

Child Care Emergency Planning



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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

AUGUST 25, 2016

1. What constitutes “child care” in Maine?



- Types of child care:
 - Family Child Care programs (Certified)
 - ✦ In private residence
 - ✦ 3-12 children not related to the provider
 - Nursery Schools (Licensed)
 - ✦ 33 months-8 years of age
 - ✦ No more than 2 sessions/day, not longer than 3 1/2 hours in length
 - ✦ No hot meals served
 - Child Care Facilities (Licensed)
 - ✦ Child Care Centers
 - ✦ Small Facilities
 - License-Exempt Child Care

Scope of the Service



- Over 1,950 licensed and certified providers
 - 781 centers and small facilities
 - 1117 family child care programs
 - 62 nursery schools
- Total capacity: 44,000+ children
- 6 weeks – 12 years of age
- 24 licensors with average caseloads of ~ 80 providers

Child Care Centers and Small Facilities



Rules for the Licensing of Child Care Facilities, 10-148
CMR Chapter 32, Effective Date: August 27, 2008:

- "Child Care Facility" means a house or other place in which a person maintains or otherwise carries out a **regular program, for consideration**, for any part of a day providing care and protection for three (3) or more children under thirteen (13) years of age. Any program for children **under 5 years of age that is located in a private school and programs that contract with one or more Child Development Services System sites** are required to be licensed as a Child Care Facility.



- “Small Childcare Facility” means a house or other place, **not the residence of the operator**, in which a person, or combination of persons, maintains or otherwise carries out a regular program, for consideration, for any part of a day providing care and protection for **3 - 12** children under the age of thirteen (13).

What it is not.



- 1.5.2. “Child Care Facility” **does not** include a facility operated by a family child care provider, a **summer camp** established solely for recreational and educational purposes, **programs offering instruction** to children for the purpose of teaching a skill such as karate, dance or basketball or **a private school recognized by the Department of Education** as a provider of equivalent instruction for the purpose of compulsory school attendance, or **a formal public or private school** in the nature of a kindergarten or elementary or secondary school approved by the Commissioner of Education in accordance with Title 20-A.

Question of the Day



Is the relocation of children to a congregated site for the duration of a regional emergency “child care”, and does it therefore require licensure?

Is it a regular program?

Is it “for consideration”?

Is it in a private school or a CDS contractee?

Increasing Capacity Within an Existing Program



- 2.5. Changes in children served and licensed capacity. No person shall care for more children or for children who are older or younger than the childcare ratios and license allows. At the discretion of the department, the license may be amended or reissued to increase or decrease the number of children allowed or to change the age range of children that may be cared for by the facility.
- 2.19. Increases in licensed capacity. Requests for any increase in the number of children the Child Care Facility is licensed to serve **must be made in writing to the department**. No increases in the number of children a program is licensed to serve shall be made without prior written approval from the department.
- 18.4.1. Minimum usable space. The facility must provide a minimum net area of thirty-five (35) square feet of usable space per child.

How to apply for increased capacity



- Download application from the child care home page:

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/childcare>

- Complete the relevant sections and submit with fee
- The State Fire Marshal will determine capacity

Emergency Planning Within Child Care Programs



- **Your Inventory for Keeping Everyone Safe (YIKES)**
 - Planning guide updated 2015
 - Includes series of planning activities
- **Planning partners for child care providers:**
 - Maine Roads to Quality
 - MEMA
- **Can be downloaded at:**
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/childcare>
- **YIKES quick reference:**
 - Includes local and regional relocation sites

Questions?



- Contact me after the session:

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