

Summary of First Set of Proposed Rule Changes

Off Premise Activities for Centers – Rule .0512

This section is new. The rules did not previously have a dedicated section concerning activities that take place away from the center.

1. Children under the age of three may not participate in off premise activities that involve children being transported in a vehicle.
2. Written permission from the child's parent is required to transport or walk children off the premises.
3. Parents may provide standing written permission valid for 12 months for children to participate in regular activities held off the premises.
4. The facility will post a schedule of field trips in each participating room and give parents a copy.
5. Staff must keep with them a list of the children participating in the field trip.

See the proposed language for the full text.

Condition of Outdoor Equipment - Rule .0605

Much of the language that has been added to Rule .0605 is not new, but has been transferred from Rule .0604. This will result in having all rules related to the outdoor area in one section.

1. Only stationary outdoor equipment that is over 18 inches high must be installed over a protective surface. Previously there was no minimum limit for when surfacing was required.
2. Protective surfacing for playground equipment used by children under the age of two only has to extend a minimum of three feet. Previously six feet of protective surfacing was required, regardless of the age of the user.
3. If there are adjacent structures, and one is more than 18" but less than 30" tall, protective surfacing is only required to extend a minimum of nine feet. Previously a distance of 12 feet between the two structures was required.

See the proposed language for the full text.

Sanitary Food Service – Rule .0805

1. Centers may serve food directly on a sanitized high chair tray. The tray must be sanitized in accordance with environmental health standards.

See the proposed language for the full text.

Transportation by a Motor Vehicle – Rule .1003

1. Emergency and identification information about each child must be in the vehicle in which the child is riding. Previously the rule did not specify that the information must be in the vehicle where the child was located.
2. The driver must be 21 years old. Previously the rule allowed a driver to be 18.

3. Written permission from a parent is required before a child can be transported. Parents may provide annual written permission for routine pick-up and delivery of children from home or school.
4. The center must keep completed permission forms for off premise activities on file.
5. When transporting, an adult in each vehicle must have a working cell phone to use in case of emergency.

See the proposed language for the full text.

Care for School Age Children – Rule .2500

These rules will now be the same as the rules for orientation for all other staff, as required in Rule .0707.

1. By the end of the first two weeks a new employee must complete at least six hours of training on:
 - the recognition of the signs and symptoms of child abuse or neglect and in the employees' duty to report suspected abuse and neglect;
 - review of the center's operational policies; and
 - adequate supervision of children
2. By the end of the first six weeks each employee must complete at least three additional hours of training on maintaining a safe and healthy environment and developmentally appropriate activities for school age children.

See the proposed language for the full text.