b>1:10</b>                      | <b>20</b>                 |
| <b>Older Preschool Child</b> | <b>4 to 5 Years or older<br/>(Not yet in attending K* or higher 1<sup>st</sup> grade)</b> | <b>1:12</b>                      | <b>24</b>                 |
| <b>School-Age Child</b>      | <b>5 Years or older<br/>(at least in attending K* or higher 1<sup>st</sup> grade)</b>     | <b>1:15</b>                      | <b>30</b>                 |

\*K = Kindergarten

A. A Center licensed before the effective date of these rules regulations shall have four (4) calendar years from the effective date or no later than January 1, 2011 to achieve compliance with staff/child ratios and maximum group sizes requirements.

186. A licensee shall ensure that a Center develops a plan to accomplish maximum group size requirements. The plan shall be approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing and address the maximum number of children assigned to a specific staff member or group of staff members, occupying an individual classroom or well-defined physical space within a large room. The approved plan shall be implemented to achieve maximum group size requirements at the Center.

187. A licensee shall maintain the full staff/child ratio for infants at all times.

188. A licensee shall ensure that for mixed-age groups, the staff/child ratio and group size requirements are that for the age of the youngest child present.

189. A licensee shall ensure that the curriculum goals and program of daily activities for each group of children is implemented by an assigned staff member in the position of Early Childhood Teacher, School-Age Site Coordinator, Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, School-Age Site Assistant, or Early Childhood Caregiver

with approval and monitoring by either the Early Childhood Administrator, School-Age Administrator, Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator, or School-Age Site Coordinator when assigned such duty.

190. A licensee shall assign staff to each group of children to meet staff/child ratios.

A. Only staff members who are qualified, physically present, and working with children shall be counted for the purposes of staff/child ratios.

191. A licensee shall ensure that for children one (1) year and older, during nap times when children are sleeping, at least one-half (1/2) of the normal staff complement as required by Rule Regulation #185 are physically present with each group of children and directly observing the children.

192. A licensee shall provide supervision of children at all times. BG CONFIRM IN REGS

193. A licensee shall have at least two (2) staff present when seven (7) or more children one (1) year and older are present.

A. The licensee shall have emergency procedures providing immediate access to emergency service and additional staff when only one (1) staff member is present with children at the Center.

B. When only one (1) staff member is present with children, that staff member shall have no other responsibilities than direct child care during that time.

194. A licensee shall ensure that during times when children are normally arriving at the beginning of the day and leaving at the end of the day, the segregation of age groups for children one (1) year and older will not be required but that there is an organized approach to the supervision of and accountability for children and staff/child ratios are still maintained.

## COMMUNICATION

### **Staff Communication**

195. A licensee shall have an organized system of documented communication among staff to ensure that any staff member assuming responsibility for a child or children as, for example, during shift changes, is informed of any significant information, problem, need or special circumstance involving the child or children.

### **Parents/Guardians Communication**

370. A Licensee shall have an organized system of respectful communication ing with parent(s)/guardian(s) in a respectful manner that incorporates the use of a written policies in a Parent Handbook that is provided to parents at enrollment that include: y regarding parent(s)/guardian(s) communication including strategies to ensure parent(s)/guardian(s) involvement in the Center as follows:

| <b>Parent Handbook</b> |  |
|------------------------|--|
| A.                     | Assurances that parent(s)/guardian(s)' visits and monitoring of the program are welcomed and <u>(372) permitted without prior approval of the Center;</u>  |
| B.                     | Assurances of nondiscrimination and respect for each child's family and culture;   |
| E.                     | <u>A statement of the Center's developmental and educational goals for all children</u> including procedures for ensuring that parent(s)/guardian(s) are kept regularly informed concerning the program and their children's developmental and educational progress <u>including a minimum of one (1) annual conference between Center staff and parents/guardians;</u>  |
| F.                     | Information about procedures used by the Center to assess children's accomplishments and needs and when there are concerns to refer parent(s)/guardian(s) for additional help in the community;  |
| I.                     | A procedure for informing parent(s)/guardian(s) of the identities of the governing body members;   |
| K.                     | A procedure encouraging parent(s)/guardian(s) to review current licensing <u>rules regulations</u> made available at the Center;   |
| L.                     | A procedure for making and handling complaints from parent(s)/guardian(s) regarding the Center;  |
| N.                     | A typical daily schedule of the Center's programs and activities;  |
| O/P/Q/R.               | A written explanation of the Center's policy on positive behavior management, <u>food and nutrition services, safety and sanitation, and transporting children (if applicable);</u>  |
| S.                     | Procedures related to release of children;   |
| T.                     | A copy of the Center's routine and emergency health care plan including health exclusions, <u>written notification of an outbreak of a communicable disease,</u> and administration of medication;   |
| U.                     | Procedures to regularly report any accidents or critical incidents involving the child and any other important information relating to the child;  |
| V.                     | A written explanation of the mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect; and   |
|                        | <u>(373) Procedures that state that written permission from parents/guardians is required prior to disclosing or using any child's written, electronic, or digital information except in the performance of official duties by employees or representatives of the Office of Child Care Licensing or other entities with statutory responsibilities for issues relating to the health, safety, and protection of children.</u> |

- A. ~~Assurances that parent(s)/guardian(s)' visits and monitoring of the program are welcomed and (372) permitted without prior approval of the Center;~~
- B. ~~Assurances of nondiscrimination and respect for each child's family and culture;~~
- C. ~~Assurances that parent(s)/guardian(s) are of primary importance in children's development;~~
- D. ~~Procedures for learning about parent(s)/guardian(s) preferences and goals and any concerns or special circumstances that may influence the child's development and learning;~~
- E. ~~A statement of the Center's developmental and educational goals for all children including procedures for ensuring that parent(s)/guardian(s) are kept regularly informed concerning the program and their children's developmental and educational progress including a minimum of one (1) annual conference between Center staff and parents/guardians;~~
- F. ~~Information about procedures used by the Center to assess children's accomplishments and needs and when there are concerns to refer parent(s)/guardian(s) for additional help in the community;~~
- G. ~~Multiple opportunities for involvement of all parent(s)/guardian(s) that includes an awareness of the diversity of families enrolled especially concerning cultural and language differences and the ability for parent(s)/guardian(s) to participate communicating in their native language whenever possible;~~
- H. ~~Specific strategies to encourage the involvement of parent(s)/guardian(s) that have the tendency not to be involved with the Center;~~

- I. — A procedure for informing parent(s)/guardian(s) of the identities of the governing body members;
  - J. — Procedures for a minimum of one (1) conference annually between Center staff and parent(s)/guardian(s);
  - K. — A procedure encouraging parent(s)/guardian(s) to review current licensing rules regulations made available at the Center;
  - L. — A procedure for making and handling complaints from parent(s)/guardian(s) regarding the Center;
  - M. — A statement of the Center's developmental and educational goals for all children;
  - N. — A typical daily schedule of the Center's programs and activities;
  - O/P/Q/R. — A written explanation of the Center's policy on positive behavior management, food and nutrition services, safety and sanitation, and transporting children (if applicable);
  - P. — A copy of the Center's policy on nutrition and food service;
  - Q. — A written explanation of the Center's policy on safety and sanitation;
  - R. — A written explanation of the Center's policy on transporting children, if applicable;
  - S. — Procedures related to release of children;
  - T. — A copy of the Center's routine and emergency health care plan including health exclusions, written notification of an outbreak of a communicable disease, and administration of medication;
  - U. — Procedures to regularly report any accidents or critical incidents involving the child and any other important information relating to the child;
  - V. — A written explanation of the mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect; and
  - W. — Written notice of an outbreak of a communicable disease.
  - W. (373) — Procedures that state that written permission from parents/guardians is required prior to disclosing or using any child's written, electronic, or digital information except in the performance of official duties by employees or representatives of the Office of Child Care Licensing or other entities with statutory responsibilities for issues relating to the health, safety, and protection of children.
371. — A licensee shall ensure that this policy is provided to parent(s)/guardian(s) at enrollment.
372. — A licensee shall ensure that parent(s)/guardian(s) have access to the Center to observe their children at — any time without prior approval of the Center.
373. — A licensee shall not disclose or permit the use of any information pertaining to an individual child or family gained through the Center's records, files, videotaping, tape recording, photographing, assessments or any type of documentation unless a parent/guardian has granted written permission to do so, except in the course of performance of official duties and to employees or representatives of the Office of Child Care Licensing, Division of Family Services or other entities with statutory responsibilities for issues relating to the health, safety and protection of children.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY

### GENERAL SAFETY PRACTICES

196. A Licensee shall ensure that every building, or part thereof that is used as a Center, is constructed, used, furnished, maintained, and equipped in compliance with all applicable requirements established by Federal, State, local and municipal regulatory bodies with (A) written certification of compliance from the appropriate regulatory bodies governing zoning, building construction and safety, sanitation, and fire safety.
- A. — The licensee shall have written certification of compliance from the appropriate regulatory bodies

~~governing zoning, building construction and safety, sanitation and fire safety.~~

198/269. A Licensee shall ensure that all structures, fences, equipment, and grounds are maintained in a clean, safe condition so as to be free from any hazard to health and safety including appropriate lighting of outdoor areas that are used while it is dark. (199) ~~A Licensee shall ensure that Grounds shall drain either naturally or through installed drainage systems so that there is no standing drainage water on the premises. (269) A Licensee shall ensure that~~ Parking areas, pedestrian walkways, or other exterior portions of the premises subject to use by occupants after dark ~~are shall be illuminated. (202). A Licensee shall ensure that All areas accessible to children at the Center determined to be unsafe including steep grades, cliffs, open pits, swimming pools, high voltage boosters, propane gas tanks, streets or roads, driveways, railroad tracks, or parking lots are shall be fenced off or have natural barriers to protect children.~~

274/275. A Licensee shall ensure that the facility is free of hazardous materials such as asbestos, deteriorated lead-based paint, or lead-based paint present on accessible surfaces. ~~A licensee and shall maintain evidence that the center has been tested for and found to be free of lead-based paint hazards when conditions warrant such testing and/or testing is required.~~

270/ 271A/271 B. A Licensee shall ensure that the temperature level of the water from all water taps faucets and other sources accessible to children in care in a Center not exceed 120 degrees F. All sinks shall supply hot and cold water under pressure at all times and all plumbing shall comply with state and local plumbing codes. (271.)  
~~A Licensee shall ensure that the Water supply and the sewage disposal in a Center are shall be approved by the Division of Public Health and the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, respectively.~~

~~A. All sinks shall be designed to supply hot and cold water, under pressure, at all times to meet the needs of children in care.~~

~~B. All plumbing shall comply with the State or local plumbing code.~~

200. In areas accessible to children, only containers designated for clean, recyclable paper may be present without a cover. A Licensee shall ensure that garbage and rubbish trash are stored securely in non-combustible, covered containers. ~~in separate areas inaccessible to children. and is removed emptied on a regular basis but not less than once every week. Indoor containers shall be emptied at least daily and kept clean; outdoor trash/garbage containers shall be inaccessible to children, emptied at least weekly, and, with the exception of dumpsters, cleaned as needed.~~

~~A. Outdoor trash/garbage containers, other than dumpsters, shall be cleaned after each collection. shall be inaccessible to children, emptied at least weekly, and, with the exception of dumpsters, cleaned as needed.~~

~~B. Indoor trash containers shall be emptied daily and kept clean.~~

198/269. A licensee shall ensure that all structures, fences, equipment and grounds are maintained in a clean, safe condition so as to be free from any hazard to health and safety including appropriate lighting of outdoor areas that are used while it is dark.

198. A licensee shall ensure that all structures, fences, equipment and grounds are maintained in a clean, safe condition so as to be free from any hazard to health and safety.

287. A Licensee shall ensure that all containers of poisonous, toxic, or hazardous materials kept in a Center are

prominently and distinctly marked or labeled for easy identification as to contents and used only in such manner and under such conditions as will not contaminate food or constitute a hazard to the children in care or to staff and, except for materials required for routine cleaning and maintenance, are stored in a locked storage space accessible only to authorized staff. Materials required for routine cleaning and maintenance shall be stored and used in a safe manner. (A) The storage of flammable liquids and gases shall not be permitted in the Center except as allowed by the Office of the Fire Marshal.

B. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ All poisonous or toxic materials except materials required for routine cleaning and maintenance shall be locked in secure storage spaces and accessible only to authorized staff.~~

C. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ Materials required for routine cleaning and maintenance shall be stored and used in a safe manner.~~

288/294 A Licensee shall ensure that porches and elevated walkways or surfaces in a Center of more than two (2) feet in height have hazard-free barriers to prevent falls and that stairways, inside and out, over four (4) steps have handrails at a maximum of 38 inches and are safe for children and adults.

289. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ A Licensee shall ensure that every exit, exit access, and exit discharge in a Center are continuously maintained free of obstruction. (262) A Licensee shall ensure that all All closets and bathrooms are shall be provided with doors that can be readily opened from both sides.~~

290. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ A Licensee shall ensure that glass door panels and windows within thirty-six (36) inches of the floor have safety guards such as rails or mesh or be of safety-grade glass or polymer and equipped with a vision strip.~~

291. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ A licensee shall utilize approved products and procedures to ensure that the Center is protected from insect infestation and the products and procedures do not present a hazard to children.~~

292/291. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ A Licensee shall ensure that all buildings used by a Center are rodent-free and free of insect infestation.~~

293. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ A licensee shall ensure that children in care of a Center not swim in areas posted as being unsafe. An individual with current water safety instructor training or senior lifesaving training from the American Red Cross or its equivalent shall be on duty when the children in care are swimming. ( B./C) Portable wading pools shall be prohibited and permanent or built-in swimming and wading pools that are left filled when not in use shall be inaccessible to children when not being used by the children.~~

A. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ In-grounds pools shall comply with the Division of Public Health requirements concerning swimming and wading pools.~~

C. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ Permanent or built-in swimming and wading pools that are left filled when not in use shall be inaccessible to children when not being used by the children.~~

296. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ A Licensee shall ensure that a Center has child-proof receptacle covers for all electrical outlets not in use and accessible to children, or has electrical outlets that are of the child-resistant ground-fault circuit-interrupter (GCFI) type.~~

260. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ A Licensee shall ensure that a Center is ventilated to ensure that the air quality within the Center provides a healthy environment for children and adults. Fresh air ventilation should be used when mechanical ventilation is not utilized and weather and outdoor air quality permits. (259). Insect screening in good repair shall be used for all exterior doors and operable windows when such doors and windows are used for ventilation, provided that all~~

~~requirements for fire safety have been met.~~ (260) If mechanical ventilation is not provided, a Center has shall have window area equal, at a minimum, to four and one-half percent (4 ½%) of the floor area of the Center. Half (1/2) of such window area shall be operable.

~~262. A Licensee shall ensure that all closets and bathrooms are provided with doors that can be readily opened from both sides.~~

263. A Licensee shall ensure that all heating and cooling equipment, hot water pipes or radiators are is safely shielded or insulated to prevent the injury of children. (A) All heating, cooling, and plumbing equipment shall be properly installed, cleaned and maintained to operate safely.

A. (261) All floor or window fans in a Center are inaccessible to children and bear the safety certification mark of a recognized testing laboratory such as UL (Underwriters Laboratories) or ETL (Electrotechnical Laboratory).

~~C. Portable space heaters shall be prohibited.~~

265. A Licensee shall ensure that room temperatures in rooms used by the children are maintained at a minimum temperature of sixty-five (65) degrees F. and a maximum of eighty-five (85) degrees F. at floor level unless there is conflict with Federal and State energy Laws. (B) (263C) Portable space heaters shall be prohibited. (266). For a Center licensed after January 1, 2007, air conditioning shall be used during hot weather to keep rooms used by children at a comfortable temperature.

A. Except as provided in below, a Center shall be required to close temporarily if the minimum or maximum room temperature cannot be maintained.

If room temperature is above sixty (60) degrees F. and below ninety (90) degrees F., a Center shall restore room temperature to above sixty-five degrees F. and below eighty-five degrees F. within the next 24 hours.

If room temperature is above fifty (50) degrees F., a Center shall restore room temperature above sixty (60) degrees F within the next four (4) hours and above sixty-five (65) degrees F. in the next 24 hours.

~~A. A Center shall be required to temporarily close if the minimum or maximum room temperatures cannot be maintained.~~

~~C. Except as provided in A and B above, a Center shall be required to close temporarily if the minimum or maximum room temperatures cannot be maintained.~~

~~C.D ( 266). For a Center licensed after January 1, 2007, air conditioning shall be used during hot weather to keep rooms used by children at a comfortable temperature.~~

~~266. For a Center licensed after the effective date of these rules January 1, 2007 regulations, a licensee shall ensure that air conditioning is used in rooms used by children to keep rooms comfortable as per Rule these Regulations #265 during hot weather.~~

## **Smoking Prohibited**

411. A Licensee shall inform staff members and others at the facility that smoking is prohibited at all times anywhere inside the Center, in the outdoor play area, while transporting children, and in the presence of children during field trips or routine program outings sponsored by the Center.

## **INDOOR SPACE**

197. A Licensee shall maintain all areas of the facility in a clean, safe condition free from hazards including any floors, walls, counter surfaces, toilets, or any rough surface or finish that may present a hazard to the health and safety. ~~(268) A Licensee shall ensure that a~~ A Center has shall have sufficient natural and artificial lighting to allow for the supervision of the children and provide illumination of at least thirty (30) foot candles at floor level in areas where children's activities occur.

50% of wall space must be uncovered if the Center has a sprinkler system or 80% must be uncovered if it does not.

220. A Licensee shall ensure that interior space designated for the use of children is available to children when the Center is in operation and is arranged to allow each child adequate space for free movement and active play. ~~(221). A Licensee shall ensure that A Center has~~ shall have at least thirty-five (35) square feet for each child. Measurements shall be from wall to wall on the inside. (A) Toilet rooms, kitchen areas, isolation areas, offices, storage spaces, hallways, furnace rooms, gymnasiums, and other areas not used by children for sleep or play on a routine basis shall not be counted in computing required square footage.

258. A Licensee shall provide children with individual storage space for personal belongings so that clothing or bedding used by a child does not come into contact with that used by other children.

199. A licensee shall ensure that grounds drain either naturally or through installed drainage systems so that there is no standing drainage water on the premises.

201. A licensee shall ensure that trash collection receptacles are stored in designated areas away from the children's play areas.

## **OUTDOOR CLIMATE AND SPACE**

267. A Licensee shall be aware of extreme weather conditions such as air quality or wind chill factor that could affect the well-being or health of children and limit outside playing time when such extreme weather conditions exist.

~~202. A Licensee shall ensure that all areas accessible to children at the Center determined to be unsafe including steep grades, cliffs, open pits, swimming pools, high voltage boosters, propane gas tanks, streets or roads, driveways, railroad tracks, or parking lots are fenced off or have natural barriers to protect children.~~

203. A Licensee shall maintain or have access to an outdoor play area with at least seventy-five (75) square feet for each child for the maximum number of children who will use the playground at one (1) time with space suitable for running and games. (A) The outdoor play area shall be large enough to accommodate at least one-fourth (1/4) of the licensed capacity of the facility at any one (1) time.

204. A Licensee of a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules January 1, 2007 regulations shall maintain or have access to an outdoor play area with at least fifty (50) square feet for each child for the maximum number of children who will use the playground at one (1) time. (A) The outdoor play area shall be large enough to accommodate at least one-fourth (1/4) of the licensed capacity of the facility at any one (1) time.

B. If the capacity of a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules January 1, 2007 regulations changes for any reason, the Licensee shall be required to ensure that the outdoor play area is in compliance with Rule these Regulations #203.

205. A Licensee shall ensure that the outdoor play area is situated adjacent to or within close proximity to the Center, is available to the children by a safe route, and (214) has a shaded rest area for children. (A) Staff shall inspect the area before children begin to play to ensure there are no hazards present and play equipment is safe for use. (213A) Outdoor sandboxes or play areas containing sand shall be maintained in a safe and sanitary manner (213B) including being covered when not in use.

A. ~~The play area shall be accessible by a safe route.~~

206. A Licensee shall ensure that outdoor play areas are fenced.

A. Fencing shall be sturdy, safe, and reinforced at intervals so as to give support, constructed to discourage climbing, and not prevent observation of children by staff and (B.) Fencing shall be a minimum of four (4) feet in height with openings no larger than three and one-half (3½) inches. (D) Fenced areas shall have at least two (2) exits, with at least one (1) being remote from the building. (C) Gates shall be equipped with self-closing and positive self-latching closure mechanisms. The latch or securing device shall be high enough or of a type such that small children cannot open it.

