

RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Title of Rule: Child Care Center and School Age Program Regulations for Licensure

Rule Identifier: 218-RICR-70-00-1

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: October 6, 2023

End of Public Comment: November 5, 2023

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-12.5

R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-12-23

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The regulatory changes proposed in this filing are identical to the regulatory language originally noticed on 07/06/2023. During that public comment period, a technical error within the RICR system may have prevented comments submitted through RICR's attachment field from being received by the agency. Any comments submitted directly through RICR's text box option (with no attachments) or submitted directly to the agency were processed successfully. 218-RICR-70-00-1 is being noticed for a second public comment period to ensure that the agency receives all public comments as originally intended.

Comments that were received by the agency during the initial public comment period (07/06/2023 through 08/05/2023) will be considered and included in the agency's Concise Explanatory Statement. If you have questions about whether your comment was received by the agency, please reach out to the contact listed below. This amendment brings this regulation into compliance with Administration of Children and Families, Child Care Development Fund plan. The amendments are as follows:

1.5(E) Added Incorporated Materials for Emergency Preparedness and Response

1.9(L)(1) Updated/added language regarding emergency preparedness and response plan

1.11(G)(2) Moved chart from 1.11(G)(6) to correct section

1.11(G)(14) Removed "within ninety (90) days of employment"

1.11 (G)(14)(d) Moved language regarding new hires

1.11(H) Changed "Criminal Records Checks and Clearance of Agency Activity" to "comprehensive background checks"

1.11(H)(3) Removed language regarding substitutes not required to do professional development

1.12(C)(4)(c) Added language regarding staffing a school age program

1.12(F)(1) Added "and substitutes"

1.12 (F)(1)(c) Added clarifying language

1.13(A)(3) Fixed incorrectly numbered section

1.12(A)(1)(b) Changed "Criminal Records Checks and Clearance of Agency Activity" to "comprehensive background check"

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until November 5, 2023 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Tara Borges
Department of Human Services
Hazard Building # 74
41 West Road, 1st floor
Cranston, RI 02920
Tara.Borges@dhs.ri.gov

In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by a governmental agency or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the publication of this notice.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

These changes ensure that DHS is in compliance with Administration of Children and Families, Child Care and Development Fund Plan and to ensure families have access to safe child care through Child Care Centers and School Age programs.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.