



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE-MAKING**

In accordance with the R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35, as amended, the Department of Human Services (DHS) hereby proposes to amend the following DHS rules:

**218-RICR-70-00-7**

**Office of Child Care Licensing**

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, the Department is proposing rule-making to amend Group Family Child Care Home Regulations for Licensure. Effective March 23, 2021 the Department proposes the following changes:

- § 7.1.2 Added subsection “Purpose”
- § 7.1.3 Added subsection “Incorporated Materials”
- § 7.1.4 (A) Updated Definitions sections, including changes to definition of Group Family Child Care Home; added the following definitions: Approved Assistant, Capacity, Department, Department of Children, Youth, and Families, Emergency Assistant, Licensing Unit, Program, Provider, Substitute, Usable Floor Space, Variance, Waiver, Weapons
- § 7.3.2 G. Added paragraph “Prohibited Practices”
- § 7.3.2 J. Added paragraph “Hygiene”
- § 7.3.2 O. Added paragraph “Animals”
- § 7.3.2 P. Added paragraph “Equipment and Furniture”
- § 7.3.3(B) Added subsection “Diapering and Toileting
- § 7.3.3(C) Added subsection “Sleeping
- § 7.3.7 Added subchapter “Learning and Development”
- Updated language to the following subchapters:
  - §§ 7.2.1, 7.2.2, 7.2.3, 7.2.4, 7.2.5, 7.2.6, 7.3.1, 7.3.2, 7.3.3, 7.3.4, 7.3.5, 7.3.6, 7.3.7
- Reformatted the following subchapters:
  - §§ 7.2.1, 7.2.2, 7.2.3, 7.3.1, 7.3.2, 7.3.3, 7.3.4, 7.3.6, 7.3.7
- Changed titles of the following subchapters:
  - §§ 7.2.1 B., 7.2.1 C., 7.2.1 D., 7.2.2, 7.2.2 A., 7.2.2 B., 7.2.2 C., 7.2.2 D., 7.2.3, 7.3.1, 7.3.1 A., 7.3.1 B., 7.3.1 C., 7.3.1 D., 7.3.1 E., 7.3.1 F., 7.3.1 G., 7.3.1 H., 7.3.2, 7.3.2 A., 7.3.2 B., 7.3.2 E., 7.3.2 K., 7.3.3, 7.3.3 A., 7.3.4A., 7.3.4 B., 7.3.4 C., 7.3.4 D., 7.3.4 E., 7.3.4 F., 7.3.4 G., 7.3.5, 7.3.5 A., 7.3.5B., 7.3.5 C., 7.3.5 D., 7.3.5 E., 7.3.6 A., 7.3.6 B., 7.3.6 C., 7.3.6 E., 7.3.6 F.
- Revised order of Regulation, updated section numbers, updated Table of Contents accordingly
- Updated and added Citations as needed
- Technical revisions throughout

In the development of these rules, consideration was given to the following: (1) alternative approaches; and (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions. No alternative approach or duplication or overlap was identified based upon available information.

These proposed rules are accessible on the DHS website ( <http://www.dhs.ri.gov> ), the RI Secretary of State website (<https://rules.sos.ri.gov/organizations/title/218>), and available in hard copy upon request (401-462-2018 or RI Relay, dial 711). **There will be two public hearings held to consider the proposed amendments:**

**Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 2:00pm online via Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86713164735?pwd=bkZsY2RCNW5xRVpJZzJMMTF4VWN4Zz09>

**Meeting ID: 867 1316 4735 Passcode: 347847 Dial in 1-646-558-8656.**

**Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:00pm on line via Zoom:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83151280627?pwd=bStOQXBubEg4S2VYQkIvU296MnRIUT09>

**Meeting ID: 831 5128 0627 Passcode: 840713 Dial in 1-646-558-8656.**

Individuals with hearing impairments may request an interpreter's presence by calling 711 or Relay RI 1-800-745-6575 (Voice) and 1-800-745-555 (TDD). Requests for this service must be made at least seventy two (72) hours in advance of the hearing date.

Interested persons should submit data, views or written comments by April 22, 2021 to Tara Borges, Department of Human Services, Office of Policy Development, Louis Pasteur Building, Bldg. 57, 25 Howard Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920, or email to [tara.borges@dhs.ri.gov](mailto:tara.borges@dhs.ri.gov).

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