Mississippi Child Care Quarterly

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Important Reminders for Cooler Weather

- If your facility has a nonelectric heating system, be sure to have carbon monoxide monitor placed closely to the system.
- Portable, open flame, kerosene space heaters, and portable gas stoves are not allowed in child care programs.
- All heating units must be properly vented to the outside and supplied with sufficient combustion air as required by the International Fuel Gas Code.
- Fireplaces and fireplace inserts must have a screen and be equipped with a protective guard.
- If you have a chimney, have documentation or proof it was cleaned within the last year.

Source: Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities, Rule 1.11.1 & Rule 1.11.8

The next Child Care Advisory Council meeting will be held April 24, 2020, 143B LeFleur’s Square, Jackson, MS 39211, 1:00p.m.
Amended Child Care Regulations

On October 9, 2019, the Board of Health approved amendments to the Regulations Governing the Licensure of Child Care Facilities and the Regulations Governing the Licensure of Child Care Facilities for 12 or Fewer Children in the Operator’s Home.

The amendments to the regulations were regarding the increase of licensure fees as authorized in House Bill NO. 289 (Mississippi State Legislature Regular Session 2016). The increase in licensure fees became effective on January 1, 2020. The amended regulations in their entirety have been posted to the MSDH Child Care website at https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/static/30,0,183,225.html. It is recommended that all licensed child care providers print a copy of the appropriate set of regulations for their records.

Flu and Cold Prevention

Flu and cold season is upon us. Take steps to reduce outbreaks. Yearly flu shots are recommended by the Center for Disease Control for everyone six months of age and older.

- Wash your hands OFTEN with soap and water.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs.
- If you are sick, limit contact with others as much as possible.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs are spread easily this way.

HANDWASHING 101

- Wet your hands with warm water and liquid or clean bar soap.
- Rub your hands vigorously together and scrub thoroughly past your wrists.
- Continue for 20 seconds-about the time it takes to read these instructions. Soap combined with scrubbing acts to remove germs.
- Rinse well and dry your hands with a clean paper towel.
Children represent the future.
Encourage, support, and guide them.
~ Catherine Pulsifer

Child Care Regulation Reminders:

- **Transportation**

  Rule 1.4.1, 3c– Transportation and safety policies and procedures are included in the parent handbook

- **Staffing**

  Rule 1.8.1, 1– The staff to child ratio shall be maintained at all times, to include when children are arriving and departing the facility.

  Rule 1.8.1, 2– Children shall not be left unattended at any time.

  Rule 1.8.2, 4– With the exception of children under two years of age, children may be under the direct supervision (staff in the same room) of 50 percent of the staff required by this section during rest period times, PROVIDED the required staff to child ratio is maintained on the premises.
Want to Become a Professional Development Trainer?

The *Professional Development Trainer Initial Application*, has been updated and placed on the MSDH website.

Follow the link below to access the updated application:

https://www.msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/resources/5050.pdf

For additional information, please contact Carol M. Bishop at carol.bishop@msdh.ms.gov

Child Development Associate Credentialing process:

To review requirements and steps to obtain a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, go to www.cdacouncil.org.

This site includes information regarding the application process, 120 hours of formal early childhood training, 480 hours professional work experience, CDA Professional Portfolio, CDA Professional Development Specialist, the CDA verification visit and the CDA Exam.

Questions? Please contact us.

MSDH Child Care Licensure
601-364-2827

www.healthyms.com