207. For a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules January 1, 2007 regulations, the existing fencing shall be acceptable as long as it is safe, free from hazards, and in good repair. When the fencing is replaced, the new fencing shall fully comply with these Rule Regulations #206.

~~208. For a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules regulations that has no existing fencing, that Center shall have two (2) years from the effective date or no later than January 1, 2009 to install fencing fully in compliance with Rule Regulation #206.~~

209. A Licensee shall ensure that the protective surface of the outdoor play area beneath and in the fall zones of climbing equipment, slides, swings, and similar equipment is of approved resilient material which absorbs falls. (A) ~~The materials used in~~ The fall zone depth and materials shall follow the instructions as listed in the most recent publication of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) *Handbook for Public Playground Safety* regarding critical heights of tested materials (see CPSC website at <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/325.pdf>). ~~Table 1 Critical Heights (in feet) of Tested Materials (currently on page five (5) of the CPSC document).~~

~~B. The fall zones shall be between six (6) to twelve (12) inches deep as determined by the height of~~

the highest climbing surface of the equipment and consist of wood chips, mulch, engineered wood fibers, sand, pea gravel, safety-tested shredded or unitary rubber or rubber-like materials, or rubber mats ~~unless otherwise directed by the CPSC or other recognized authority on playground safety.~~

(iii) ~~The materials used in the fall zone shall follow the specific instructions as documented from the supplier to determine the appropriate depth or thickness. and (i.) The use of shredded tires shall be permitted if the Licensee obtains a guarantee from the supplier that the materials are free from steel wires or other contaminants. ; and (ii) All materials used for protective surfaces shall be of a size that prevents choking and (210) all surfaces of the outdoor play area shall be made of materials that do not present a safety or choking hazard. Only pea gravel shall be acceptable as cover for the outdoor play area if using a gravel or stone-like surfacing.~~

- A. (ii) All materials used for protective surfaces shall be of a size that prevents choking and (210) all surfaces of the outdoor play area shall be made of materials that do not present a safety or choking hazard. Only pea gravel shall be acceptable as cover for the outdoor play area if using a gravel or stone-like surfacing. (C). Protective surfaces of the fall zone shall extend at least six (6) feet in all directions from the equipment. For swings, the protective surfacing shall extend, in back and front, twice the height of the suspending bar ~~unless otherwise directed by the CPSC or other recognized authority on playground safety.~~

| Inches | Type of Material         | Protects to Fall Height |
|--------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 6      | Shredded/recycled rubber | 10 feet                 |
| 9      | Sand                     | 4 feet                  |
| 9      | Pea Gravel               | 5 feet                  |
| 9      | Wood Mulch               | 7 feet                  |
| 9      | Wood Chips               | 10 feet                 |

210. ~~A licensee shall ensure that all surfaces of the outdoor play area are made up of materials that do not present a safety or choking hazard. Only pea gravel shall be acceptable as cover for the outdoor play area if using a gravel or stone-like surfacing.~~

211. ~~For a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules regulations, that Center shall have two (2) years or no later than January 1, 2009 to replace small gravel or small stones with pea gravel or with another surface as approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing.~~

212. (A) A Licensee shall ensure that the outdoor play area is free of hazards by inspecting the outdoor play yard before children begin to play. Outdoor play equipment must be securely anchored unless portable by design, in good repair, and placed with regard for safe use and include equipment for vigorous play and large muscle activity with attention to the needs of the diversity of children served and their abilities to participate. and is free of hazards.

A. ~~Staff shall inspect the outdoor play area before children begin to play to ensure there are no hazards present and play equipment is safe for use.~~

213. ~~A Licensee shall ensure that outdoor play equipment is securely anchored unless portable by design, in good repair, and placed with regard for safe use.~~

A. ~~Outdoor sandboxes or play areas containing sand shall be maintained in a safe and sanitary~~

manner including being ~~covered when not in use.~~

~~B. Separate outdoor sandboxes shall be covered when not in use.~~

~~214. A Licensee shall ensure that the outdoor play area has a shaded rest area for children.~~

215. When a Licensee can demonstrate that the outdoor space ~~rule~~ regulation cannot be met, the Licensee shall provide at the site of the Center, in addition to the indoor play space required by these regulations Rule #224, a minimum of 700 square feet of open, accessible indoor play space for large muscle activity.

~~A. The indoor space shall be at the site of the Center.~~

A. (B). The Licensee shall have a written plan which specifies how large muscle activity will be provided as well as opportunities for safe outdoor activities.

~~C. The Licensee shall have a written plan to ensure some opportunities for safe outdoor activities in accordance with Rules these Regulations #267, 379 & 382.~~

D. When using public areas, staff shall inspect the area before children begin to play to ensure there are no hazards present and play equipment is safe for use.

216. For a Center licensed before the ~~effective date of these rules regulations~~, January 1, 2007 Regulations, the indoor space as indicated in these regulations Rule #215A may be at a nearby facility that was previously used and approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing unless the capacity of the Center increases or the physical plant of the Center changes allowing room for an indoor play space.

217. A Licensee shall ensure that a roof top or elevated play space above the first floor is protected by a non-climbable, secure, and hazard-free barrier that is at least seven (7) feet in height.

## **RIDING TOYS**

218. A Licensee shall ensure that bicycles, tricycles, scooters, and other riding toys are the size appropriate for a child, in good condition, free of sharp edges or protrusions that may injure a child, and not motorized. (219) ~~A Licensee shall ensure that~~ All children shall wear approved safety helmets while riding bicycles with wheels of twenty (20) or more inches in diameter. (A) Helmets shall not be shared unless made with a nonporous interior lining and easily cleanable straps and all interior and exterior surfaces of the helmet shall be wiped clean between users. (B) Helmets shall be removed before allowing children to use playground equipment.

## **ACCESS TO SPACE BY CHILDREN**

~~220. A licensee shall ensure that interior space designated for the use of children is available to children when the Center is in operation and is arranged to allow each child adequate space for free movement and active play.~~

## **INDOOR AREA**

221. A licensee shall ensure that a Center has at least thirty-five (35) square feet for each child. Measurements shall be from wall to wall on the inside.

A. Toilet rooms, kitchen areas, isolation areas, offices, storage spaces, hallways, furnace rooms, gymnasiums and other areas not used by children for sleep or play on a routine basis shall not be counted in computing required square footage.

222. A multi-purpose room shall be allowed to count toward the indoor square footage of a Center when the room is routinely available for usage every day the Center is open.

223. A licensee shall ensure that the floors of all rooms in a Center have a surface which is safe and cleanable.

## **SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS**

378/378A. A Licensee shall ensure that the program in a Center provides physical care routines including opportunities for rest/sleep for each child in attendance appropriate to each child's individual physical needs. Rest equipment shall meet the safety standards required by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission or other recognized authority approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing and (229) maintained in a safe condition .

378C A. The rest area(s) shall be lighted enough to allow for visual supervision at all times.

378B. An alternative quiet activity shall be provided for those children who have rested or slept for thirty (30) minutes and do not appear to need or want additional rest or sleep.

224. A Licensee shall ensure that each child, except school-age children who do not sleep at the Center, has clean, safe, age-appropriate individual rest equipment such as a crib, playpen, cot, bed, or mat and bedding. (A) A child's rest equipment shall be labeled with the child's name or assigned chart number and used only by the that child while attending the program.

A. Sheets and blankets or other bedding shall be cleaned at least weekly and when soiled or wet.

A. Mattresses and sleeping equipment shall be covered with non-absorbent, cleanable coverings. 227. and seasonably appropriate top and bottom coverings, such as sheets and blankets, shall be provided for each child over the age of (1) one year. (A) Sheets and blankets or other bedding shall be cleaned at least weekly and when soiled or wet. A tight-fitting bottom covering is required for all infants.

B. Cots, beds, mats and mattresses, and crib mattresses shall be cleaned and sanitized at least weekly and when soiled or wet. (D) Rest equipment and bedding shall be cleaned and sanitized prior to being assigned to another child. (225) Sleeping mats shall be stored so that there is no contact with the sleeping surface of another mat or disinfected after each use.

C. Each child under eighteen (18) months of age and not walking shall sleep in a crib or playpen. A child who is between twelve (12) and eighteen (18) months of age and is walking may sleep on a cot, bed, or mat and bedding with written permission from the child's parent(s)/guardian(s).

225. A Licensee shall ensure that sleeping mats are stored so that there is no contact with the sleeping surface

~~of another mat or disinfected after each use.~~

~~227. A Licensee shall ensure that seasonably appropriate top and bottom coverings, such as sheets and blankets, are provided for each child over the age of (1) one year. A tight-fitting bottom covering is required for all infants.~~

~~A. Sheets and blankets or other bedding shall be cleaned at least weekly and when soiled or wet.~~

228. A Licensee shall ensure that cribs and other rest equipment ~~is~~ are placed at least one and one-half (1 ½) feet apart while in use with children sleeping in alternating body positions aligning their head to the feet of the child next to them. If children are placed at least three feet apart or if a physical solid barrier such as a book shelf is present between children, head to foot positioning is not required.

~~A. A Licensee shall provide opportunities for rest/sleep for each child in attendance according to the child's individual physical needs.~~

~~B. An alternative quiet activity shall be provided for those children who have rested or slept for thirty (30) minutes and do not appear to need or want additional rest or sleep.~~

~~C. The rest area(s) shall be lighted enough to allow for visual supervision at all times.~~

~~229. A licensee shall ensure that rest equipment is maintained in a safe condition.~~

### **SAFE SLEEP PRACTICE FOR INFANTS AND SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROM (SIDS/SUFFOCATION RISK REDUCTION)**

XXX. Cribs must meet the current standards of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission or other safety authority recognized by the Office of Child Care Licensing.

~~A. (226) A Licensee shall ensure that e Cribs are not shall not be stacked while in use.~~

~~A. Cribs and playpens shall have slats so placed as to allow gaps of no larger than two and three-eighths (2-3/8) inches.~~

~~B. Cribs and playpens shall have top rails at least twenty (20) inches above the mattress with the mattress set at its lowest position and side rails that are not moveable. locked in its highest position.~~

~~C. Any latches on cribs or playpens shall be safe and secured.~~

~~B. (226) Crib mattresses shall be firm and tight-fitting with tight-fitting sheets. Pillows, bumper pads, quilts, blankets, comforters, sheepskin, stuffed toys, and any other soft products shall be removed from cribs while an infant is in the crib.~~

~~C. Soft surfaces such as soft mattresses, pillows, sofas, and waterbeds shall be prohibited as infant sleeping surfaces. (G) Toys or objects hung over an infant in a crib shall be prohibited.~~

~~F. Pillows, bumper pads, quilts, comforters, sheepskin, stuffed toys, and any other soft products shall be removed from cribs while an infant is in the crib.~~

~~G. Toys or objects hung over an infant in a crib shall be held securely and be of a size and weight that would not injure an infant if the toy or object accidentally falls or if the infant pulls on the object.~~

187. A Licensee shall maintain the full staff/child ratio for infants at all times.

Staff to child ratios for sleeping/napping shall be maintained at all times for infants to ensure that infants are monitored during periods of going to sleep, napping or sleeping, or beginning to wake up.

389. A licensee shall ensure that Infants shall sleep in cribs and be are placed on their backs when putting them down to sleep in cribs or in accordance with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

A. If an exception to this rule is necessary due to a child's physical or medical condition, the licensee shall have documentation from the child's health care provider stipulating the appropriate sleeping position for that child.

An exception may be granted if the infant's health care provider documents in writing that the infant's physical or medical condition requires an alternative sleeping position and stipulates the specific sleeping position in which that infant must be placed.

A. A record shall be kept and retained for a minimum of six (6) months documenting the infant was visually monitored every thirty (30) minutes when napping/sleeping to observe the infant for normal breathing, any signs of distress, and to be ready to assist and respond in case of emergency.

#### **AREA FOR CHILDREN WHO BECOME ILL**

230. A Licensee shall ensure that a Center has a separate area, not located in the kitchen or toilet areas, where children who are exhibiting illnesses/symptoms requiring exclusion from the Center are cared for until they can be removed from the Center or are diagnosed as posing no risk to themselves or others.

A. The separate area shall be furnished with rest equipment provided with clean bedding.

B. ~~This area shall not be located in the kitchen or toilet areas.~~

C. All items used by an ill child, including rest equipment, bedding, utensils, and toys shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to being used by another child.

D. While in this area, staff shall ensure that the child is supervised and the child's individual needs for rest, comfort, food, drink, and activity are met until the child can be picked up by a parent/guardian or suitably cared for elsewhere.

C. All items used by an ill child, including rest equipment, bedding, utensils, and toys shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to being used by another child.

#### **TOILET FACILITIES**

231. A Licensee shall ensure that a Center has enclosed toilet rooms inside the building on ~~the same~~ each floor where child care has been approved. ~~as inside play area(s).~~ (236) Each toilet room shall have at least one (1) (232C) sink and one (1) operable window or mechanical ventilation.

A. Door locks, if present, must be designed to permit staff to open the locked door readily and shall not be within the children's reach. ~~Toilet rooms shall have no locks~~

232. A Licensee shall ensure that a Center serving toddlers, preschool, and school-age children ~~over twenty-four (24) months of age~~ has at least the number of ~~child-sized and standard~~ toilets and sinks in the following ratios:

| Ages of Children       | Ratio of # of Toilets to # of Children <sup>1, 2</sup> |
|------------------------|--|
| Toddlers and Preschool | 1:10   |
| School-Age             | 1:15   |

<sup>1</sup> Urinals shall be counted as one-half of a toilet for the purposes of this calculation provided the population served includes a significant number of males and that a minimum of two (2) flush toilets are available and accessible to both males and females.

<sup>2</sup> Staff shall be counted in determining the number of toilets and sinks if the Center does not provide separate toilet facilities for staff.

- A. One (1) toilet to for every ten (10) child-sized toilets for children over twenty-four (24) months toddlers through preschool age;
- B. One (1) toilet for every to fifteen (15) standard toilets for school-age children and staff;
- C. At least one (1) sink shall be in the toilet room;
- D. Staff shall be counted in determining the number of toilets and sinks if the Center does not provide separate toilet facilities for staff.

234. A Licensee shall ensure that a Center serving only children under twenty-four (24) months of age has at least one (1) toilet and sink when fewer than twenty (20) children are served and at least two (2) toilets and sinks when more than twenty (20) children are served.

233. For a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules January 1, 2007 regulations, the existing number of toilets and sinks shall be acceptable as long as the conditions of the original Environmental Health plan approval continue to be met.

A. If the capacity or physical plant of a Center licensed before the effective date of these January 1, 2007 rules regulations changes for any reason, the Licensee shall be required to ensure that the toilets and sinks are in compliance with these Rule Regulations #232.

235. A Licensee shall ensure that potty chairs are not substituted for toilets and, if used, are placed in the toilet room. (A) Potty chairs, when used, shall be cleaned and sanitized after each use in accordance with these Regulations #240 and 241.

236. A Licensee shall ensure that each toilet room in a Center has at least one (1) operable window or mechanical ventilation.

237. A Licensee shall provide liquid soap, toilet paper, and single service towels or hand drying device in the toilet room(s) and make them accessible to the children.

238. A Licensee shall ensure that all surfaces in a toilet room are smooth, cleanable, and non-absorbent.

239. A Licensee shall ensure that toilet room(s) in a Center are maintained in a sanitary condition and cleaned daily or more frequently if needed. ( 238) All surfaces in a toilet room shall be smooth, cleanable, and non-absorbent.

## SANITATION

### Cleaners, Sanitizers & Disinfectants

- **Routine cleaning** with detergent or soap and water removes dirt and grime from surfaces (ex: floors, walls, carpet, windows).
- **Sanitizing** removes dirt and small amounts of germs. Some items and surfaces are cleaned to remove dirt then sanitized (ex: bathrooms, counters, toys, dishes, silverware).
- Some items and surfaces require the added step of **disinfecting** after cleaning to kill germs on a surface (ex: changing tables, sinks, counters, toys).

Soiled objects or surfaces will block the effects of a disinfectant or sanitizer. Therefore, proper disinfection or sanitizing of a surface requires that the surface be cleaned (using soap or detergent and a water rinse) before disinfecting or sanitizing.

240. A Licensee shall ensure that areas and equipment specified in these Rules Regulations #241 and 242 are washed with soap and water, and then disinfected as required.

A. ~~The disinfectant solution shall either be a self-made solution consisting of one-fourth (1/4) cup of household bleach to each gallon of water (one (1) tablespoon per quart), which is prepared daily, labeled, placed in a bottle that is sealed with a cap and stored out of the reach of children or a commercially prepared alternative disinfectant which indicates it kills bacteria, viruses and parasites and used in accordance with label instructions.~~

A. Because of the variety of products available, providing a generic bleach recipe for sanitizing and disinfecting is no longer possible. If using an EPA-registered bleach product, the licensee shall follow the manufacturer's instructions for diluting the product for sanitizing or disinfecting, as well as for the contact time. If not using an EPA-registered bleach product for sanitizing and disinfecting, the licensee shall follow the guidelines provided by an agency approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing, such as the Delaware Department of Public Health. These products and their instructions for use shall be available for review.

241. A Licensee shall ensure that staff wash and then disinfect the following equipment, items, or surfaces as indicated below: after each use:

| <u>After Each Use</u>   | <u>At least Daily</u>  |
|---|--|
| <u>Potty chairs which have first been emptied into a toilet</u>                                       | <u>Toilet and toilet seats</u>   |
| <u>Sinks and faucets used for hand washing after the sink has been used for rinsing a potty chair</u> | <u>Sinks and faucets</u>   |
| <u>Diapering surfaces, as required in Regulation #248:</u>  | <u>Diaper pails and lids</u>   |
| <u>Food preparation and eating surfaces such as counters, tables, and high chair trays</u>            | <u>Drinking fountains</u>  |
| <u>Toys mouthed by children</u>   | <u>Water table and water play equipment</u>                                  |
| <u>Mops used for cleaning shall be rinsed, disinfected, wrung dry, and hung to dry</u>                | <u>Play tables</u>   |
| <u>Bibs</u>   | <u>Mats that are not stored separately as specified in these regulations</u> |
| <u>Thermometers</u>   | <u>Smooth surfaced non-porous floors</u>                                     |

241. A Licensee shall ensure that staff wash and then disinfect the following equipment items or surfaces after each use:

- A. Potty chairs which have first been emptied into a toilet;
- B. Sinks and faucets used for hand washing after the sink is has been used for rinsing a potty chair;
- C. Diapering surfaces, as required in Rule Regulation #248;
- D. Food preparation and eating surfaces such as counters, tables, and high chair trays;
- E. Toys mouthed by children;
- F. Mops used for cleaning shall be rinsed, disinfected, wrung dry, and hung to dry.
- E. Mops shall be cleaned, rinsed, disinfected, wrung dry and hung to dry.
- G. Bibs; and
- H. Thermometers.

242. A Licensee shall ensure that staff wash and then disinfect the following equipment items or surfaces at least daily:

- A. Toilet and toilet seats;

- B. Sinks and faucets;
- C. Diaper pails and lids;
- D. Drinking fountains;
- E. Water table and water play equipment;
- F. Play tables;
- G. Mats that are not stored separately as specified in Rule #225 these regulations; and
- H. Smooth surfaced non-porous floors.

## HANDWASHING

243. A Licensee shall have a hand washing procedure that is posted at each hand washing sink and ensure that staff and children wash their hands regardless of glove usage with soap and running water, including when gloves have been worn, and use single service towels for drying hands, as follows:

| Before and After                                       | After  |
|--|--|
| Eating or handling food                                | Toileting or diapering   |
| Giving medications                                     | Coming into contact with blood, fecal matter, urine, vomit, nasal secretions, or other body secretions |
| Caring for a child who may be sick                     | Handling animals or their equipment or after coming into contact with an animal's body secretions      |
| Using a water-play table/container with other children | Playing in a sandbox;  |
| Using shared play dough or clay                        | Outdoor play   |
|  | Cleaning   |
|  | Taking out the garbage   |

- A. Before and after eating or handling food;
- B. Before and after giving medications;
- C. Before and after caring for a child who may be sick;
- D. Before and after using a water-play table with other children;
- E. After toileting or diapering;
- F. After coming into contact with blood, fecal matter, urine, vomit, nasal secretions, or other body secretions;
- G. After handling animals or their equipment or after coming into contact with an animal's body secretions;

- H. After playing in a sandbox;
- I. After outdoor play;
- J. After cleaning; and
- K. After taking out the garbage.

## STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

244. A Licensee shall employ standard precautions for protection from disease and infection. (C) Staff involved in cleaning contaminated surfaces shall avoid exposure of open skin sores or mucous membranes to blood or blood-containing body fluids and injury or tissue discharges by using non-porous gloves to protect hands when cleaning contaminated surfaces. Spills of body fluids (i.e. urine, feces, blood, saliva, nasal discharge, eye discharge, and injury or tissue discharges) shall be cleaned up immediately, as follows:

- A. For Spills of vomit, urine, and feces on any surface including the floors, walls, bathrooms, tabletops, toys, and diaper-changing tables shall be cleaned with soap and water and then disinfected;
- B. Non-porous gloves shall be used for spills of blood or blood-containing body fluids and injury and tissue discharges on any surface, which the area shall be cleaned with soap and water and then disinfected. Non-porous gloves shall be used in these situations; (D) Blood-contaminated material and diapers shall be disposed of in a sealed plastic bag with a secure tie;
- C. Staff involved in cleaning contaminated surfaces shall avoid exposure of open skin sores or mucous membranes to blood or blood-containing body fluids and injury or tissue discharges by using non-porous gloves to protect hands when cleaning contaminated surfaces;
- D. Blood-contaminated material and diapers shall be disposed of in a sealed plastic bag with a secure tie.; and
- E. Mops shall be cleaned, rinsed, disinfected, wrung dry and hung to dry.

## DIAPERING

245. A Licensee shall have an established procedure for checking diapers for wetness and feces at least hourly, visually inspected at least every two hours, and whenever the child indicates discomfort or exhibits behavior that suggests a soiled or wet diaper. Diapers and other clothing shall be changed when they are found to be wet or soiled and (C) placed in a sealed plastic container or bag labeled with the child's name and returned to the child's parent(s)/guardians at the end of the day.

~~A Licensee shall ensure that the diapers and other clothing of children are changed when wet or soiled.~~

- ~~A. The Licensee shall have an established procedure for checking diapers at least hourly including visually inspecting children's diapers at least every two (2) hours.~~
- A. (B) The Licensee shall ensure that a supply of clean diapers and extra clothing are available for each child either by providing them directly or requiring the parent(s)/guardian(s) to provide.
- ~~C. Soiled clothing shall be placed in a sealed plastic container or bag and labeled with the child's name and returned to the child's parent(s)/guardians at the end of the day.~~
- B. (248E) The Licensee shall ensure that soiled non-disposable diapers are not emptied or rinsed and are placed in a sealed plastic container or bag labeled with the child's name and returned to the child's parent(s)/guardians at the end of the day;

246. A Licensee shall ensure that a Center has a diaper changing area with a clean, washable, and non-absorbent surface that shall not be located in the kitchen area. (C) Disposable covers for the diaper changing area shall be used for each diaper change.
- A. There shall be a separate hand-washing sink within five (5) feet of the changing area.
  - B. ~~The diaper changing area shall not be located in the kitchen area.~~
  - C. ~~Disposable covers for the diaper changing area shall be used for each diaper change.~~
247. A Licensee shall ensure that used disposable diapers are placed in a foot-activated container that is used exclusively for diapers, and lined with a leak-proof or impervious liner, (C) within arm's reach of the changing area, inaccessible to children, and (B) sanitized daily.
- A. Such diapers shall be removed from the Center daily or more frequently if needed to prevent accumulation of odors, and placed in a closed container that is outside the building and used for trash collection.
  - B. ~~The container shall be sanitized daily.~~
  - C. ~~The container shall be within arm's reach of the diaper changing area and inaccessible to children.~~
  - D. ~~Diaper containers that require a hand to push the used diaper through a narrow opening or have exterior surfaces that must be touched with a hand or the used diaper itself shall be prohibited.~~
248. A Licensee shall have an established procedure for changing diapers that is (G) posted in the diaper changing area and includes ~~to include~~ at least the following ~~steps~~ items:
- A. The Licensee shall ensure that staff members use a diaper changing area and (D) dispose of disposable diapers and disposable covers in accordance with these Regulations:
  - B. The Licensee shall ensure that staff members wash and dry each child during each diaper change with an individual disposable sanitary wipe or single service washcloth and (F) wash their hands and the hands of the child with soap and water immediately after each diaper change; and
  - C. ~~The diaper changing area shall be cleaned and then sanitized with a disinfectant solution after each use in accordance with Rules these Regulations. #240 and 241;~~
  - D. ~~The Licensee shall ensure that disposable diapers and disposable covers are disposed of in accordance with these Rule Regulations #247;~~
  - E. ~~The licensee shall ensure that soiled non-disposable diapers are not emptied or rinsed and placed in a sealed plastic container labeled with the child's name and returned to the child's parent(s)/guardians at the end of the day;~~
  - C. The diaper changing area shall be cleaned and then sanitized with a disinfectant solution after each use in accordance with these Regulations.
  - F. ~~A Licensee shall ensure that staff members changing children's diapers wash their hands and the hands of the child with soap and water immediately after each diaper change; and~~
  - G. ~~This procedure shall be posted in the diaper changing area.~~

## **FOOD SAFETY SERVICE AND PREPARATION**

249. Upon request by the Office of Child Care Licensing, a Licensee shall contact the Division of Public Health prior to opening a Center to determine whether the Center requires a Food Establishment permit.

[IM: Referral to DPH is made by OCCL during the plan review stage.]

~~A. A licensee of a Center licensed before the effective date of these rules January 1, 2007 regulations shall have thirty (30) days from the effective date to contact the Division of Public Health to determine whether the Center requires a Food Establishment permit.~~

~~A. A licensee shall provide the Office of Child Care Licensing documentation from the Division of Public Health that states the date the Center contacted the Division of Public Health and shows the designation of Food Establishment permit required or no Food Establishment permit required.~~

250. A Licensee of a Center that conducts a food operation which does not require a Food Establishment permit shall not change that type of food operation to one which requires a Food Establishment permit, except as approved by the Division of Public Health.

251. A Licensee shall ensure that a kitchen or food preparation area is provided with the necessary operable equipment (251A) including a hand-washing sink in the food preparation area that is separate from the sink used for food preparation and dishwashing to prepare, store, serve, and clean-up all meals and snacks for children and staff (251A).

[see indicator manual from old rules to include specifics in IM]

~~A. The Center shall have a hand-washing sink in the food preparation area, separate from the sink used for food preparation and dishwashing.~~

252. A Licensee shall ensure that floors, walls, and counter surfaces in which that any food comes in contact with are easily cleanable and impervious to water to the level of splash.

253. A Licensee shall ensure that a Center has refrigeration to keep perishable food cold, forty (40) degrees F. or colder, with sufficient capacity to keep perishable food, (253B) including lunches prepared at home, cold to forty degrees F. or colder, and food stored in a freezer frozen at zero (0) degrees F. or colder. (253A) A working thermometer shall be in all refrigerators, freezers and freezer compartments.

~~A. There shall be a working thermometer in all refrigerators.~~

~~B. A Center where children eat lunches prepared at home shall provide adequate refrigerated storage for such lunches.~~

~~254. A Licensee of a Center shall ensure that all single service dinnerware or utensils provided for meals or snacks are discarded immediately after use.~~

255/256. A Licensee shall ensure that all food in a Center is clean, wholesome, free from spoilage and

adulteration, correctly labeled, and safe for human consumption. Storage areas for food shall be cleanable and free of food particles, dust and dirt. (256B) All food items shall be stored off the floor, (256C) separate from cleaning materials, and in (246A) closed or sealed containers that are labeled

256. A licensee shall ensure that storage areas for food in a Center are cleanable and free of food particles, dust and dirt.

A. All food items shall be stored in closed or sealed containers which are labeled

B. All food items shall be stored off the floor.

C. Food items shall be stored separately from cleaning materials.

257. A Licensee shall ensure that the kitchen or food preparation area is constructed and supervised to prevent access by children unless staff is conducting a specific supervised educational activity within the kitchen or food preparation area. Staff shall organize and supervise such educational activities to ensure the safety of all children participating.

#### **STORAGE OF PERSONAL BELONGINGS**

258. A licensee shall provide children with individual storage space for personal belongings so that clothing or bedding used by a child does not come into contact with that used by other children.

#### **DOORS, WINDOWS AND CLIMATE CONTROL**

259. A licensee shall provide insect screening for all exterior doors and operable windows when such doors and windows are used for ventilation, provided that all requirements for fire safety have been met. This screening shall be in good repair.

260. A licensee shall ensure that a Center is ventilated to ensure that the air quality within the Center provides a healthy environment for children and adults. Fresh air ventilation should be used when mechanical ventilation is not utilized and weather and outdoor air quality permits.

A. Insect screening in good repair shall be used for all exterior doors and operable windows when such doors and windows are used for ventilation, provided that all requirements for fire safety have been met.

B. If mechanical ventilation is not provided, a Center has shall have window area equal, at a minimum, to four and one-half percent (4 ½%) of the floor area of the Center. Half (1/2) of such window area shall be operable.

261. A licensee shall ensure that all floor or window fans in a Center are inaccessible to children and bear the safety certification mark of a recognized testing laboratory such as UL (Underwriters Laboratories) or ETL (Electrotechnical Laboratory).

262. A licensee shall ensure that all closets and bathrooms are provided with doors that can be readily opened from both sides.

263. A licensee shall ensure that all heating and cooling equipment, hot water pipes or radiators are safely shielded or insulated to prevent the injury of children.

A. All heating and cooling equipment shall be properly installed, cleaned and maintained to operate safely.

B. All floor or window fans in a Center are inaccessible to children and bear the safety certification mark of a recognized testing laboratory such as UL (Underwriters Laboratories) or ETL (Electrotechnical Laboratory).

C. Portable space heaters shall be prohibited.

264. A licensee shall take precautions to ensure that heating elements including hot water pipes and radiators are insulated and installed in a manner that ensures the safety of children.

265. A licensee shall ensure that room temperatures in rooms used by the children are maintained at a minimum temperature of sixty-five (65) degrees F. and a maximum of eighty-five (85) degrees F. at floor level unless there is conflict with Federal and State energy Laws.

A. A Center shall be required to temporarily close if the minimum or maximum room temperatures cannot be maintained.

266. For a Center licensed after the effective date of these rules January 1, 2007 regulations, a licensee shall ensure that air conditioning is used in rooms used by children to keep rooms comfortable as per Rule these Regulations #265 during hot weather.

#### **OUTDOOR CLIMATE**

267. A licensee shall be aware of extreme weather conditions such as air quality or wind chill factor that could affect the well being or health of children and limit outside playing time when such extreme weather conditions exist.

#### **LIGHTING**

268. A licensee shall ensure that a Center has sufficient natural and artificial lighting to allow for the supervision of the children and provide illumination of at least thirty (30) foot candles at floor level in areas where children's activities occur.

269. A licensee shall ensure that parking areas, pedestrian walkways, or other exterior portions of the premises subject to use by occupants after dark are illuminated.

#### **WATER AND SEWAGE**

270. A licensee shall ensure that the temperature level of the water from all water taps and other sources accessible to children in care in a Center not exceed 120 degrees F.

271. A licensee shall ensure that the water supply and the sewage disposal in a Center are approved by the Division of Public Health and the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, respectively.

A. All sinks shall be designed to supply hot and cold water, under pressure, at all times to meet the needs of children in care.

B. All plumbing shall comply with the State or local plumbing code.

272. A licensee shall ensure that drinking water is always available to children and supplied to them upon their request.

## HAZARDOUS FINISHES AND SURFACES

273. A licensee shall ensure that the Center not utilize any rough surface or finish where such surface or finish may present a hazard to children in care.

274. A licensee shall ensure that the Center not have any building components, equipment, furnishing, or decorations surfaced with or containing hazardous materials such as asbestos, deteriorated lead-based paint, or lead-based paint present on accessible, friction or impact surfaces.

275. A licensee shall maintain evidence that the Center has been tested for and found to be free of lead-based paint hazards when conditions warrant such testing and/or testing is required.

## EMERGENCY PLANNING

276. A Licensee shall have a written emergency plan describing procedures for both natural and man-made Disasters . for such situations as a fire, flood, earthquake, extreme weather conditions, power failure or utility disruptions, chemical or toxic spills, bomb threat, or terrorist attack.

A. The emergency plan shall include procedures for training staff about disaster preparedness, staff's specific responsibilities during a disaster, accounting for all children and staff, relocation process (if appropriate), and contacting appropriate emergency response agencies and parents/guardians.

277/277A. Monthly evacuation drills shall be practiced from all exit locations at varied times of the day and during varied activities including nap time. Each drill shall be documented and include information on the date and time of day of the drill, the number of children and staff members who participated, the exits used, and the total amount of time necessary to evacuate the Center. A licensee shall have a written evacuation plan of the Center. Evacuation routes shall be posted in each room that the children use.

A. Monthly evacuation drills shall be practiced from all exit locations at varied times of the day and during varied activities including nap time. Each drill shall be documented and include information on the date and time of day of the drill, the number of children and staff members who participated, and the total amount of time necessary to evacuate the Center.

278. A Licensee shall develop a written plan for procedures to shelter-in-place (staying indoors) at the child care center for up to seventy-two (72) hours/three (3) days due to a natural or man-made disaster in the event that children and staff must remain at the Center for an extended period due to a natural or man-made disaster that includes a list of emergency supplies in sufficient quantities for the care of children and procedures for feeding children and staff during the extended stay at the Center.

- A. This plan shall include a list of emergency supplies for the care of children and procedures for feeding children and staff during the extended stay at the Center.

## FIREARMS

279. A Licensee shall ensure that firearms and/or ammunition not be within the Center's premises at any time. This regulation shall not apply to law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties.

## PETS

280. A Licensee shall ensure that any pet kept by or located in the Center shall be in good health and known to be friendly to children. (280D) Animals such as ferrets, turtles, iguanas, lizards or other reptiles, psittacine birds (birds of the parrot family), or any other animals that are known to be carriers of illnesses shall not be kept at the Center. A veterinarian's certificate of current immunizations including rabies is required for a cat or dog present at the facility and shall be on file at the center, are documented by a licensed veterinarian as not being carriers of illness that would be a hazard to children, are free from disease, and vaccinated as prescribed by law or as recommended by a licensed veterinarian.

A/B/C. Animals in the Center shall be cared for in a safe and sanitary manner, housed in protected containers and away from food preparation, storage, and serving areas and toilet facilities, and handled by children only under close staff supervision.

B. Animals shall be handled by children only under close staff supervision.

C. Animals shall be cared for in a safe and sanitary manner.

D. Animals such as ferrets, turtles, iguanas, lizards or other reptiles, psittacine birds (birds of the parrot family), or any other animals that are known to be carriers of illnesses shall not be kept at the Center.

## FIRST AID KITS

281. A licensee shall have, in locations readily accessible to staff but not to children, first aid kits containing, but not limited to the following:

- A. Disposable nonporous gloves;
- B. Scissors;
- C. Tweezers
- D. A non-glass thermometer to measure a child's temperature;
- E. Bandage tape;
- F. Sterile gauze pads;
- G. Flexible roller gauze;
- H. Triangular bandages or sling;
- I. Safety pins;
- J. Eye dressing;
- K. Pen/pencil and note pad;
- L. Instant cold pack;
- M. Current American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) standard first aid chart or equivalent first aid guide;
- N. CPR Barrier device;
- O. Small plastic or metal finger splints; and
- P. Non-medicated adhesive strip bandages; and
- Q. Plastic bags for cloths, gauze, and other materials used in handling blood.

282. A licensee shall ensure that a first aid kit is taken along with children when on field trips and other group visits outside the Center that contains all items listed in Rule Regulation #281 and also include:

- A. Water;
- B. Liquid soap;
- C. Any emergency medications needed for a child with special needs; and
- D. List of emergency phone numbers, parents'/guardians' home and work phone numbers, and the Poison Control Center phone number.

## TELEPHONES

283. A Licensee shall ensure that a Center has a working, publicly listed telephone with an operating voice mail feature. Changes to the phone number shall be provided to parents/guardians and the Office of Child Care Licensing.

284. A Licensee shall post the following emergency telephone numbers by a telephone accessible to all staff for providing access to ambulance or emergency medical services, police and fire departments (911), Poison Control Center, and Child Abuse Reporting Number.

- A. 911: Providing access to ambulance or emergency medical services, police and fire departments;
- B. Poison Control Center; and
- C. Child Abuse Reporting Number.

285. A licensee shall keep the following telephone numbers for all children in attendance in a place accessible to the telephone and to all staff but kept confidential from others:

- A. Telephone numbers where parents/guardians can be reached; and
- B. Telephone numbers of the health care provider designated by parents/guardians.

286. A licensee shall ensure that an operating telephone is available to make emergency calls while on field trips or any excursion, including walks, outside of the Center.

## GENERAL SAFETY PRACTICES

287. A licensee shall ensure that all containers of poisonous, toxic, or hazardous materials kept in a Center are prominently and distinctly marked or labeled for easy identification as to contents and used only in such manner and under such conditions as will not contaminate food or constitute a hazard to the children in care or to staff.

- A. The storage of flammable liquids and gases shall not be permitted in the Center except as allowed by the Office of the Fire Marshal.
- B. All poisonous or toxic materials except materials required for routine cleaning and maintenance shall be locked in secure storage spaces and accessible only to authorized staff.

- C. — Materials required for routine cleaning and maintenance shall be stored and used in a safe manner.
288. — A licensee shall ensure that porches and elevated walkways or surfaces in a Center, of more than two (2) feet in height have hazard-free barriers to prevent falls.
289. — A licensee shall ensure that every exit, exit access and exit discharge in a Center are continuously maintained free of obstruction.
290. — A licensee shall ensure that glass door panels and windows within thirty-six (36) inches of the floor have safety guards such as rails or mesh or be of safety-grade glass or polymer and equipped with a vision strip.
291. — A licensee shall utilize approved products and procedures to ensure that the Center is protected from insect infestation and the products and procedures do not present a hazard to children.
292. — A licensee shall ensure that all buildings used by a Center are rodent free.
293. — A licensee shall ensure that children in care of a Center not swim in areas posted as being unsafe. — An individual with current water safety instructor training or senior lifesaving training from the American Red Cross or its equivalent shall be on duty when the children in care are swimming.
- A. — In-grounds pools shall comply with the Division of Public Health requirements concerning swimming and wading pools.
- B. — Portable wading pools shall be prohibited.
- C. — Permanent or built-in swimming and wading pools that are left filled when not in use shall be inaccessible to children when not being used by the children.
294. — A licensee shall ensure that stairways, inside and outside, over four (4) steps, have handrails at a maximum height of thirty-eight (38) inches.
295. — A licensee shall ensure that approved safety gates at stairways are provided if infants and toddlers are in care.
- A. — Gates shall have latching devices that adults, but not children, can open easily in an emergency.
- B. — Pressure or accordion gates shall not be used.
296. — A licensee shall ensure that a Center has child-proof receptacle covers for all electrical outlets not in use and accessible to children or has electrical outlets that are of the child-resistant ground-fault circuit-interrupter (GCFI) type.

## TRANSPORTATION

297. A Licensee of a Center ~~which that~~ provides transportation for children shall ensure that the operator and the vehicle and operator of a vehicle used to transport children are in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and that children are transported in compliance with all applicable laws. (301) The operator of a vehicle transporting children for a Center shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and have a (301A) valid driver's license that authorizes the driver to operate the vehicle being driven. (297A) The driver shall not transport more persons, including children and adults, than the capacity of the vehicle.

- A. The driver, if an employee of the facility and no other staff qualified to be alone with children are present in the vehicle, must be qualified to be alone with children ( i.e. qualified at least as an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher or Early Childhood Caregiver) and have a full staff file at the Center.
- B. The driver shall not transport more persons, including children and adults, than the capacity of the vehicle.
- C. A vehicle with a rated capacity, as defined by the manufacturer, to carry more than ten (10) passengers in addition to the driver and was newly purchased or newly leased after July 1, 1998 shall meet State and Federal specifications and safety standards applicable to school buses.

298/299. A Licensee shall develop, follow, and inform parents/guardians of the center's written transportation policy that complies with current Federal, State, and local laws regarding transportation of children and ensures that each child is secured at all times in an individual safety restraint system that is properly installed and appropriate to the age, weight, and height of the child at all times while the vehicle, other than a school bus, is in motion. (304) This policy shall have procedures to ensure that children are never left unattended in a vehicle used by the center;

All safety restraints shall be federally approved and so labeled according to the current applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard. Child safety restraints shall be installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's and vehicle's instruction and maintained in a safe working condition and free of any recall.

