

Summary of **Proposed** Changes to the Regulations for Child Care Centers and Group Child Care Homes

Section 19a-79-1a. Definitions

- Requires the director to be on site at the program fifty percent of the hours the child care program is in operation on a weekly basis.
- Redefines employment, group child care home, non-program staff, program staff, school age, and staff.

Section 19a-79-3a. Administration

- Makes clear that program staff must receive new staff orientation, and annual training of the programs policies, plans and procedures and emergency preparedness training.
- Makes clear the posting of Developmental Milestones does not need to be posted for programs that serve school age only.

Section 19a-79-4a. Staffing

- Requires the director be on site for fifty percent of the time the child care center or group child care home is in operation on a weekly basis.
- Makes clear that those staff hired after October 1, 2024 must complete health and safety training within three months of their date of hire.
- Makes clear that persons applying to be education consultants must have one or more years overseeing and managing a licensed child care center that meets the standards comparable to those in CT.

Section 19a-79-5a. Record Keeping

- Clarifies that the operator shall immediately notify the parent of a child if their child exhibits or develops an illness or is injured while in care, but no later than one hour after discovery of such illness or injury.
- Clarifies the operator must maintain video recording created at the program for no less than 30 days and make such recording immediately available to the OEC but no later than the next business day.

Section 19a-79-6a. Health and safety

- Clarifies the requirements under CGS Section 19a-7f for children with a valid religious exemption prior to April 28, 2021 that they obtain a written declaration stating immunizations are in process.

Section 19a-79-7a. Physical plant

- Makes clear that indoor and outdoor space at the same address as the facility shall not be used for field trips unless the program takes reasonable efforts to ensure the health and safety of all children using such space.
- Specifies water from at least one drinking beverage and food preparation sink, and at least two sinks if the facility has more than one, shall be tested every two years for lead content.

Section 19a-79-9 Administration of medications

- Updates regulations adopted by DPH regarding the emergency distribution of potassium iodide during a public health emergency declared by the Governor for those programs within the Millstone Emergency Planning Zones (EPZ).

Section 19a-79-10. Under three endorsement

- The height of a fence used to enclose infant toddler play space is now specified as four feet for those spaces licensed on and after January 1, 2025

Section 19a-79-11. School age children endorsement

- The proposed ratio of program staff to children has changed from 1:10 to 1:15.

October 23, 2023