Child Care Personnel Requirements

Operator/Director Requirements:

- Good moral character based upon a Level 2 screening standards, as provided in Chapter 435.04, F.S.
- Must be at least 21 years of age.
- Must complete the Department’s 40-clock-hour introductory child care training as evidenced by passage of a competency exam.
- Must complete 10-hour annual in-service training.
- Must complete 0.5 continuing education unit or 5 clock hours of approved training in early literacy and language development birth to 5 years of age.
- Must complete specialized training in serving children with disabilities within 5 years after employment.
- Must have a director credential prior to issuance of license.

Employee Requirements:

- Good moral character based upon a Level 2 screening standards, as provided in Chapter 435.04, F.S.
- Must be at least 16 years of age to be left unsupervised.
- Must complete the Department’s 40-clock-hour introductory child care training as evidenced by passage of a competency exam.
- Must complete 10-hour annual in-service training.
- Must complete 0.5 continuing education unit or 5 clock hours of approved training in early literacy and language development birth to 5 years of age.
- At least one staff member with a valid certificate of course completion in first aid training and infant/child CPR must be present at all times both onsite and on field trips.
Capacity Requirements

Indoor Space Footage: 35 square foot per child (20 square feet if child care facility was licensed by October 1, 1992 and has continued to be licensed).

Outdoor Space Footage: 45 square foot per child outdoor play area (Outdoor play area shall be calculated for a minimum of ½ the licensed capacity, excluding children under one year of age).

Adequate number of toilet and wash basins available for the number of children in care.

Additional Health & Safety Requirements

Additional health & safety requirements for child care facilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

♦ Minimum Staff Credentials
♦ Physical Environments
♦ Sanitation and Safety
♦ Nutritional Practices
♦ Admissions and Record Keeping
♦ Transportation Safety
♦ Access
♦ Child Discipline
♦ Plan of Scheduled Activities
♦ Urban Child Care Facilities
♦ Transition Periods
♦ Evening and Weekend Child Care
♦ Enforcement

Note: Additional licensing and training standards are located in s. 402.305, Florida Statues, and Chapters 65C-20, 65C-22 and 65C-25, Florida Administrative Code specific to the role(s) of child care personnel and the type of child care program.

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