A. (298A) If a school bus is used for transportation, a A child preschool age or younger shall only be transported only when the on a school bus that is properly equipped for with child safety restraints.

i. (298A) An exception may be made when unless- written permission is received from the parent(s)/guardian(s) of a that child stating that they have been informed that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration recommends that children in this age group always be transported in school buses properly equipped with child safety restraints and that they give permission allowing their child to be transported on a school bus unrestrained.

299. A Licensee shall develop and follow a written transportation policy that includes:

- A. Circumstances and situations under which the Center will provide transportation.
- B. Criteria used by the Center to determine that the individual may be assigned the responsibilities of a driver which include at a minimum:

(301A) i., Holding valid driver's license authorizing the driver to operate the vehicle being driven;

(301)ii. Being at least twenty-one ( 21) years of age;

iii. Possessing a history of a safe driving record,

iv. The driver has been fingerprinted and has undergone a criminal background check and it has been document that The Center has determined that the individual may be assigned the responsibility of a driver,

- A. How and where the children shall be transported;

B. ~~Safe driver criteria such as needing a valid driver's license and having a safe driving record;~~ and

C. Physical conditions that would impair the ability to drive safely wherein a driver shall not operate a vehicle;

~~(304) D. Procedures to ensure that children are never left unattended in a vehicle used by the center;~~

F. 306. ~~A licensee shall ensure that children are loaded and unloaded at the curbside of the vehicle or in a protected parking area or driveway.~~

XXX A Licensee shall ensure that any vehicle used to transport children shall:

A. (307). ~~A licensee shall ensure that a vehicle used to transport children has~~ Have an operable heater capable of maintaining a temperature of at least fifty (50) degrees F. in the vehicle and (308) ~~use~~ A licensee shall ensure that a vehicle is air-conditioned when the vehicle's interior temperature exceeds eighty-five (85) degrees F. and providing and fresh air through open windows cannot reduce the temperature.

B. (302) ~~Have an operable working telephone, first aid kit, and (309) operable dry chemical fire extinguisher approved by the Underwriter's Laboratory in any vehicle transporting children.~~

C. (306). Load and unload children at the curbside of the vehicle or in a protected parking area or driveway and (303) ~~A licensee shall ensure that all have locked doors on vehicles are locked whenever the vehicle is in motion.~~

300. A Licensee shall ~~inform parents/guardians in writing of the Center's transportation policy and obtain written permission from parents/guardians for any transportation provided by the Center. A licensee shall document arrangements with parent/guardians and their children's school regarding any transportation provided by the licensee to and from the child's school~~ including the identify of each vehicle's operator and This permission shall specifying any special need or problem of a child which might require special attention during transportation. The operator or attendant of the vehicle shall be given a copy of this information with directions on handling any special need or problem. ~~This permission shall also identify who is operating each vehicle.~~

~~301. A licensee shall ensure that any operator of a vehicle transporting children for a Center is at least twenty-one (21) years of age.~~

A. ~~The operator shall have a valid driver's license that authorizes the driver to operate the vehicle being driven.~~

~~302. A licensee shall ensure that an operable phone and first aid kit are in all vehicles transporting children.~~

~~303. A licensee shall ensure that all doors on vehicles are locked whenever the vehicle is in motion.~~

~~304. A licensee shall ensure that children are never left unattended in a vehicle used by the Center to transport children.~~

~~305. A licensee shall not transport children in the open back of a truck.~~

~~306. A licensee shall ensure that children are loaded and unloaded at the curbside of the vehicle or in a protected parking area or driveway.~~

307. A licensee shall ensure that a vehicle used to transport children has an operable heater capable of maintaining a temperature of at least fifty (50) degrees F. in the vehicle.

308. A licensee shall ensure that a vehicle is air-conditioned when the vehicle's interior temperature exceeds eighty-five (85) degrees F. and providing fresh air through open windows cannot reduce the temperature.

309. A licensee shall ensure that each vehicle used to transport children is equipped with an operable dry chemical fire extinguisher approved by the Underwriter's Laboratory.

## FIELD TRIPS

310. A Licensee shall have a plan for field trips or routine program outings that includes procedure(s) documenting that all children are accounted for at all times and (312E) the transportation of children in the event of an emergency. (312B) Medical consent forms and emergency contact information for all children, (312C) a traveling first aid kit as described in these regulations, and (286) a working telephone shall accompany staff and children on any trip or outing. (312D) Children shall have tags or other means of providing the center's name and telephone number.

310. A licensee shall provide staff or adult supervision of children during trips off the Center's premises, to ensure safety

have a list of children on the trip/outing, document that an attendance check was conducted both before departing the center and the trip/outing site, and again when returning to the center by taking attendance in accordance with these Regulations to ensure all children are accounted for at all times.

- A. Parents/guardians volunteering to accompany the children shall be allowed to count toward the staff/child ratios for field trip or routine program outing purposes only if not accompanied by other children of any age who are not enrolled at the Center.
- B. Volunteering parents/guardians shall be supervised by a staff member who is at least an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, Early Childhood Caregiver or School-Age Site Assistant at all times and not be alone with the children at any time including during the transportation of children.

311. A Licensee shall ensure that during field trips or routine program outings that do not require the use of vehicles and are in close proximity to the Center, a licensee maintains staff/child ratios are maintained in accordance with these regulations Rule #185 with a minimum of two (2) staff members present at all times, one of whom must be qualified to be alone with children. (310A). Parents/guardians volunteering to Volunteers shall count toward the staff/child ratios for field trip or routine program outing purposes only if not accompanied by other children of any age who are not enrolled at the Center. (See ratio chart below).

**STAFF: CHILD RATIOS FOR FIELD TRIP/ROUTINE PROGRAM OUTING**

Minimum of two (2) staff present at all times

| <b>Age of Youngest Child in Group</b>                        | <b><u>Staff/Volunteer: Child Ratio</u><br/><u>USING VEHICLES</u></b> | <b><u>Staff/Volunteer: Child Ratio</u><br/><u>NOT USING VEHICLES</u></b> |
|--|--|--|
| <u>Under 1 year</u>  | <u>1:2</u>   | <u>1:4</u>   |
| <u>1 to 2 years</u>  | <u>1:2</u>   | <u>1:6</u>   |
| <u>2 to 3 years</u>  | <u>1:4</u>   | <u>1:8</u>   |
| <u>3 to 4 years</u>  | <u>1:4</u>   | <u>1:10</u>  |
| <u>4 to 5 years</u><br><u>(not in kindergarten)</u>          | <u>1:4</u>   | <u>1:12</u>  |
| <u>5 years or older</u><br><u>(at least in kindergarten)</u> | <u>1:8</u>   | <u>1:15</u>  |

312. A licensee shall ensure that during field trips that require the use of vehicles, the staff/child ratios are according to the table below:

[insert chart with three columns; age of youngest child in group, with vehicles, no vehicles]

| <b>Age of Youngest Child in Group</b> | <b><u>Staff/Volunteer: Child Ratio</u></b> |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <u>Less than 2 years</u>              | <u>1:2</u>                                 |
| <u>2 – 4 years</u>                    | <u>1:4</u>                                 |
| <u>5 years and older</u>              | <u>1:8</u>                                 |

- A. Staff shall have a list of the children present and check the roll frequently to ensure all children are accounted for at all times.
- B. Staff shall have access to medical consent forms and emergency contact information for all children, and a plan for transportation of children in the event of an emergency.
- C. Staff shall have a traveling first aid kit available in accordance with Rule #282.
- D. Children shall have tags or other means of providing the Center's telephone number.
- E. Staff shall have a plan for transportation of children in the event of an emergency.
- F. Staff shall document that a roll check was conducted both before departing from the field trip site and again when returning to the Center.

313. A Licensee shall ensure that staff and/or volunteering parents/guardians comply with transportation regulations Rules #297-309 when transporting children on field trips.

**HEALTH CARE**

**HEALTH CONSULTATION**

314. Except in instances when the Licensee employs a registered nurse licensed in Delaware to provide health services, a Licensee shall have specific arrangements with a health care provider who will agree to provide consultation on both routine and emergency health care for children.

A. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ The above rule regulation shall be excepted when the licensee employs a Registered Nurse licensed in Delaware to provide health services or arrangements have been made with a certified child care health consultant who is also a Registered Nurse licensed in Delaware.~~

## HEALTH CARE PLAN CHILD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

315. A Licensee shall have a written plan for the routine and emergency health care of children including procedures to be followed in case of illness and plans for accessing emergency services **including (315A) method of transportation, notification of parents, and (315i) illness exclusions including (315D) reportable communicable diseases.** ~~Each staff member shall receive a copy of this plan and be trained in its implementation during staff orientation. This plan shall include~~

~~Parents/guardians shall be given a copy of this plan at the time of enrollment. The plan shall be approved by the health care provider or certified child care health consultant who is also a Registered Nurse licensed in Delaware and include:~~

- A. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ **Procedures to be followed in case of illness or emergency, including method of transportation and notification of parents/guardians;**
- B. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Procedures to be followed in case of illness or emergency, when parents/guardians cannot be reached;
- C. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ The Center's policy regarding the administration of medication; and
- D. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ A plan for the management of communicable diseases including the following:
  - i. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ **The list of symptoms of illness for which a child will be excluded** from the Center or separated from the group if symptoms occur after the child has been admitted for the day as specified in Rule Regulation **#320;**
  - ii. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ **The list of reportable communicable diseases** for which a child will not be admitted to the Center without a written statement from a health care provider as specified in Rule Regulation **#322;** and
  - iii. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Assurance that the parent(s)/guardian(s) whose child may have been exposed to a reportable communicable disease shall receive written notice of the outbreak of such disease at the Center.

## CHILD HEALTH APPRAISAL

316. A Licensee shall ensure that within one (1) month following admission, the Licensee has on file an age-appropriate health appraisal conducted within the last twelve (12) months prior to admission for each child in attendance unless required by Law to be admitted without a health appraisal such as specified in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act or any applicable local, State, and Federal Laws and regulations. Health appraisals shall be certified by a health care provider and updated yearly or in accordance with the recommended schedule for routine health supervision of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The health appraisal shall include:

- A. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ A health history and (B) A physical examination **including (C) growth and development and documentation of the results of any recommended or required (F) screening/testing such as for blood-lead or tuberculosis;**
- C. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ **Growth and development;**

- B. (D) Recommendations regarding required medication, restrictions, or modifications of the child's activities, diet, or care and (E) medical information pertinent to treatment in case of emergency;
- F. Documentation of the results of any recommended or required screening or testing such as for blood-lead or tuberculosis; and
- C. (G) Documentation of the immunization status, with a listing of day, month, and year of administration for each immunization required by the Division of Public Health. ~~as specified in the Appendix, Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule.~~ For current information the Licensee shall contact the Division of Public Health or refer to the CDC website currently listed as <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/child-schedule.htm>.

i.(i/ii) Unless required by law to be admitted without immunization(s) such as specified in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act or any applicable local, state and federal law and regulation, a child shall be admitted to the Center only when age-appropriately vaccinated according to the most recent directive from the Division of Public Health unless a written plan has been established for updating the immunizations within a reasonable time frame and submitted to the Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator within fourteen (14) days of the child's admission.

~~i. The Licensee shall not permit a child to be admitted to the Center who is not age-appropriately vaccinated according to the most recent directive from the Division of Public Health unless a written plan has been established (see below) or as required by Law to be admitted without immunization(s) such as specified in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act or any applicable local, State and Federal Laws and regulations.~~

~~ii. If a child has not received immunizations as required for the child's age, the licensee shall require a written plan for updating the immunizations within a reasonable time frame to be submitted to the Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator within fourteen (14) days of the child's admission or as required by Law such as specified in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act or any applicable local, State and Federal Laws and regulations.~~

~~iii. ii.(iii) If the additional required immunizations are not completed within the time frame specified in the written plan, the child shall be excluded from the Center until the immunizations have been obtained and written documentation of such has been submitted to the Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator.~~

- 317. A Licensee shall ensure that for school-age children, a copy of the health appraisal required by the child's school is also on file at the Center at the time of enrollment in the center as a school-age child.
- 318. A Licensee shall ensure that a child whose parent(s)/guardian(s) objects to immunizations on a religious basis or whose health care provider certifies that such immunization may be detrimental to the child's health will be exempt from the immunization requirement provided that the parent(s)/guardian(s) submits to the Early Childhood or School-Age Administrator a notarized statement explaining the exemption is in compliance with State Law.

#### **HEALTH OBSERVATION ON ARRIVAL**

- 319. A Licensee shall ensure that each child is observed on arrival by a staff member trained in recognizing

common signs of communicable disease, physical injury, or other evidences of ill health, and signs of child abuse or neglect. Specific concerns and observations as well as the steps taken to assist the child shall be documented in written form and maintained in the child's file. Any person who suspects child abuse or neglect shall make a report to the Child Abuse and Neglect Report Line.

**HEALTH EXCLUSION**

320. A Licensee shall not permit a child who has symptoms of illness specified below to be admitted to the Center or remain at the Center unless written documentation from a health care provider, or verbal with written follow-up, states the child has been diagnosed and poses no serious health risk to the child or to other children. The symptoms of illness for possible exclusion shall include, but not be limited to, any of the following:

| <b>Symptoms of Illness for Possible Exclusion Includes:</b>  |
|--|
| Temperature: infants four (4) months old and younger: equivalent to 100 degrees F. or greater even if there has not been a change in behavior;   |
| Temperature: children older than four (4) months: equivalent to 101 degrees F. or greater, accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness until medical evaluation indicates inclusion in the facility;                               |
| Symptoms and signs of possible severe illness (such as unusual lethargy, uncontrolled coughing, inexplicable irritability, persistent crying, difficult breathing, wheezing, or other unusual signs) until medical evaluation allows inclusion;              |
| Uncontrolled diarrhea; that is, increased number of stools, increased stool water, and/or decreased form that is not contained by the diaper until diarrhea stops;   |
| Blood in stools not explainable by dietary change, medication, or hard stools;   |
| Vomiting illness (two (2) or more episodes of vomiting in the previous twenty-four (24) hours) until vomiting resolves or until a health care provider determines the cause of the vomiting is not contagious and the child is not in danger of dehydration; |
| Persistent abdominal pain (continues more than two (2) hours) or intermittent pain associated with fever or other signs or symptoms;   |
| Mouth sores with drooling, unless a health care provider determines that condition is noninfectious;   |
| Rash with fever or behavior change, until a health care provider determines that these symptoms do not indicate a communicable disease;  |
| Purulent conjunctivitis (defined as pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow eye discharge), until after twenty-four (24) hours after antibiotic treatment has been initiated;   |
| Scabies, until twenty-four (24) hours after treatment has been initiated;  |
| Pediculosis (head lice), until twenty-four (24) hours after treatment has been initiated;  |

|  |
|--|
| Tuberculosis, until a health care provider states that the child is on appropriate therapy and can attend care;  |
| Impetigo, until twenty-four (24) hours after treatment has been initiated;   |
| Strep throat or other streptococcal infection, until twenty-four (24) hours after initial antibiotic treatment and cessation of fever;   |
| Varicella-Zoster (chicken pox), until all sores have dried and crusted (usually six (6) days);   |
| Shingles, only if sores cannot be covered by clothing or a dressing; if not exclude until sores have crusted and are dry;  |
| Pertussis, until five (5) days of antibiotic treatment;  |
| Mumps, until nine (9) days after onset of parotid gland swelling;  |
| Hepatitis A virus, until one (1) week after onset of illness, jaundice or as directed by the health department when passive immunoprophylaxis (currently, immune serum globulin) has been administered to appropriate children and staff;  |
| Measles, until five (5) days after onset of rash;  |
| Rubella, until six (6) days after onset of rash;   |
| Herpetic gingivostomatitis (cold sores), if the child is too young to have control of oral secretions; or  |
| Unspecified illness if it limits the child's comfortable participation in activities or if it results in a need for greater care than can be provided without comprising the health and safety of other children.  |
| <sup>1</sup> Temperatures for children under four (4) years of age shall be taken using a non-glass thermometer by the axillary method (under the arm) or by the temporal scanner thermometer (sometimes called a forehead scan). Oral temperatures may be taken on three and four year old children when a digital thermometer is used. Rectal and ear temperatures may be taken only by a licensed health care professional. |

325. (230D) A Licensee shall ensure that if a child who has already been admitted to a Center manifests any of the illnesses or symptoms specified in ~~Rules these Regulations #320 and 322 above~~, the Licensee will remove the child from the group of well children to a separate area, providing supervision, and meeting the child's individual needs for rest, comfort, food, drink, and activity as specified in Rule #230 until (A) the child can be picked up by the parent(s)/guardian(s) or suitably cared for elsewhere, or (325B) a health care provider indicates verbally or in writing that the illness/symptoms pose(s) no serious health risk to the child or to other children.

- A. ~~Temperature: infants four (4) months old and younger, equivalent to 100 degrees F. or greater even if there has not been a change in behavior;~~
- B. ~~Temperature: children older than four (4) months, equivalent to 101 degrees F. or greater;~~

accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness until medical evaluation indicates inclusion in the facility.

i. Temperatures for children under four (4) years of age shall be taken using a non-glass thermometer by the axillary method (under the arm) or by the temporal scanner thermometer (sometimes called a forehead scan). Oral temperatures may be taken on three and four year old children when a digital thermometer is used. Rectal and ear temperatures may be taken only by a licensed health care professional.

Oral and rectal temperatures shall not be taken on children younger than four (4) years (or younger than three (3) years if a digital thermometer is used). Rectal temperature shall be taken only by a licensed health care professional;

- C. Symptoms and signs of possible severe illness (such as unusual lethargy, uncontrolled coughing, inexplicable irritability, persistent crying, difficult breathing, wheezing, or other unusual signs) until medical evaluation allows inclusion;
- D. Uncontrolled diarrhea; that is, increased number of stools, increased stool water, and/or decreased form that is not contained by the diaper until diarrhea stops;
- E. Blood in stools not explainable by dietary change, medication, or hard stools;
- F. Vomiting illness (two (2) or more episodes of vomiting in the previous twenty-four (24) hours) until vomiting resolves or until a health care provider determines the cause of the vomiting is not contagious and the child is not in danger of dehydration;
- G. Persistent abdominal pain (continues more than two (2) hours) or intermittent pain associated with fever or other signs or symptoms;
- H. Mouth sores with drooling, unless a health care provider determines that condition is noninfectious;
- I. Rash with fever or behavior change, until a health care provider determines that these symptoms do not indicate a communicable disease;
- J. Purulent conjunctivitis (defined as pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow eye discharge), until after twenty-four (24) hours after antibiotic treatment has been initiated;
- K. Scabies, until twenty-four (24) hours after treatment has been initiated;
- L. Pediculosis (head lice), until twenty-four (24) hours after treatment has been initiated;
- M. Tuberculosis, until a health care provider states that the child is on appropriate therapy and can attend care;
- N. Impetigo, until twenty-four (24) hours after treatment has been initiated;
- O. Strep throat or other streptococcal infection, until twenty-four (24) hours after initial antibiotic treatment and cessation of fever;
- P. Varicella-Zoster (chicken pox), until all sores have dried and crusted (usually six (6) days);
- Q. Shingles, only if sores cannot be covered by clothing or a dressing; if not exclude until sores have crusted and are dry;
- R. Pertussis, until five (5) days of antibiotic treatment;
- S. Mumps, until nine (9) days after onset of parotid gland swelling;
- T. Hepatitis A virus, until one (1) week after onset of illness, jaundice or as directed by the health department when passive immunoprophylaxis (currently, immune serum globulin) has been administered to appropriate children and staff;
- U. Measles, until five (5) days after onset of rash;
- V. Rubella, until six (6) days after onset of rash;
- W. Herpetic gingivostomatitis (cold sores), if the child is too young to have control of oral secretions; or
- X. Unspecified illness if it limits the child's comfortable participation in activities or if it results in a need for greater care than can be provided without comprising the health and safety of other children.

321. A Licensee shall ensure that the child may return to the Center when the symptoms are no longer present or a health care provider indicates the child poses no serious health risk to the child or to other children.

323. A Licensee shall report any reportable communicable disease to the Division of Public Health in accordance with Division of Public Health procedures. For current information on reportable communicable diseases, the Licensee shall contact the Division of Public Health or refer to the website currently listed as <http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/dpc/rptdisease.html>.
322. A Licensee shall not permit a child with a reportable communicable disease, as specified by the Division of Public Health, to be admitted to or remain at the Center, unless (A) written documentation from the child's health care provider states the child has been evaluated and presents no risk to the child or to others or (B) the Licensee has reported the illness to the Division of Public Health and has been advised the child presents no health risk to others.
- A. If there is conflict in the opinions of the health care provider and the Division of Public Health regarding the exclusion of a child, the Licensee shall follow the instructions of the Division of Public Health.
324. A Licensee shall ensure that when a child has been diagnosed as having a reportable vaccine-preventable communicable disease, all children who have not been immunized against the disease are excluded from the Center in accordance with Division of Public Health procedures.
- ~~326. A licensee shall ensure that while a child is cared for in the separate room/area, the child is supervised and the child's individual needs for rest, comfort, food, drink and activity are met.~~

#### **ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION**

327. A Licensee shall ensure that only trained staff members who are at least eighteen (18) years of age and authorized in accordance with State Law, or health care providers, nurses or other qualified medical health personnel administer medication to children in a Center. (328) Written permission from the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) for each medication to be administered is required.
- ~~328. A Licensee shall ensure that medication is not administered to a child only by a trained staff member unless and only when the Licensee has received written permission from the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) for each medication to be administered.~~

329. A Licensee shall ensure that the parent(s)/guardian(s) of a child provide the following information for each medication given:

| <b>Required Information for Administration of Medication</b>        |
|---|
| The name and birth date of the child                                |
| Medication allergies  |
| Doctor's name and phone number                                      |
| Pharmacy name and phone number                                      |
| Name of medication  |
| Dosage (amount given)   |
| Time or frequency (when given)                                      |
| Route of administration (oral; eye, nose, or throat drops; topical) |
| Medication expiration date  |
| End date  |
| Reason for medication and   |
| Any special directions.   |

- A. The name and birth date of the child;
- B. The child's date of birth;
- C. Medication allergies;
- D. Doctor's name and phone number;
- E. Pharmacy name and phone number;
- F. Name of medication;
- G. Dosage (amount given);
- H. Time or frequency (when given);
- I. Route of administration (oral; eye, nose, or throat drops; topical ; or vaginal or rectal suppositories);
- J. Medication eExpiration date;
- K. Start date;
- L. End date;
- M. Reason for medication; and
- N. Any special directions.

330. A Licensee shall ensure that all prescription medication is (333) stored so as to be secure and inaccessible to children, (333A) refrigerated (if applicable) in a closed container separate from food , in its original container, properly labeled with directions for its administration, has not expired, and is authorized by the child's health care provider, and (330A) given only to the child whose name appears on the prescription as specified in the instructions on the container.

- A. Medication shall only be given to the child whose name appears on the prescription .

331. A Licensee shall ensure that all non-prescription medication is (333) stored so as to be secure and inaccessible to children, (333A) refrigerated (if applicable) in a closed container separate from food, is in its original container, properly labeled with directions for its administration, has not expired, and is labeled with the child's name, and (331) given as specified in the instructions on the container unless otherwise specified in writing by the child's health care provider.

- A. Any deviations from the label instructions shall be in writing from the child's health care provider.

332. A Licensee shall not allow the administration of prescription or non-prescription medication that has expired

and will immediately contact the parent/guardian of a child whose medication has expired to inform that parent/guardian of the situation.

333. ~~A Licensee shall ensure that all medication in the Center is stored so as to be secure and inaccessible to children. A. Medication requiring refrigeration shall be kept in closed containers separate from food.~~

334. A Licensee shall ensure that unused medication is returned to the parent(s)/guardian(s) when no longer needed by the child or if the child is no longer enrolled in the program.

335. A Licensee shall keep a written record of the administration of medication administered to children including medication dosage, time administered, by whom administered, and any adverse effects observed which shall be (336) reported to parents/guardians. This written record shall be placed in the child's file or in a central administration of medication log and kept while the child is enrolled in the center. Parents/Guardians shall be advised of the occurrence of any medication reactions.

336. A Licensee shall ensure that when a child is receiving medication, the trained staff members ~~note in the records of that child and~~ advise the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the occurrence of any health problems, such as diarrhea, vomiting, continuous hunger, refusal to eat, nosebleeds, skin rash or high temperature.

## CHILD ACCIDENT AND INJURY

337. A Licensee shall ensure that when an accident or injury occurs to a child during the hours of care, that the Center's staff take the emergency action to protect the child from further harm, call emergency medical services if needed, and notify the child's parent(s)/guardian(s), maintaining a written record of when the parent(s)/guardian(s) was notified or of attempts to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s).

A. ~~The Licensee shall maintain an written injury report in the child's file or a central log for the Center for each incident in the child's file or a central log for the Center that includes the name of child, date of injury, description of injury, how it occurred, and first aid or medical care required.~~

B. ~~The Licensee shall report to the Office of Child Care Licensing an accident or injury which that results in death or inpatient or outpatient treatment of a child.~~

B. ~~Whenever an injury report or a central log entry is necessary, the licensee shall notify the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) of the specifics of to report each incident. The licensee shall maintain a written record of when the parent(s)/guardian(s) was notified or of attempts to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s).~~

A. ~~The licensee shall maintain an written injury report for each incident in the child's file or a central log for the Center and report to the Office of Child Care Licensing an accident or injury which results in death or inpatient or outpatient treatment. as required in Rules Regulations #119B & 120. An injury report or central log entry shall include name of child, date, description of injury, how it occurred, and first aid or medical care required.~~

B. ~~Whenever an injury report or a central log entry is necessary, the licensee shall notify the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) of the specifics of to report each incident. The licensee shall maintain a written record of when the parent(s)/guardian(s) was notified or of attempts to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s).~~

**First Aid Kits**

281. A Licensee shall have first aid kits in locations readily accessible to staff but not to children. (312C) A first aid kit shall be taken on field trips/program outings. The kits shall contain, but are not limited to the following items:

| <b>Items Required in Center First Aid Kits</b>   | <b>Items Required in First Aid Kits Used on Field Trips/Program Outings</b>  |
|--|--|
| <u>Disposable nonporous gloves;</u>  | <u>Disposable nonporous gloves</u>   |
| <u>Scissors</u>  | <u>Scissors</u>  |
| <u>Tweezers</u>  | <u>Tweezers</u>  |
| <u>A non-glass thermometer to measure a child's temperature</u>  | <u>A non-glass thermometer to measure a child's temperature</u>  |
| <u>Bandage tape</u>  | <u>Bandage tape</u>  |
| <u>Sterile gauze pads</u>  | <u>Sterile gauze pads</u>  |
| <u>Flexible roller gauze</u>   | <u>Flexible roller gauze</u>   |
| <u>Triangular bandages or sling</u>  | <u>Triangular bandages or sling</u>  |
| <u>Safety pins</u>   | <u>Safety pins</u>   |
| <u>Eye patch or dressing</u>   | <u>Eye patch or dressing</u>   |
| <u>Pen/pencil and note pad</u>   | <u>Pen/pencil and note pad</u>   |
| <u>Instant cold pack</u>   | <u>Instant cold pack</u>   |
| <u>Current American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) standard first aid chart or equivalent first aid guide</u> | <u>Current American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) standard first aid chart or equivalent first aid guide</u>                                   |
| <u>Small plastic or metal finger splints</u>   | <u>Small plastic or metal finger splints</u>   |
| <u>Non-medicated adhesive strip bandages</u>   | <u>Non-medicated adhesive strip bandages</u>   |
| <u>Plastic bags for cloths, gauze, and other materials used in handling blood.</u>                         | <u>Plastic bags for cloths, gauze, and other materials used in handling blood.</u>   |
|  | <u>Water</u>   |
|  | <u>Liquid soap</u>   |
|  | <u>Any emergency medications needed</u>  |
|  | <u>List of emergency phone numbers</u><br><u>Parents'/Guardians' home and work phone numbers, and the Poison Control Center phone number</u> |

- A. Disposable nonporous gloves;
- B. Scissors;
- C. Tweezers
- D. A non-glass thermometer to measure a child's temperature;
- E. Bandage tape;
- F. Sterile gauze pads;
- G. Flexible roller gauze;
- H. Triangular bandages or sling;
- I. Safety pins;
- J. Eye patch or dressing;
- K. Pen/pencil and note pad;

- L. Instant cold pack;
- M. Current American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) standard first aid chart or equivalent first aid guide;
- N. CPR Barrier device;
- O. Small plastic or metal finger splints; and
- P. Non-medicated adhesive strip bandages; and
- Q. Plastic bags for cloths, gauze, and other materials used in handling blood.

282. A Licensee shall ensure that a first aid kit is taken along with children when on field trips and other group visits outside the Center that contains all items listed in Rule the above Regulation #281 and also includes:

- A. Water;
- B. Liquid soap;
- C. Any emergency medications needed for a child with special needs; and
- D. List of emergency phone numbers, parents'/guardians' home and work phone numbers, and the Poison Control Center phone number.

## ADULT HEALTH

338. A licensee shall ensure that a staff member does not provide personal care to or have direct contact with children during normal working activities when that staff member is known to have a communicable or other reportable disease which is readily contagious to others, whether the person has symptoms or is a carrier of such disease.

- A. A staff member shall not be involved in food preparation or serving, if so indicated by the symptoms or illness. The Division of Public Health shall be notified of the reportable communicable disease and consulted to determine the most appropriate action, including exclusion.

## FOOD, WATER AND NUTRITION

### General

272. A Licensee shall ensure that drinking water is always available to children and supplied to them upon their request.

339. A Licensee shall have a written policy concerning food service (G) that is provided to parents at enrollment and includes including:

- A. A description of all food services provided including (B) times of snacks and/or meals;
- G. B. Procedures related to food allergies, religious dietary requirements, and other special needs;
- D. C. If applicable, nutritional information and guidelines concerning the content of meals to be provided by parents/guardians, (E) procedures to prevent spoilage of food brought from home, and procedures to that will be followed by Center staff if (F) food brought from home fails to meet nutritional requirements as specified in these Regulations.
- E. If applicable, procedures to prevent spoilage of food brought from home;
- F. If applicable, a procedure to that will be followed by Center staff if food brought from home fails to

~~meet nutritional requirements as specified in these Regulations; by Rules # 356-358; and G. This policy shall be provided to all parents/guardians at enrollment.~~

340. A Licensee shall ensure that staff responsible for food service has knowledge of nutrition, sanitary food preparation, storage, and clean-up, and adhere to the Center's policy on food service. (A) Staff responsibilities for food service activities shall not reduce staff/child ratios nor be allowed to interfere in other ways with the Center's program or supervision of children while performing food service activities.

341. A Licensee shall ensure that the Center has an annual review of a two (2) week menu sample by the Office of Child Care Licensing. Consultation and technical assistance shall be used as needed to correct any problem(s) identified by this annual review and/or during licensing or complaint investigations.

342. A Licensee shall ensure that menus are planned in advance, are dated, and are posted in a prominent place for the meals and/or snacks provided by the Center. Menus noting actual food served shall be retained by the Center for thirty (30) days. Any changes made in actual food served on a particular date shall be documented on the menu on or before that date.

A. A supply of non-perishable foods, and bottled water, and any equipment necessary to serve or prepare foods without the use of electricity shall be kept in stock the Center for emergency situations that require an extended stay for up to 72 hours/3days. at the Center or cause a power outage. Non-perishable foods, bottled water, and any equipment necessary to serve or prepare foods without the use of electricity shall be included in the supply.

343. A Licensee shall ensure that meals and snacks are provided by a Center except when one (1) of the following circumstances occur:

- A. A written statement has been signed by a parent/guardian and kept on file indicating that the parent/guardian has chosen to provide food for the child;
- B. The Licensee makes it known to all parents/guardians at the time of application for enrollment that meals and/or snacks are to be provided by parents/guardians and informs parents/guardians of the importance of sending meals and/or snacks that meet the nutritional requirements as specified in these Regulations Rules #356-358 and in the **Appendix, CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements for Infants** and **CACFP Meal Pattern Requirement for Children**.
- C. The Center has a field trip or a specific activity requiring special meal arrangements.

344. A Licensee shall ensure that nutritious and appropriately-timed meals and snacks meeting nutritional requirements are served in accordance with the following schedule which indicates based on the number of hours the child is present at the Center:

| <u>Number of Hours</u> | <u>Meals/Snacks Required</u>  |
|------------------------|---|
| 2 hours - 4 hours      | 1 snack   |
| 4 hours - 6 hours      | 1 meal and 1snack   |
| 7 hours - 11 hours     | 2 meals and 1 snack or 2 snacks and 1 meal based on time of child's arrival |
| 12 hours or more       | 3 meals and 2 snacks  |

A. 2 hours - 4 hours: 1 snack;

- B. 4 hours - 6 hours: 1 meal and 1 snack;
- C. 7 hours - 11 hours: 2 meals and 1 snack or 2 snacks and 1 meal based on time of child's arrival; or
- D. 12 hours or more: 3 meals and 2 snacks.

345. A Licensee shall ensure that meals and snacks are provided in accordance ~~to with~~ the current USDA/Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) meal pattern requirements (see Appendix) which are adjusted accordingly ~~by~~ to the age of the infant and child. ~~as specified in Appendix, CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements for Infants and CACFP Meal Pattern Requirement for Children.~~

A. The Licensee shall have supplemental foods from all basic food groups to serve children if meals and/or snacks provided by parents/guardians fail to meet nutritional requirements as specified in these Rules Regulations # 356-358.

Foods provided by families and not meeting nutrition guidelines shall not be discarded. Allow children to eat what was sent by their families and supplement as necessary. Provide nutrition information to the family as needed.

Concerns regarding nutritional composition of meals and snacks not meeting current CACFP guidelines shall be referred to the appropriate participating agency. (such as serving whole milk to older children, processed meat served too often, etc.)

346. A Licensee shall provide food based on the basic food groups as follows:

- A. Milk: fluid pasteurized non-fat cow's milk for children over two (2) years of age. ~~(†) Children one (1) year to under two (2) years of age shall have whole fluid pasteurized cow's milk when not on formula or breast milk;~~
- B. Proteins: meat, fish, poultry, eggs, yogurt, cheese, peanut butter, dried beans, peas, and nuts;
- C. Fruits and vegetables: include a variety of fresh vegetables and fruits, using fresh produce when seasonal; and
- D. Grains: Whole grain and enriched products such as breads, cereals, pastas, crackers, and rice.

347. A Licensee shall ensure that when fruit juice is served, 100%-unsweetened juice is used, and not a fruit drink.

348. A Licensee shall ensure that children are encouraged but not forced to eat.

~~349. A licensee shall provide for the introduction of a variety of food textures, finger foods, and a cup in the training of self-feeding and nutrition education.~~

350. A Licensee shall ensure that powdered milk is not used as a substitute for fluid milk for drinking purposes but may be used in cooking.

351. A Licensee shall ensure that special, therapeutic diets are served by Center staff only upon written instructions by a health care provider. (352) If the parent(s)/guardian(s) requests any modification of basic meal patterns (see **Appendix, CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements for Infants and CACFP Meal Pattern Requirement for Children**) due to a child's medical need(s) such as food allergies or food intolerance, the parent(s)/guardian(s) provide the Center with written documentation from the child's health

care provider permitting the modification.

353. A Licensee shall ensure that if the parent(s)/guardian(s) requests any modification of basic meal patterns (see **Appendix, CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements for Infants** and **CACFP Meal Pattern Requirement for Children**) due to a family's food preferences or religious beliefs, the parent(s)/guardian(s) provide the Center with written documentation specifying which foods are unacceptable and the food substitutions allowed within the same food group.
354. A Licensee shall ensure that every effort will be made to accommodate the needs of the child who is being breast-fed, including allowing the mother to breastfeed her child at a designated place at the Center.
355. A Licensee shall ensure that each individual child has his or her own utensils such as a fork, spoon, knife, dish, cup or bottle as appropriate to the age of the child, to eat with or be fed with. Such equipment shall not be shared with another child during feeding. (254) All single service dinnerware or utensils provided for meals or snacks shall be discarded immediately after use.

### **Feeding of Infants**

360.(B) A Licensee shall ensure that foods provided to an infant are served on demand or during a span of time consistent with the infant's eating habits meals for infants according to the following guidelines: ~~except as noted following the procedures of these Rules Regulations #352 and 353:~~

- A. A written statement specifying foods including specific formula or breast milk and a feeding schedule shall be obtained from the parent(s)/guardian(s) for each infant at least on a monthly basis or as needed. (i) Mixing formula with cereal, fruit juice or any other foods in a bottle shall be considered a modification of a basic meal pattern and require written documentation from an infant's health care provider permitting the modification;

~~B. Foods shall be served on demand or during a span of time consistent with the infant's eating habits;~~

~~C. Introduction to all new foods shall be made only with the parent(s)/guardian(s)' permission.~~

New foods shall be introduced one at a time on a gradual basis with the intent of ensuring health and nutritional well-being;

~~B. (BB).~~ A daily written record of each infant's nutritional intake shall be maintained and provided to the parent(s)/guardian(s) upon request. Any feeding problems experienced by an infant shall be discussed with his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) before the infant's daily departure from the Center.

~~U.~~ An infant too young to use a feeding chair or other age-appropriate seating apparatus shall be held when fed;

~~C. (U/W)~~ An infant shall be held for bottle-feeding and when too young to use a feeding chair or other age-appropriate seating apparatus when fed;

~~D. (X)~~ A staff person shall not bottle feed more than one (1) infant at a time. (Y) At no time shall an infant be placed in his or her crib or any sleeping, resting or relaxing equipment with a bottle for feeding nor may a bottle be propped for feeding an infant;

~~E. (O)~~ Bottles and infant foods shall be warmed for no more than five (5) minutes under running warm tap water or by placing them in a container of water that is no warmer than 120 degrees F. ~~and not be left in warm water for more than five (5) minutes.~~ N. Bottles of formula or breast milk and infant foods shall and shall not be warmed or thawed in a microwave oven;

F. (D) For infants four (4) to seven (7) months of age, semi-solid foods may be introduced as requested by parent(s)/guardian(s) and shall be required once an infant is eight (8) months of age unless written documentation from an infant's health care provider permitting a modification is supplied.

- G. (E) Foods for infants shall be of a texture and consistency that promotes safe and optimal consumption and (F) Baby food for each infant shall be served from a dish unless the entire contents of the jar will be served. (G) Introduction to all new foods shall be made only with the parent(s)/guardian(s)' permission.
- H. (K) Cow's milk shall not be served to infants.
- I. (B) Bottles and nipples maintained by Center staff shall be washed and sanitized before each use. (I) Each infant's bottle shall be individually labeled with the infant's name and refrigerated immediately after preparation by Center staff or upon arrival if prepared by a parent/guardian. (J) Unused bottles shall also be dated as to when prepared if not returned to the parent(s)/guardian(s) at the end of each day. (P) Unused portions of formula or breast milk shall be discarded after each feeding that exceeds a period of one (1) hour from beginning of feeding.
- J. (H) Formula provided by parents/guardians or by the Center shall come in a factory-sealed container. (Q) Refrigerated, unused, prepared formula shall be discarded after forty-eight (48) hours;
- K. (L) Breast milk shall be fed only to that mother's own infant. (M) Frozen breast milk shall be thawed under running cold water or in the refrigerator and used within 24 hours. (R) Expressed breast milk shall be discarded if it is in an unsanitary bottle or has been unrefrigerated for more than one (1) hour. (S) Refrigerated, unused, expressed breast milk that was never frozen shall be discarded after forty-eight (48) hours, or by three (3) months if frozen and stored in a deep freezer at zero (0) degrees F. (T) Unused, frozen breast milk that has been thawed in the refrigerator shall be used within twenty-four (24) hours;
- N. Bottles of formula or breast milk and infant foods shall not be warmed or thawed in a microwave oven;
- P. Unused portions of formula or breast milk shall be discarded after each feeding that exceeds a period of one (1) hour from beginning of feeding;
- Q. Refrigerated, unused, prepared formula shall be discarded after forty-eight (48) hours;
- R. Expressed breast milk shall be discarded if it is in an unsanitary bottle or has been unrefrigerated for more than one (1) hour;
- S. Refrigerated, unused, expressed breast milk that was never frozen shall be discarded after forty-eight (48) hours, or by three (3) months if frozen and stored in a deep freezer at zero (0) degrees F;
- T. Unused, frozen breast milk that has been thawed in the refrigerator shall be used within twenty-four (24) hours;
- U. An infant too young to use a feeding chair or other age-appropriate seating apparatus shall be held when fed;
- V. The same staff person shall feed a specific infant for most of that infant's feedings;
- W. An infant shall be held for bottle-feeding;
- X. A staff person shall not bottle feed more than one (1) infant at a time;
- Y. At no time shall an infant be placed in his or her crib with a bottle for feeding or a bottle be propped for feeding an infant;
- L. (Z) Juices shall not be offered to infants until they are able to drink from a cup; and in order to develop behaviors that may prevent baby bottle tooth decay;
- M. (AA) Center staff shall encourage the use of a cup when an infant is developmentally capable of drinking from or holding a cup; and
- BB. A daily written record of each infant's nutritional intake shall be maintained and provided to the parent(s)/guardian(s) upon request. Any feeding problems experienced by an infant shall be discussed with his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) before the infant's daily departure from the Center.

### Meal Components for Toddlers and Older Children

356. A Licensee shall ensure that a breakfast served has at least one (1) item each from the milk (A), fruits and

vegetables (C) and grain (D) food groups as described in ~~Rule~~ these Regulations. #346.

357. A Licensee shall ensure that a lunch or dinner served has one (1) item from each of the milk (A), protein (B) and grain (D) food groups and two (2) items from the fruit and vegetable (C) food group as described in these Rule Regulations. #346.
358. A Licensee shall ensure that a snack served has at least one (1) item from two (2) of the food groups as described in these Rule Regulations #346.— (358B) **If milk or fruit juice is not included with a snack, water shall also be served with that snack.**  
A. ~~A licensee shall, at a minimum, provide a snack(s) meeting nutritional requirements, even if parents/guardians provide meals.~~  
**B. If milk or fruit juice is not included with a snack, water shall also be served with that snack.**
359. A Licensee shall ensure that the use of a bottle is discouraged for children after one (1) year of age, and instead, teach and encourage the use of a cup.

## EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

### POSITIVE BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT

361. A Licensee shall have a written statement in plain language regarding the positive behavior management of children. The statement on positive behavior management shall be posted in a prominent place in the Center and routinely provided to parents/guardians and staff.
362. A Licensee shall ensure that all staff use **prevention strategies** and positive developmentally appropriate methods of behavior management of children which encourage self-control, self-direction, positive self-esteem, social responsibility and cooperation.  
A. (362M) **The Center shall consult with professionals and with the parent(s)/guardian(s) to design effective positive behavioral interventions and to adapt behavior management practices for a child who has a special need(s), including a behavioral and/or emotional disability.**
363. **A Licensee shall ensure that staff members model positive behavior management techniques and respectful communication interactions when relating to children, other staff members, parent(s)/guardian(s), and visitors while at the Center.**  
A. Prevention of behavioral problems shall be emphasized. **Prevention strategies** shall include providing appropriate, educationally valuable materials and activities in an organized, stimulating environment, and setting realistic expectations for young children when planning the program.  
B. Staff shall praise and encourage children for positive behavior and redirect or guide inappropriate behavior into more positive actions, rather than relying on punishment.  
C. Responses to a child's behavior shall be appropriate to the child's level of development and understanding.
- XXX. (D) "Time-out", if used, shall be employed as a supplement to, not a substitute for, other developmentally appropriate, positive methods of behavior management and not used with infants. "Time-out" shall be limited to brief periods of no more than one (1) minute for each year of a child's age. Before using "time-out", the staff member shall discuss the reason for the "time-out" in language appropriate to the child's level of development and understanding.  
A. The first step for "time-out" shall be to remove the child from the group but keep the child within eyesight of the group that continues to participate in the activity. If this step is ineffective, the child may be removed from the room so that he/she is unable to participate,

observe or hear the activity. A child removed from the group or room shall remain under visual supervision at all times. Children shall never be left unattended behind closed doors.

- B. "Time-out" shall be in an area that comfortably accommodates the child. "Time-out" shall be seen as a positive opportunity for the child to regroup and focus on appropriate behavior. Before rejoining the group or returning to the room, staff shall talk to the child about alternatives to the inappropriate behavior in a way that shows faith in the child's ability to make more positive decisions in the future.

XXX. A Licensee shall ensure that the following actions are prohibited:

- A. ~~G.~~ Corporal punishment inflicted in any way on a child's body including shaking, hair pulling, biting, pinching, slapping, or spanking shall be prohibited.
- B. ~~H.~~ Children shall not be yelled at, humiliated, frightened, or verbally, physically or sexually abused by staff.
- C. ~~I.~~ Disparaging comments about a child's appearance, ability, ethnicity, family, ~~and~~ or other personal characteristics shall be prohibited.
- D. ~~J.~~ Children shall not be deprived of food or toilet use as a consequence of inappropriate behavior.
- E. ~~K.~~ Children shall not be tied, taped, chained, caged, or placed in mechanical restraints as a consequence of inappropriate behavior.
- F. ~~L.~~ No punitive action shall be taken with children for not going to sleep, toileting accidents, failure to eat all or part of food, or failure to complete a prescribed activity.

~~M. The Center shall consult with professionals and with the parent(s)/guardian(s) to design effective positive behavioral interventions and to adapt behavior management practices for a child who has a special need(s), including a behavioral and/or emotional disability.~~

~~363. A Licensee shall ensure that staff members model positive behavior management techniques and respectful communication interactions when relating to children, other staff members, parent(s)/guardian(s), and visitors while at the Center.~~

## **ENROLLMENT**

~~364. A licensee shall ensure that the daily population at the Center is in accordance with any capacity restrictions on the Center's license.~~

~~365. A licensee shall provide any parent(s)/guardian(s) who is inquiring about or planning to enroll a child into the Center with information detailing his or her right to inspect the active record and complaint files of the Center as described in Delaware Code, Title 31. As a part of the enrollment or application process, the licensee shall require the parent(s)/guardian(s) to read and sign *The Parents Right to Know Act* form and keep the signed document on file at the Center.~~

~~A. A copy of the signed document shall be given to the parent(s)/guardian(s).~~

~~B. In the event that the parent(s)/guardian(s) do not enroll the child, the signed document shall be kept on file as proof of presenting the information.~~

~~366. A licensee shall ensure that a child not attends the Center only when the following information is obtained~~

without first obtaining the following information from the parent(s)/guardian(s):

- A. Child's first and last name;
- B. Child's birth date;
- C. Child's home address;
- D. Child's home phone number or parent's/guardian's cell phone number;
- E. Parent(s)/guardian(s)' name(s);
- F. Parent(s)/guardian(s)' place(s) and hours of employment;
- G. Parent(s)/guardian(s)' work phone number(s);
- H. Name(s) of person(s) other than parent(s)/guardian(s) to be notified in an emergency situation when parent(s)/guardian(s) cannot be contacted;
- I. Name(s) of other person(s) other than parent(s)/guardian(s) to whom child may be released;
- J. Permission for child's emergency medical care;
- K. Child's medications, if applicable;
- L. Child's medical or food allergies; and
- M. Name and phone number of the child's health care provider.

367. A licensee shall ensure that enrollment procedures involve a meeting with the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the child to:

- A. Determine if the Center's program can effectively meet the child's developmental and educational needs, abilities, likes and dislikes, and what accommodations or other planning may be needed to do so; and
- B. Provide an opportunity for the parent(s)/guardian(s) and child to observe the Center and program.

## TRANSITIONS

368. A licensee shall ensure that staff work with the parent(s)/guardian(s) to create and utilize a positive transition plan when admitting a new child into the Center using such procedures as the exchange of pertinent information concerning the child, phased-in entry to the program and the assignment of a primary staff member especially for an infant or toddler.

369. A licensee shall ensure that staff create and utilize a positive transition plan when moving a child from a particular group or room, due to a child's age change or reassignment of staff members using such procedures as the exchange of pertinent information concerning the child, and phased-in entry to a new room, group, and/or with a newly assigned staff member(s).

## PARENTS/GUARDIANS COMMUNICATION

370. A licensee shall have an organized system of communicating with parent(s)/guardian(s) in a respectful manner that incorporates the use of a written policy regarding parent(s)/guardian(s) communication including strategies to ensure parent(s)/guardian(s) involvement in the Center as follows:

- A. Assurances that parent(s)/guardian(s)' visits and monitoring of the program are welcomed;
- B. Assurances of nondiscrimination and respect for each child's family and culture;
- C. Assurances that parent(s)/guardian(s) are of primary importance in children's development;
- D. Procedures for learning about parent(s)/guardian(s) preferences and goals and any concerns of

- special circumstances that may influence the child's development and learning;
- E. Procedures for ensuring that parent(s)/guardian(s) are kept regularly informed concerning the program and their children's developmental and educational progress;
- F. Information about procedures used by the Center to assess children's accomplishments and needs and, when there are concerns, to refer parent(s)/guardian(s) for additional help in the community;
- G. Multiple opportunities for involvement of all parent(s)/guardian(s) that includes an awareness of the diversity of families enrolled especially concerning cultural and language differences and the ability for parent(s)/guardian(s) to participate communicating in their native language whenever possible;
- H. Specific strategies to encourage the involvement of parent(s)/guardian(s) that have the tendency not to be involved with the Center;
- I. A procedure for informing parent(s)/guardian(s) of the identities of the governing body members;
- J. Procedures for a minimum of one (1) conference annually between Center staff and parent(s)/guardian(s);
- K. A procedure encouraging parent(s)/guardian(s) to review current licensing rules regulations made available at the Center;
- L. A procedure for making and handling complaints from parent(s)/guardian(s) regarding the Center;
- M. A statement of the Center's developmental and educational goals for all children;
- N. A typical daily schedule of the Center's programs and activities;
- O. A written explanation of the Center's policy on positive behavior management;
- P. A copy of the Center's policy on nutrition and food service;
- Q. A written explanation of the Center's policy on safety and sanitation;
- R. A written explanation of the Center's policy on transporting children, if applicable;
- S. Procedures related to release of children;
- T. A copy of the Center's routine and emergency health care plan including health exclusions and administration of medication;
- U. Procedures to regularly report any accidents or critical incidents involving the child and any other important information relating to the child;
- V. A written explanation of the mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect; and
- W. Written notice of an outbreak of a communicable disease.

371. A licensee shall ensure that this policy is provided to parent(s)/guardian(s) at enrollment.

372. A licensee shall ensure that parent(s)/guardian(s) have access to the Center to observe their children at any time without prior approval of the Center.

373. A licensee shall not disclose or permit the use of any information pertaining to an individual child or family gained through the Center's records, files, videotaping, tape recording, photographing, assessments or any type of documentation unless a parent/guardian has granted written permission to do so, except in the course of performance of official duties and to employees or representatives of the Office of Child Care Licensing, Division of Family Services or other entities with statutory responsibilities for issues relating to the health, safety and protection of children.

## PROGRAM GOALS AND PLANNING

378. A Licensee shall ensure that the program in a Center provides physical care routines appropriate to each child's developmental needs. (189). A Licensee shall ensure that The curriculum goals and program of daily activities for each group of children is shall be implemented by an assigned staff member in the position of Early Childhood Teacher, School-Age Site Coordinator, Early Childhood Assistant Teacher,

School-Age Site Assistant, or Early Childhood Caregiver with approval and monitoring by the either the Early Childhood Administrator, School-Age Administrator, Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator, or School-Age Site Coordinator when assigned such duty.

374. A Licensee shall develop written goals for children's development and education. Goals shall include areas of physical, social, emotional, language/literacy, and cognitive development and be appropriate to the ages and developmental levels of the children in attendance at the Center. The goals shall reflect what the Center hopes to accomplish through its program of activities.
375. A Licensee shall have and follow a written plan of varied, developmentally appropriate activities designed to help all children reach the goals described in Rule Regulation #374. The activity plan shall be current and posted for easy reference by parents/guardians and staff. Any changes made in actual activity plan for a particular date shall be documented on the posted activity plan on or before that date. The activity plan shall include at least one (1) daily activity for each goal specified in Rule Regulation #374. Activities that allow children to choose to participate with the whole group, part of the group, or independently shall be identified. The plan shall reflect that the children have the choice to participate in at least four (4) activities each day. The time allotted for such activities shall constitute at least one-third (1/3) of the time the child is in attendance for a particular day. Adaptations and accommodations of activities, adult-child interactions, teaching strategies, and materials or equipment shall be made as needed for all children, including those with disabilities, to enable them to reach goals described in IEPs, IFSPs, and Section 504 plans.
- A. Activities shall be varied, developmentally appropriate, may be related to themes, culturally meaningful and educationally valuable and promote the development of language, literacy, reasoning and problem-solving skills, understanding of numbers and other mathematical and scientific concepts, large and small muscles skills, social skills, understanding and self-regulation of emotions, self-esteem and positive self-image, as appropriate to the ages and developmental levels of children in care.
- ~~Adaptations and accommodations of activities shall be made as needed for all children, including those with disabilities to enable them to reach goals described in IEPs, IFSPs, and Section 504 plans.~~
- B. ~~Activity plans shall also be based on best practices and accepted research in the field of early care and education and in alignment with principles of foundations of learning and development as set forth by the Delaware and/or United States Department of Education.~~
- C. ~~Activity plans shall be aligned with the Delaware Early Learning Foundations: Preschool and Delaware Early Learning Foundations: Infant/Toddler. for School Success regarding preschoolers is on the Delaware Department of Education website at:~~ and (B) also based on best practices and accepted research in the field of early care and education and in alignment with principles of foundations of learning and development as set forth by the Delaware and/or United States Department of Education.  
~~[http://www.doe.k12.de.us/early\\_childhood/Standards/preschool.htm](http://www.doe.k12.de.us/early_childhood/Standards/preschool.htm) and/or~~
- D. ~~Delaware Early Learning Foundations: Infant/Toddler Infant and Toddler Early Learning Foundations: A Curriculum Framework regarding infants and toddlers is on the Delaware Department of Education website at:~~  
~~[http://www.doe.k12.de.us/early\\_childhood/Standards/InfantToddlerFoundationStandards.pdf](http://www.doe.k12.de.us/early_childhood/Standards/InfantToddlerFoundationStandards.pdf)~~
376. A Licensee shall ensure that activities and materials reflect children's cultures and communities, including both familiar and new materials, pictures, and experiences. Staff ~~shall~~ may consult with parents/guardians about care practices specific to their children's culture and community, and provide as much consistency as possible in their direct child care practices especially concerning infants and toddlers.
- ~~377. A licensee shall ensure that adaptations and accommodations be made in activities, adult-child interactions, teaching strategies, and materials or equipment when needed to support the positive development of all children including those with disabilities.~~
- ~~378. A licensee shall ensure that the program in a Center provides physical care routines appropriate to each~~

child's developmental needs;

- A. A licensee shall provide opportunities for rest/sleep for each child in attendance according to the child's individual physical needs.
- B. An alternative quiet activity shall be provided for those children who have rested or slept for thirty (30) minutes and do not appear to need or want additional rest or sleep.
- C. The rest area(s) shall be lighted enough to allow for visual supervision at all times.

379. A Licensee shall develop and follow a schedule for each group of children that is posted for easy reference by parents/guardians and staff. The schedule shall show blocks of time including periods for both active and quiet play or rest; indoor and outdoor activities; and both free choice and staff-directed activities.

The schedule shall show blocks of time usually assigned to types of activities and include periods for both active play and quiet play or rest. Blocks of time shall show designate activities that are scheduled for indoor and outdoor areas. The schedule shall reflect daily opportunities for both free-choice and staff-directed activities.

380. A Licensee shall ensure that for toddlers and older children, indoor physical space is organized into activity areas with daily or at least weekly opportunities for children to learn in the following areas:

| Daily Activities                         | Weekly Activities                |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Language and literacy                    | Cooking or Food Exploration      |
| Dramatic Play                            | Science and Nature Investigation |
| Construction/Blocks                      | Music and Rhythm                 |
| Creative Arts                            | Multi-Sensory Play               |
| Manipulative/Mathematics/Problem Solving |                                  |

An activity area shall be an identifiable space that is accessible to children daily and where related equipment and materials are kept in an orderly fashion.

include the following and involve activities available on a daily basis:

- A. Language and literacy area (including books and writing materials);
- B. Dramatic play area;
- C. Construction/block area (such as unit blocks and accessories);
- D. Creative arts area (such as paint, drawing materials, clay or play dough); and
- E. Manipulative/mathematics/problem solving area (including such as puzzles, small construction toys, objects to sort).

381. A Licensee shall ensure that for toddlers and older children, other activity areas include the following and involve activities available at least once a week:

- A. Cooking or food exploration;
- B. Science and nature investigation;
- C. Music and rhythm; and
- D. Multi-sensory play tables activities (using materials such as water or sand, rice, or beans).

382. A Licensee shall ensure that each child, according to his or her ability, is provided the opportunity for a minimum of twenty (20) minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity indoors and/or outdoors, for every three (3) hours the child is in attendance between the hours of 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

383. A Licensee shall ensure that screen time activities including television, digital video display (DVD), computer

and video cassette viewing be supervised by a staff member and limited to programs, games, and websites that are age-appropriate age and educational. Children shall be protected from exposure to inappropriate websites. Screen time activities are prohibited for children younger than two (2) years of age and require written approval from the parent/guardian of all other children. shall be as follows:

- A. Prohibited for children younger than two (2) years of age;
- B. Not permitted without the written approval of each child's parent/guardian;
- C. Limited to programs, games, and websites that which are age-appropriate and educational;
- D. Provide protections from exposure to inappropriate websites; and
- E. Not to exceed one (1) hour daily per child or group of children unless extended for (i)  
Viewing time periods may be extended for specific special events or occasions such as a  
current event, holiday, homework, or birthday celebration. Written documentation shall justify the  
reason(s) for extending the time period.

384. \_\_\_\_\_ A licensee shall ensure that the use of the computer shall be as follows:

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ Prohibited for children younger than two (2) years of age;
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ Not permitted without the written approval of each child's parent/guardian;
  - C. \_\_\_\_\_ Limited to programs, games and websites which are age-appropriate and educational;
  - D. \_\_\_\_\_ Provides protections from exposure to inappropriate websites such as those that are sexually explicit, violent, or use inappropriate language;
  - E. \_\_\_\_\_ Supervised by a staff member; and
  - F. \_\_\_\_\_ Not to exceed one (1) hour daily per child or group of children.
- i. \_\_\_\_\_ Usage time periods may be extended for special projects such as homework, researching topics, or special events or interests of a child or group of children. Written documentation shall justify the reason(s) for extending the usage period.

## DOCUMENTING CHILDREN'S PROGRESS

385. A Licensee shall have an organized system for documenting the annual progress of individual children preschool-age and younger in relation to appropriate developmental and educational goals. This documentation shall be done annually and used to identify possible concerns, and activities and experiences that may benefit the child. (386) The A Licensee shall ensure that information gathered to document a child's progress is shall be kept in the child's file and shared with the parent(s)/guardian(s) at a conference. With the parent(s)/guardian(s) permission, information may also be shared with other professionals when referring the child for special services.

## INFANT AND TODDLER CARE

295. A Licensee shall ensure that approved safety gates at stairways are provided and used in stairway areas where if infants and toddlers are in care (A) Gates shall have latching devices that adults, but not children, can open easily in an emergency. (B) Pressure or accordion gates shall not be used.

387. A Licensee shall care for infants and toddlers in rooms and outdoor play areas separate from older children unless twelve (12) or fewer children in total are present.

388. \_\_\_\_\_ A licensee shall ensure that a staff member who at least is an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher or Early Childhood Caregiver is always in the room with the infants and toddlers.

389. \_\_\_\_\_ A licensee shall ensure that infants are placed on their backs when putting them down to sleep.

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ If an exception to this rule regulation is necessary due to a child's physical or medical condition, the licensee shall have documentation from the child's health care provider stipulating the appropriate sleeping

position for that child.

- 390. A Licensee shall provide low chairs and tables or infant seats with trays for table play and mealtime for children no longer being held for feeding. High chairs or feeding tables with attached seats, if used, shall have a wide base and a T-shaped safety strap(s) that is used.
- 391. A Licensee shall provide a rocking chair or other comfortable adult-size seating for at least one-half (1/2) of the staff members on duty in the infant area.
- 410. A Licensee shall ensure that infants and toddlers do not have access to plastic bags, Styrofoam objects or toys, and objects with a diameter of less than one (1) inch.

XXX A Licensee shall ensure that walkers and other similar devices are not used unless prescribed by a health care provider. A copy of the prescription or medical authorization shall be kept in the child's file.

**PROGRAM SPECIFIC TO FOR INFANTS**

- 392. A Licensee shall ensure that with the approval of the Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator, individual plans are developed for each infant in care within thirty (30) days of the first day of attendance. The plan shall include both age and individually appropriate goals and describe specific activities and experiences to be provided by staff in support of these goals. Staff shall record these and note developmental milestones, accomplishments, and concerns. Plans shall be reviewed at least three (3) times over a one (1) year period. This information shall be shared with the infant's parent(s)/guardian(s).
- 393. A Licensee shall ensure that staff keep written daily records of an infant's feeding, sleeping, and other routine activities and share these with the infant's parent(s)/guardian(s) at the end of each day.
- 394. A Licensee shall ensure that staff interacts with infants providing the following opportunities throughout the day and by utilizing activities and interactions such as those found in the Delaware Early Learning Foundations including the following:

| <u>Interactions with Infants</u>   |
|--|
| <u>Offering frequent face to face interaction with infants when they are awake</u>   |
| <u>Being held and carried</u>  |
| <u>Limiting time spent, while awake, in any confining equipment such as a crib, infant seat, swing, high chair or play pen to less than one-half (1/2) hour immediately after which opportunities for freedom of movement in a sanitary area protected from foot traffic are provided;</u> |
| <u>Talking with infants during play, feeding and routine care;</u>   |
| <u>Reading to and looking at books with infants while holding or sitting close to them;</u>  |
| <u>Providing varied materials, sights, sounds and other experiences for infants to explore with their senses;</u>  |
| <u>Responding to infants' actions, sounds and beginning language;</u>  |
| <u>Giving names to objects and experiences in the infants' environment;</u>  |
| <u>Providing space and equipment to support infants' developing physical skills such as rolling over, sitting, scooting, crawling, and standing; and</u>   |

Providing materials and encouragement for infants' beginning pretend play alone, with other children, and with staff.

- A. Offering frequent face to face interaction with infants when they are awake;
- B. Being held and carried;
- C. Limiting time spent, while awake, in any confining equipment such as a crib, infant seat, swing, high chair or play pen to less than one half (1/2) hour immediately after which opportunities for freedom of movement in a sanitary area protected from foot traffic are provided;
- D. Talking with infants during play, feeding and routine care;
- E. Reading to and looking at books with infants while holding or sitting close to them;
- F. Providing varied materials, sights, sounds and other experiences for infants to explore with their senses;
- G. Responding to infants' actions, sounds and beginning language;
- H. Giving names to objects and experiences in the infants' environment;
- I. Providing space and equipment to support infants' developing physical skills such as rolling over, sitting, scooting, crawling, and standing; and
- J. Providing materials and encouragement for infants' beginning pretend play alone, with other children, and with staff.

**PROGRAM FOR TODDLERS**

- 395. A Licensee shall ensure that with the approval of the Early Childhood Administrator or Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator, individual plans are developed for each toddler in care within thirty (30) days of the first day of attendance. The plan shall include both age and individually appropriate goals and describe specific activities and experiences to be provided by staff in support of these goals. Staff shall record these and note developmental milestones, accomplishments, and concerns. Plans shall be reviewed at least three (3) times over a one (1) year period. This information shall be shared with the toddler's parent(s)/guardian(s).
- 396. A Licensee shall ensure that staff interact with toddlers at their eye level, and whenever appropriate, sitting on the floor with the toddlers, providing the following opportunities throughout the day, and by utilizing activities and interactions such as those found in the Delaware Early Learning Foundations including the following:

| <b>Interactions with Toddlers</b>  |
|--|
| <u>Offering frequent face to face interactions with the toddlers;</u>  |
| <u>Having conversations with toddlers during play, feeding, and routine care;</u>  |
| <u>Reading to and looking at books with toddlers individually and in small groups;</u>   |
| <u>Encouraging children to play with one another with adult help;</u>  |
| <u>Providing materials and encouragement for pretend play alone and with other children and adults;</u>  |
| <u>Providing varied materials, sights, sounds, and other experiences for toddlers to explore with all their senses;</u>  |
| <u>Limiting time spent, while awake, in any confining equipment such as a crib, seat, swing, high chair, or play pen to less than one-half (1/2) hour immediately after which opportunities for freedom of movement in a sanitary area protected from foot traffic are provided;</u> |

|  |
|--|
| Providing opportunities for children to walk, run, climb, stack, balance, scribble, draw, and develop fine and large motor skills; |
| Responding to toddlers' words and actions with interest and encouragement;   |
| Giving names to objects and experiences in the toddlers' environment; and  |
| Supporting toddlers' development of independence and mastery of feeding, dressing, and other skills.                               |

- A. Offering frequent face to face interactions with the toddlers;
- B. Having conversations with toddlers during play, feeding, and routine care;
- C. Reading to and looking at books with toddlers individually and in small groups;
- D. Encouraging children to play with one another with adult help;
- E. Providing materials and encouragement for pretend play alone and with other children and adults;
- F. Providing varied materials, sights, sounds, and other experiences for toddlers to explore with all their senses;
- G. Providing opportunities for children to walk, run, climb, stack, balance, scribble, draw, and develop fine and large motor skills;
- H. Responding to toddlers' words and actions with interest and encouragement;
- I. Giving names to objects and experiences in the toddlers' environment; and
- J. Supporting toddlers' development of independence and mastery of feeding, dressing, and other skills.

**PROGRAM FOR PRESCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN**

397. A Licensee shall ensure that staff interact with preschool-age children at their eye level, and whenever appropriate, sitting on the floor with the children, providing the following opportunities throughout the day and by utilizing activities and interactions such as those found in the Delaware Early Learning Foundations including the following:

|   |
|---|
| <b>Interactions with Preschool-Age Children</b>   |
| Offering frequent face to face interactions with children;  |
| Having conversations with children during play, meals and routine care;   |
| Reading to and looking at books with children individually and in groups;   |
| Using rhymes, songs, and other ways to help children connect sounds and letters and develop other literacy skills;                    |
| Helping children develop mathematical and scientific concepts through play, projects, and investigations of the Center's environment; |
| Supporting the development of social competence through play and cooperative work with other children;                                |
| Providing materials and encouragement for more extended and complex pretend play alone and with other children and staff;             |
| Providing varied materials, sights, sounds, and other experiences for children to investigate and                                     |

|  |
|--|
| talk about;  |
| Providing opportunities for children to walk, run, climb, stack, balance, scribble, draw, write, and refine fine and large motor skills; |
| Responding to children's words and actions with interest and encouragement;  |
| Giving names to objects and experiences in the children's environment; and   |
| Supporting children's development of independence and mastery of skills.   |

- A. Offering frequent face to face interactions with children;
- B. Having conversations with children during play, meals and routine care;
- C. Reading to and looking at books with children individually and in groups;
- D. Using rhymes, songs, and other ways to help children connect sounds and letters and develop other literacy skills;
- E. Helping children develop mathematical and scientific concepts through play, projects, and investigations of the Center's environment;
- F. Supporting the development of social competence through play and cooperative work with other children;
- G. Providing materials and encouragement for more extended and complex pretend play alone and with other children and staff;
- H. Providing varied materials, sights, sounds, and other experiences for children to investigate and talk about;
- I. Providing opportunities for children to walk, run, climb, stack, balance, scribble, draw, write, and refine fine and large motor skills;
- J. Responding to children's words and actions with interest and encouragement;
- K. Giving names to objects and experiences in the children's environment; and
- L. Supporting children's development of independence and mastery of skills.

### **PROGRAM FOR CARE OF SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN**

- 398. A Licensee shall ensure that when ten (10) or more school-age children are in attendance, the school-age children are cared for in an area physically separated from younger children.
- 399. A Licensee shall ensure that the outdoor play area for school-age children is physically separated or used at separate times from that provided for children younger than school-age.
- 400. A Licensee shall ensure that staff interacts with school-age children providing opportunities, materials, and equipment as described in Rule [Regulation #457 of Part III, School-Age Center rules regulations](#).

### **EQUIPMENT**

- 401/402. A Licensee shall provide developmentally appropriate equipment and materials in a quantity sufficient for a variety of indoor and outdoor activities for all children. Materials and equipment shall promote a variety of experiences and choices that support children's social, emotional, language/literacy, intellectual, and physical development.
- ~~402. A licensee shall ensure that materials and equipment be available in a quantity to allow all children to benefit from their use and to allow a range of choices with, at least, duplicates of the most popular materials.~~
- 403. A Licensee shall ensure that for infants and toddlers under eighteen (18) months, the following developmentally appropriate supplies and/or equipment in each of the following categories are provided in quantities as described in Rule [Regulation #402](#):

| <b>Developmentally Appropriate Supplies/Equipment for Children Under 18 Months</b>   |
|--|
| <u>Sensory supplies and equipment: teething toys, busy boxes, baby mirrors, rattles, melody chimes, squeeze toys; or other comparable supplies or equipment;</u>   |
| <u>Language/dramatic play supplies and equipment: picture books, toy telephones, tapes or CDs, hand puppets, washable stuffed animals and dolls, photographs, or other comparable supplies or equipment;</u>   |
| <u>Manipulative supplies and equipment: squeeze and grip toys, boxes, sorting and stacking toys, three (3) or four (4) piece wooden inlay puzzles, puzzle blocks, simple threading toys, mobile pull toys, balls, or other comparable supplies or equipment;</u> |
| <u>Building supplies and equipment: soft lightweight blocks, toy cars, trains and/or boats, figures of animals and people, stacking rings and/or cups, nesting toys, or other comparable supplies or equipment;</u>  |
| <u>Building supplies and equipment: soft lightweight blocks, toy cars, trains and/or boats, figures of animals and people, stacking rings and/or cups, nesting toys, or other comparable supplies or equipment;</u>  |
| <u>Large muscle supplies and equipment: low climbers, slides, riding/rocking toys, foam or soft plastic balls, gym mats, play tunnels, or other comparable supplies and equipment; and</u>   |
| <u>Music supplies and equipment: rhythm instruments, tape or CD player and CDs and tapes, toys with musical tones, musical mobiles and/or busy boxes, drums, xylophones and/or pianos, or other comparable supplies or equipment.</u>                            |

- A. Sensory supplies and equipment: crib mobiles, teething toys, busy boxes, baby mirrors, rattles, melody chimes, squeeze toys; or other comparable supplies or equipment;
- B. Language/dramatic play supplies and equipment: picture books, toy telephones, tapes or CDs, hand puppets, washable stuffed animals and dolls, photographs, or other comparable supplies or equipment;
- C. Manipulative supplies and equipment: squeeze and grip toys, boxes, sorting and stacking toys, three (3) or four (4) piece wooden inlay puzzles, puzzle blocks, simple threading toys, mobile pull toys, balls, or other comparable supplies or equipment;
- D. Building supplies and equipment: soft lightweight blocks, toy cars, trains and/or boats, figures of animals and people, stacking rings and/or cups, nesting toys, or other comparable supplies or equipment;
- E. Large muscle supplies and equipment: low climbers, slides, riding/rocking toys, foam or soft plastic balls, gym mats, play tunnels, or other comparable supplies and equipment; and
- F. Music supplies and equipment: rhythm instruments, tape or CD player and CDs and tapes, toys with musical tones, musical mobiles and/or busy boxes, drums, xylophones and/or pianos, or other comparable supplies or equipment.

404. A Licensee shall ensure that for children over eighteen (18) months, the following supplies and/or equipment in each of the following categories are provided in quantities as described in [Rule Regulation #402](#):

| <b>Developmentally Appropriate Supplies/Equipment for Children Over 18 Months</b>  |
|--|
| <u>Language/literacy supplies and equipment: books, flannel board, upper and lower case letters, pictures for discussion, materials for recognition, identification, and/or classification, poetry, puppets, audio-visual materials, show and tell items, or other comparable supplies or equipment;</u> |

|   |
|---|
| Science and math supplies and equipment: plants and gardening equipment, aquarium with fish and/or other appropriate live animals, water table with supplies, sand table with supplies, cooking supplies, weather chart and/or thermometer, counting equipment, balance scale, or other comparable supplies or equipment;         |
| Manipulative supplies and equipment: puzzles, pegs and pegboards, lacing boards, building toys, stencils, dominoes, pounding bench, lotto games, or other comparable supplies and equipment;  |
| Large muscle equipment: rocking boat, wheel toys, climbers, slides, balance beam, barrels and/or large cartons, parachute, balls and beanbags, outdoor play equipment, gym mats, or other comparable supplies and equipment;  |
| Building activities: unit blocks (minimum of four (4) sizes), transportation toys, farm animals, play people, work bench and tools, building toys, building logs, or other comparable supplies and equipment;   |
| Art supplies and equipment: crayons, tempera paint, large brushes and newsprint, finger paint and finger paint paper, construction paper in assorted colors, paste or glue, blunt scissors, collage materials, non-toxic felt tip markers, easels, clay or play dough, or other comparable supplies and equipment;                |
| Music supplies and equipment: tape/CD player, tapes or CDs, piano and/or organ, guitar, rhythm sticks, drums, cymbals and bells, tape recorder, or other comparable supplies and equipment; and   |
| Dramatic play supplies and equipment: toy dishes, ironing board, telephones, occupational props and/or uniforms, dress-up clothes, housekeeping area (stove, sink, refrigerator), cradle or doll bed, doll carriage, and dolls, puppets, play grocery store, post office or hospital, or other comparable supplies and equipment. |

- A. Language/literacy supplies and equipment: books, flannel board, upper and lower case letters, pictures for discussion, materials for recognition, identification, and/or classification, poetry, puppets, audio-visual materials, show and tell items, or other comparable supplies or equipment;
- B. Science and math supplies and equipment: plants and gardening equipment, aquarium with fish and/or other appropriate live animals, water table with supplies, sand table and with supplies, cooking supplies, weather chart and/or thermometer, counting equipment, balance scale, or other comparable supplies or equipment;
- C. Manipulative supplies and equipment: puzzles, pegs and pegboards, lacing boards, building toys, stencils, dominoes, pounding bench, lotto games, or other comparable supplies and equipment;
- D. Large muscle equipment: rocking boat, wheel toys, climbers, slides, balance beam, barrels and/or large cartons, parachute, balls and beanbags, outdoor play equipment, gym mats, or other comparable supplies and equipment;
- E. Building activities: unit blocks (minimum of four (4) sizes), transportation toys, farm animals, and/or play people, work bench and tools, building toys, building logs, or other comparable supplies and equipment;
- F. Art supplies and equipment: crayons, tempera paint, large brushes and newsprint, finger paint and finger paint paper, construction paper in assorted colors, paste or glue, blunt scissors, collage materials, non-toxic felt tip markers, easels, clay or play dough, or other comparable supplies and equipment;
- G. Music supplies and equipment: tape/CD player, tapes or CDs, piano and/or organ, guitar, rhythm sticks, drums, cymbals and bells, tape recorder, or other comparable supplies and equipment; and
- H. Dramatic play supplies and equipment: toy dishes, ironing board, telephones, occupational props and/or uniforms, dress-up clothes, housekeeping area (stove, sink, refrigerator), cradle or doll bed, doll carriage, and dolls, puppets, play grocery store, post office or hospital, or other comparable supplies and equipment.

405. A Licensee shall ensure that toys, play equipment and other equipment used by the children are of sturdy and safe construction and free from hazards such as causing entrapment, and having rough edges, sharp corners, pinch and crush points, splinters, exposed bolts, small ~~lose~~ loose pieces and are free from recall.
- A. For information on the recall of children's toys and equipment, please refer to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission website at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).
406. A Licensee shall ensure that furniture is durable and child-sized or adapted to children's use. Tables shall be at waist height of the intended child-user and the child's feet ~~are~~ able to reach a firm surface while the child is seated.
407. A Licensee shall ensure that equipment and materials are selected or adapted to allow all children, including those with disabilities and other special needs, to benefit from the program.
408. A Licensee shall ensure that equipment and supplies are relevant to the cultural background and community of all children and foster awareness of other cultures and communities.
409. A Licensee shall prohibit toys that explode or fire projectiles.
410. ~~A licensee shall ensure that infants and toddlers do not have access to plastic bags, Styrofoam objects or toys, and objects with a diameter of less than one (1) inch.~~

**SMOKING PROHIBITED**

~~411. A licensee shall inform staff members and others at the facility that smoking is prohibited at all times anywhere inside the Center, in the outdoor play area, while transporting children, and in the presence of children during field trips or routine program outings sponsored by the Center.~~

## **PART II**

### **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR NIGHT CARE**

**DRAFT**

## GENERAL RULES

416. Night Care may be provided by a Center licensed to provide only Night Care or as a component of a licensed Center.

417. A Center licensed to provide only Night Care shall be exempt from the following ~~rules~~ regulations in **Part I, GENERAL PROVISIONS**:

- A. ~~Rules~~ Regulations #191 & 193 (Number of Staff); and
- B. ~~Rules~~ Regulations #203 - 217 (Outdoor Area).

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY

### SECURITY

~~418. A licensee shall show evidence of a security program to ensure that access to children is limited to authorized persons.~~

~~419. A licensee shall ensure that the exterior of the building is illuminated in accordance with Rule #269.~~

### AWAKE STAFF STAFFING

~~428. A Licensee shall ensure that staff members are awake at all times and monitor sleeping children.~~

~~XXX. A Licensee shall ensure that a single staff member provides no more than sixteen (16) hours of child care within a twenty-four (24) hour period with at least seven (7) consecutive hours of rest off the Center's premises. No other employment shall be permitted during the hours of rest.~~

### NUMBER OF STAFF

429. A Licensee shall ensure that when children one (1) year and older are sleeping at least one-half (1/2) of the required staff complement are physically present with the children and directly observing the children.

430. A Licensee shall ensure that at least two (2) staff are present and with the children at all times when four (4) or more children one (1) year and older are present.

- A. When only one (1) staff member is present with the children, the Licensee shall have emergency procedures providing immediate access to emergency service and additional staff available at the Center within one (1) minute of being contacted.
- B. When only one (1) staff member is present with the children, the staff member shall have no other responsibilities than direct child care during that time.

## CHILD CARE

### ACTIVITIES

431. A Licensee shall ensure that a program of activities is provided to children before bedtime.
432. A Licensee shall ensure that each child is given individual attention at bedtime and upon awakening.
- A. The Licensee shall discuss with the parent(s)/guardian(s) any special preferences or habits of the child regarding bedtime and awakening and share this information with the staff member in charge of the child.

### SECURITY

418. A Licensee shall show evidence of a security program to ensure that access to children is limited to authorized persons.
419. A Licensee shall ensure that the exterior of the building is illuminated in accordance with Rule Regulation #269.

### SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

420. A Licensee shall ensure that sleeping arrangements are structured so that children who are awake are cared for in a separate area from sleeping children and that sleeping children are not disturbed.
421. A Licensee shall ensure that children over the age of seven (7) years do not share a dressing area with persons of the opposite sex.
422. A Licensee shall ensure that each child is provided with sleeping equipment as specified in Rules Regulations #224-229.
- A. For children sleeping four (4) or more hours at the Center during the evening or are sleeping overnight, the Licensee shall provide, as appropriate to their age, a crib or individual bed with a mattress that is covered with sheets and, for non-infants, a seasonably-appropriate blanket. (B) The Licensee shall also provide a pillow with a pillowcase for a child in a bed.
423. A Licensee shall ensure that each child has individual, clean, and comfortable sleeping garments.

## **BATHING FACILITIES AND GROOMING**

424. A Licensee shall follow the parent(s)/guardian(s)' preference regarding bathing the child as discussed with the parent(s)/guardian(s) and noted in the child's record.
- A. (F) Each child shall be bathed individually and not placed together in a bathtub, shower, or portable bathing equipment. Bathing equipment shall be cleaned and sanitized before each use and (A) equipped to prevent slipping. (B) An infant shall be bathed in age-appropriate bathing equipment. (D) No child may be bathed in a sink utilized for cleaning dishes and/or utensils.
  - A. If bathtubs and showers are used, they shall be equipped to prevent slipping.
  - B. Infants shall be bathed in age-appropriate bathing facilities.
  - C. Portable bathing facilities shall be acceptable for bathing children before bedtime.
  - D. Under no circumstances shall a child be bathed in a sink utilized for cleaning dishes and/or utensils.
  - E. Each child shall be bathed in a bathtub, shower or portable bathing equipment that has been cleaned and sanitized before each use.
  - F. Children shall be bathed individually and not be placed together in a bathtub or shower.
- B. (G) Water temperature shall be checked to prevent burns or scalding, or for water that is too cold.
- C. (H) Individual towels and washcloths shall be provided for each child.
425. A Licensee shall ensure that no child is left unsupervised while in a bathtub or shower.
- A. A child capable of bathing alone shall be allowed to bathe in private with written permission from parent(s)/guardian(s). A staff member shall respect that child's privacy but be immediately available to ensure the child's safety and to offer assistance when requested by the child.
426. A Licensee shall ensure that there is a nightlight in the bathroom, hallway and sleeping areas as dictated by the individual needs of the children.

## **GROOMING AIDS**

427. A Licensee shall ensure that combs, toothbrushes, brushes and other such personal items are marked with the owner's name and stored separately and used only by that child.

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## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **AWAKE STAFF**

428. A licensee shall ensure that staff members are awake at all times and monitor sleeping children.

### **NUMBER OF STAFF**

429. A licensee shall ensure that when children one (1) year and older are sleeping at least one-half (1/2) of the required staff complement are physically present with the children and directly observing the children.

430. A licensee shall ensure that at least two (2) staff are present and with the children at all times when four (4) or more children one (1) year and older are present.

A. When only one (1) staff member is present with the children, the licensee shall have emergency procedures providing immediate access to emergency service and additional staff available at the Center within one (1) minute of being contacted.

B. When only one (1) staff member is present with the children, the staff member shall have no other responsibilities than direct child care during that time.

## CHILD CARE

### ACTIVITIES

431. A licensee shall ensure that a program of activities is provided to children before bedtime.

432. A licensee shall ensure that each child is given individual attention at bedtime and upon awakening.

A. The licensee shall discuss with the parent(s)/guardian(s) any special preferences or habits of the child regarding bedtime and awakening and share this information with the staff member in charge of the child.

**PART III**

**ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR**

**SCHOOL-AGE CENTERS**

## GENERAL RULES

433. School-Age Care may be provided by a School-Age Center that exclusively offers care, education, protection, supervision or guidance for school-age children before and/or after school, during school holidays, and/or summer months.

434. A School-Age Center shall be exempt from the following rules in Part I, GENERAL PROVISIONS: comply with all regulations contained in this document except for these designated regulations in Part 1, General Provisions from which they are exempt: but is exempt from the following rules regulations in Part I, GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- A. Rules Regulations # 232 – 235 (Number of Toilets);
- B. Rule Regulation #296 (General Safety Practices – Outlet Covers);
- C. Rules Regulations #354, 359 & 360 (Infant and Toddler Food and Nutrition);
- D. Rules Regulations #385 & 386 (Documenting Children's Progress);
- E. Rules Regulations #387 - 391 (Infant And Toddler Care);
- F. Rules Regulations #392 - 394 (Program For Infants);
- G. Rules Regulations #395 & 396 (Program For Toddlers);
- H. Rule Regulation #397 (Program for Preschool-Age Children); and
- I. Rule Regulation #410 (Equipment).
- K. School-Age only programs located in a public or private school are exempt from the covered trash can requirement in Regulation #200.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

435. For a School-Age Center licensed before the effective date of these rules, the licensee shall ensure that a staff member who is already in a particular position or a new hire at that Center:

- A. Has four (4) calendar years from the effective date or no later than January 1, 2011 to meet the qualifications of a School-Age Administrator or School-Age Site Coordinator
- B. Has two (2) calendar years from the effective date or no later than January 1, 2009 to meet the qualifications of a School-Age Site Assistant or School-Age Intern.
- C. Is eligible for the time-limited periods to qualify for a particular position provided that person remains at that School-Age Center or transfers only to a School-Age Center licensed before the effective date of these rules and is directly affiliated with the original School-Age Center. A School-Age Center directly affiliated with the original School-Age Center shall mean that the staff member is still employed by the same parent organization/company and at least retains all years of service when transferred.
- D. Has a written professional development plan kept in that staff member's personnel file that documents the particular position desired, the goals to achieve that position, the progress made toward the position at least on a yearly basis, and the target date for goal completion when working toward qualifying for a particular position during the time-limited period.

436. A licensee shall ensure that each School-Age Center staff member submits written documentation to the Office of Child Care Licensing that shows how a staff member is fully qualified for a particular position. The documentation shall consist of copies of training

certificates, transcripts, diploma(s), or staff training records. Upon approval from the Office of Child Care Licensing, the licensee shall ensure that the letter of approval for each qualified staff member is filed in that staff member's personnel file.

437. A licensee shall ensure that a staff member qualifying for a particular position in a School-Age Center may, when applicable, use college/university credits based on specific topic areas/titles, substitutions for college/university credits, or other training that is demonstrated to be equivalent to a particular qualification in these rules all as approved or accepted by the Office of Child Care Licensing.

438. A licensee shall ensure that a person appointed to a position at a School-Age Center that becomes newly licensed subsequent to the effective date shall meet the qualifications of these rules for that position.

**SCHOOL-AGE STAFF POSITIONS**

**School-Age Administrator**

439. A Licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Administrator is at least twenty-one (21) years of age and is (159) fully qualified as an Early Childhood Administrator with at least fifteen (15) clock hours of approved training in school-age care or meets one (1) of the following education and experience qualifications:

| <u>Education</u>  | <u>Area of Study/Major</u>   | <u>Regionally Accredited College/University Credits</u> <sup>1</sup>   | <u>Experience</u> <sup>2</sup>   |
|---|--|--|--|
| At least a Bachelor Degree or Associate Degree from a regionally accredited college or university | Recreation, Elementary Education, School-Age Care or School-Age Administration | Successful completion of at least fifteen (15) credit hours from a regionally accredited college/university with at least three (3) credit hours in youth development/learning, environment/curriculum, social emotional development, and observation/assessment | Eighteen months (18) experience working with children kindergarten through sixth grade in a group setting. |

<sup>1</sup> Possession of an Administrator's credential issued by the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), its designee, or by another state's body authorized in that state as the professional development entity for its early childhood workforce may substitute for three (3) college/university credits.

<sup>2</sup> Three (3) months supervised student teaching of children kindergarten through sixth grade may substitute for six (6) months of the required experience.

(#159) A. Fully qualified as an Early Childhood Administrator with at least fifteen (15) clock hours of approved training in school-age care.

~~B. At least a Bachelor or Associate degree from a regionally accredited college/university in recreation, elementary education, school-age care, or school-age administration and eighteen months (18) experience working with children ages kindergarten through sixth grade in a group setting. Three (3) months supervised student teaching of children kindergarten through sixth grade may substitute for six (6) months of the required experience.~~

439. A licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Administrator meets the same qualifications as an Early Childhood Administrator in relation to Rules #153, 154, 155 and 159 with the following additional options:

- A. In relation to experience, working with school-age children in a group setting;
- B. In relation to Bachelor or Associate degrees, college/university credits related to the needs of the school-age children served; and
- C. In relation to Associate degree, in a field related to recreation, elementary education, school-age care or school-age care administration.

**School-Age Site Coordinator**

440. A Licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Site Coordinator is at least twenty (20) years of age and meets the following education and experience qualification:

| <u>Education</u>  | <u>Area of Study/Major</u> | <u>Regionally Accredited College/University Credits</u> <sup>1</sup>  | <u>Experience</u> <sup>2</sup>   |
|---|----------------------------|---|--|
| At least a high school diploma or equivalent recognized by the Delaware Department of Education | Any                        | Successful completion of at least twelve (12) college/university credits in recreation, elementary education, school-age care, or school-age administration | Twelve months (12) experience working with children kindergarten through sixth grade in a group setting. |

<sup>1</sup> Possession of a school-age credential issued by the Delaware Department of Education (DOE), its designee, or by another state's body authorized in that state as the professional development entity for its early childhood workforce may substitute for three (3) college/university credits.

<sup>2</sup> Three (3) months supervised student teaching of children kindergarten through sixth grade may substitute for six (6) months of the required experience.

- A. Successful completion of at least twelve (12) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in recreation, elementary education, school-age care, or school-age administration and twelve (12) months experience working with children school-age or younger in a group setting.
  - i. A school-age credential issued by the Delaware Department of Education may substitute for

three of these (3) credits.

440. A licensee shall ensure that the School-Age Site Coordinator is at least twenty (20) years of age and meets the following qualifications:

A. At least successful completion of twelve (12) college/university credits related to the needs of the school-age children served and three (3) years experience working with children school-age or younger in a group setting, or

B. At least successful completion of sixty (60) college/university credits including twelve (12) college/university credits related to the needs of the school-age children served and two (2) years of experience working with children school-age or younger in a group setting.

441. A licensee shall ensure that the School-Age Site Coordinator has successfully completed at least three (3) college/university credits or forty-five (45) clock hours of training in curriculum development for elementary education or school-age care which may be included in the total number of college/university credits required for this position, if assigned the responsibility of the development, evaluation or monitoring of the School-Age Center's curriculum.

**School-Age Site Assistant**

442. A Licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Site Assistant is at least 18 years of age and meets one (1) of the following education and experience qualifications:

| <u>Education</u>  | <u>Area of Study/Major</u> | <u>Regionally Accredited College/University Credits or quality-assured training</u>   | <u>Experience</u> <sup>1</sup>  |
|---|----------------------------|---|---|
| <u>High School Diploma or equivalent</u> recognized by Delaware Department of Education | All areas of study         | Successful completion of <u>three (3) credits in</u> recreation, elementary education, school-age care, or school-age administration<br><br>-or-<br><u>Forty-five (45) clock hours of</u> quality-assured training <u>related to the needs of the school-age children served</u>                        | <u>Part-time employment for one (1) school year from September to June providing education/care to children kindergarten through sixth grade in a group setting</u><br><br>or<br><u>Full-time employment during the majority of one (1) summer season (June through August) providing education/care to children kindergarten through sixth grade in a group setting</u>  |
| <u>High School Diploma or equivalent</u> recognized by Delaware Department of Education | All areas of study         | Successful completion of Delaware First's "Moving Youth Ahead," "Youth Development," "School-Age: Supporting Social Emotional Wellness," " <u>Child Development</u> ," or other similar training approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing or its designee within twelve (12) months of employment | <u>Part-time employment from September to June for two (2) school years</u> or full-time employment for one (1) school year <u>providing education/care to children kindergarten through sixth grade in a group setting</u><br><br>or<br><u>Full-time employment during the majority of two (2) summer seasons (June through August) providing education/care to children kindergarten through sixth grade in a group setting</u> |

<sup>1</sup>Supervised experience may be substituted for the required experience and will reduce it by one-half.

442. A licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Site Assistant is at least eighteen (18) years of age and meets one of the following qualifications:

A. At least successful completion of three (3) college/university credits or sixty (60) clock hours of training related to the needs of the school-age children served and 400 hours experience working with children school-age or younger in a group setting.

i. 400 hours experience shall be equivalent to one (1) year of part time employment providing care to children during a school year (September to June) or full-time employment providing care to children during the majority of one (1) summer season (June through August); or

B. At least successful completion of Delaware First's "Introduction to Child Care" or "Child Development" completed within twelve (12) months of employment.

i. 800 hours experience shall be equivalent to two (2) years of part time employment providing care to children during two (2) school years (September to June) or full-time employment providing care to children during the majority of two (2) summer seasons (June through August).

Required school-age experience shall be calculated as:

A. 400 hours experience shall be equivalent to one (1) year of part time employment providing care to children during a school year (September to June) or full-time employment providing care to children during the majority of one (1) summer season (June through August); or

B. 800 hours experience shall be equivalent to two (2) years of part time employment providing care to children during two (2) school years (September to June) or full-time employment providing care to children during the majority of two (2) summer seasons (June through August).

### School-Age Intern

443. A School-Age Intern must be at least sixteen (16) years of age (or fifteen (15) years of age if attending a vocational/technical high school's three-year (3) program in early childhood education or a traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood with verification of enrollment maintained on file at the Center), at least four (4) years older than any child in his/her direct care, always work under the direct supervision of at least a School-Age Site Assistant, may not be alone with children, and may count in the staff: child ratio. A School-Age Intern must meet one (1) the following education qualifications:

| <u>Education</u>   |
|--|
| <u>At least successful completion of at least three (3) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in recreation, elementary education, school-age care, or school-age administration.</u>   |
| -or-   |
| <u>At least successful completion of fifteen (15) clock hours of quality-assured training such as "Moving Youth Ahead," "Youth Development," "School-Age: Supporting Social Emotional Wellness," or other similar training approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing or its designee completed within twelve (12) months of employment.</u> |
| -or-   |
| <u>Successful completion of the education requirement for any higher level position contained in these regulations.</u>  |

A. ~~At least successful completion of at least three (3) college/university credits from a regionally accredited college/university in recreation, elementary education, school-age care, or school-age administration.~~

B. ~~At least successful completion of fifteen (15) clock hours of quality-assured training such as "Moving Youth Ahead," "Youth Development," "School Age: Supporting Social Emotional Wellness," or other similar training approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing or its designee completed within twelve (12) months of employment.~~

443. A licensee shall ensure that the School-Age Intern is at least sixteen (16) years of age and meets one (1) of the following qualifications:

A. ~~At least successful completion of Delaware First's "Introduction to Child Care" or "Child Development" completed within twelve (12) months of employment.~~

444. A licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Intern under the age of eighteen (18) does not provide direct child care to children who are close in age. Such a School-Age Intern shall be ~~at least four (4) years older than any child in his or her direct care.~~

### **School-Age Aide**

XXX. A School-Age Aide must be at least sixteen (16) years of age (or fifteen (15) years of age if attending a vocational/technical high school's three (3) year program in early childhood education or a traditional high school's career pathway program in early childhood with enrollment documentation on file at the Center), always works under the direct supervision of at least a School-Age Site Assistant, may not be alone with children, and will count in the staff: child ratio only during the first twelve (12) months of cumulative employment as a School-Age Aide.

~~Anyone working as a School-Age Aide who does not qualify as a School-Age Intern within twelve (12) months of continuous employment as a School-Age Aide, will no longer count in the staff: child ratio.~~

~~The Professional Development Plan for the School-Age Aide must include the goal of meeting the qualification of School-Age Intern, the actions to be taken to achieve the goal and the specific time frame in which this is to be accomplished.~~

### **Staffing**

445/446. A Licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Center has at least one (1) staff member who meets the qualifications for the position of School-Age Administrator. When a ~~School-Age Administrator is responsible for more than one (1) Center, the School-Age Administrator is required to make, at a minimum, a continuous thirty (30) minute visit per week at each School-Age Center.~~

446. ~~A licensee shall ensure that when a School-Age Administrator is responsible for more than one (1) Center, the School-Age Administrator is required to make, at a minimum, a continuous thirty (30) minute visit per week at each School-Age Center.~~

447. A Licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Center has at least one (1) staff member who meets the qualifications for the position of School-Age Site Coordinator when the School-Age Administrator is responsible for more than one (1) School-Age Center.

448. A Licensee shall ensure that a staff member with the qualifications of a School-Age Administrator or School-Age Site Coordinator is present at least fifty (50) percent of the hours of operation.

449. A Licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Site Coordinator is responsible for no more than two (2) School-Age Centers.

450. A Licensee shall ensure that a School-Age Center has at least one (1) staff member who at least meets the qualifications for and fills the position of School-Age Site Assistant.

451/451A. A Licensee shall ensure that when a School-Age Administrator or School-Age Site Coordinator is not present at the School-Age Center, an assigned staff member that at least meets the qualifications of School-Age Site Assistant as stated in Rule #442A these Regulations is present and specifically designated as responsible for the School-Age Center. This staff member shall have documented training in the day-to-day operations of the Center with an emphasis in the supervision of children and staff.

~~A. This staff member shall be specifically designated as responsible for the School-Age Center in the absence of the School-Age Administrator or School-Age Site Coordinator and have documented training in the day-to-day operations of the Center with an emphasis in the supervision of children and staff.~~

## **PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY**

### **OUTDOOR PLAY AREA**

452/452. A Licensee shall have plans approved by the Office of Child Care Licensing for a safe outdoor play area. This outdoor space for running and games may be provided at the Center or by excursions to public or private playgrounds.

~~A. A licensee shall provide either safe open outdoor space for running and games or supervised excursions to public and private playgrounds.~~

453. A Licensee operating a School-Age Center at a public or private school shall be able to use that school's playground as the outdoor play area upon approval by the Office of Child Care Licensing.

### **TOILET FACILITIES**

454. A Licensee shall ensure that the School-Age Center has one (1) toilet and sink for every twenty-five (25) school-age children, based on licensed capacity.

A. Urinals shall be counted as one-half (1/2) of a toilet for the purposes of this calculation provided that the population served includes a significant number of males and that a

- minimum of two (2) flush toilets are available and accessible to both males and females.
- B. Children shall be given privacy in toilet use unless assistance is required.

**TRANSPORTATION**

455. A Licensee shall document arrangements with parents/guardians and their children's schools regarding any transportation provided by the Licensee to and from the School-Age Center.

**HEALTH CARE**

**FOOD AND NUTRITION**

456. A Licensee shall ensure that at a minimum, a nutritious snack comprising of one (1) item from two (2) of the four (4) food groups as described in Rule Regulation #346 is served to each child in after school care.
- A. If breakfast is not served at the School-Age Center, a nutritious snack shall be served to each child who is in before school care for more than two (2) hours.
  - B. If milk or fruit juice is not included with a snack, water shall also be served with that snack.

**CHILD CARE ACTIVITIES**

457. A Licensee shall ensure that a program of indoor and outdoor activities and supplies and equipment is provided based on the ages and developmental levels of school-age children served.

- A. (E) As described in Rule Regulation #404, supplies and equipment shall be adapted to suit the different ages and interests of the school-age children, including books for all reading abilities, in sufficient quantities to allow children the opportunity to freely choose activities or materials. There shall be a system of sharing items such as computers that are in high demand but cannot be supplied to all children.
- B. (G) Children shall have the opportunity to take responsibility consistent with their ages for choosing, planning, carrying out, and evaluating their own activities including opportunities to experience a diversity of activities that reflect the various communities, languages, and cultures of the children in attendance.
- C. Daily and month activities for school-age children shall include the following:

| Activities for School-Age Children  |   |
|---|---|
| Daily   | Monthly   |
| Opportunities for <u>active physical play such as active games, sports, dancing, running, jumping, climbing or exploring the environment.</u> | Opportunities to participate in projects that <u>require an extended time period to complete in such topics as science, math, social studies, language arts, cooking, drama, creative arts, or music.</u> |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>Opportunities for outdoor activities after school. If weather conditions do not permit outdoor play, children shall be given opportunities for active physical play indoors; and</p> |  |
| <p>Opportunities for socialization, conversation, relaxation, and quiet activities such as board or card games, reading, homework and studying.</p>                                     |  |

- A. Children shall be given daily opportunities for:
- i. Active physical play such as active games, sports, dancing, running, jumping, climbing or exploring the environment;
  - ii. Outdoor activities after school. If weather conditions do not permit outdoor play, children shall be given opportunities for active physical play indoors; and
  - iii. Opportunities for socialization, conversation, relaxation, and quiet activities such as board or card games, reading, homework and studying.

B. Children shall have monthly opportunities to participate in projects that require an extended time period to complete in such topics as science, math, social studies, language arts, cooking, drama, creative arts, or music.

C. As described in Rule Regulation #404, supplies and equipment shall be adapted to suit the different ages and interests of the school-age children, including books for all reading abilities, in sufficient quantities to allow children the opportunity to freely choose activities or materials. There shall be a system of sharing items such as computers that are in high demand but cannot be supplied to all children.

D. Children shall have the opportunity to take responsibility consistent with their ages for choosing, planning, carrying out, and evaluating their own activities including opportunities to experience a diversity of activities that reflect the various communities, languages, and cultures of the children in attendance.

A. Children shall be given daily opportunities for active physical play such as active games, sports, dancing, running, jumping, climbing or exploring the environment.

B. Children shall have daily outdoor activities after school. If weather conditions do not permit outdoor play, children shall be given opportunities for active physical play indoors.

C. Children shall have daily opportunities for socialization, conversation, relaxation, and quiet activities such as board or card games, reading, homework and studying.

D. Children shall have monthly opportunities to participate in projects that require an extended time period to complete in such topics as science, math, social studies, language arts, cooking, drama, creative arts, or music.

E. As described in Rule Regulation #404, supplies and equipment shall be adapted to suit the different ages and interests of the school-age children and include books for all reading abilities.

F. The quantity of materials and equipment available to school-age children shall be sufficient to allow children the opportunity to freely choose activities or materials. There shall be a system of sharing items such as computers that are in high demand but cannot be supplied to all children.

G. Children shall have the opportunity to take responsibility consistent with their ages for

choosing, planning, carrying out and evaluating their own activities.

H. Children shall be given opportunities to experience a diversity of activities that reflect the various communities, languages and cultures of the children in attendance.

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