Resources and Tools for Revising and Aligning Early Childhood Program Standards

January 11, 2017
Our Priorities

- Advance strong health, safety, and quality standards and licensing regulations
- Support the development and enhancement of state quality initiatives
- Enhance quality assurance systems through the use of technology, data analysis, and research
Presenters

◆ Nina Johnson

◆ Sheri Fischer
Presentation Overview

◆ Regulatory review process
◆ Tools for conducting research
  - Reviewing literature and guidance documents
  - Comparing state licensing regulations
  - Reviewing other child care program standards
Reasons for revisions

- Incorporate new federal requirements or policy guidance, e.g.,
  - Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014
  - Child Care and Development Fund Final Rule
- Align with other program standards
- Reflect the type of care setting and are culturally and linguistically responsive
New brief to be published February 1, 2017
Contents of Brief

- Getting Started
- The Licensing Requirement Review Process
- Formatting Licensing Requirements
- Finalizing Licensing Requirements
- Rolling Out New Licensing Requirements
- Use of Interpretive Guides
Components of the Review Process

- Conducting research
- Creating a collaborative workgroup
- Establishing review criteria
Focus on Conducting Research

- Analysis of current requirements
- Review of literature
- Comparison of licensing requirements from other states
- Review of other requirements that affect child care programs
Additional resources

◆ Building Support for Licensing
  ▪ [https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/building-support-licensing](https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/building-support-licensing)
  ▪ ECQA Center, update available Feb. 2017

◆ Best Practices in Human Care Regulation
  ▪ [http://www.naralicensing.org/best-practices](http://www.naralicensing.org/best-practices)
  ▪ Collaboration between NARA and ECQA Center
Tools and Resources for Regulatory Review Process
Tools for Conducting a Literature Review

- **Recommended Health and Safety Guidelines**
- **CCDF health and safety requirements briefs**
Recommended Health and Safety Guidelines

- **Caring for Our Children**
  - Full set: 686 standards
  - Stepping Stones (subset): 138 essential standards

- **Caring for Our Children Basics (CFOCB)**
  - Smaller set of minimum standards
Purpose of Health and Safety Briefs

To support licensing administrators and CCDF Administrators as they consider revisions to state standards for licensed and license-exempt providers
CCDF Health and Safety Requirements Briefs

Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases

This brief, one in a series of nine addressing health and safety requirements specified in the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014, provides an overview of prevention and control of infectious diseases for center-based and home-based child care settings. Licensing administrators and Child Care and Development Fund Administrators may find the brief helpful as they begin to assess and consider future revisions to state standards for both licensed and license-exempt providers. It may also be of value to early childhood and school-age care and education programs and providers in understanding and improving the health and safety of their learning environments.

CCDF Health and Safety Requirements Briefs

- Nine briefs based on CCDF health and safety topics
- Each brief has these sections:
  - Research and guidance on topic
  - Excerpts from *Caring for Our Children Basics*
  - Links to *Caring for Our Children* standards
  - Trends data on child care licensing requirements
  - Examples of state licensed child care requirements
  - Examples of state license-exempt child care requirements
  - Additional resources
Health and Safety Requirements Briefs

- Brief 1: Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases
- Brief 2: Administering Medications
- Brief 3: Prevention of and Response to Emergencies Due to Food and Allergic Reactions
- Brief 4: Reducing the Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and Using Safe Sleeping Practices
Health and Safety Requirements Briefs

- Brief 5: Building and Physical Premises Safety
- Brief 6: Emergency Preparedness and Response Planning
- Brief 7: Handling, Storing, and Disposing of Hazardous Materials and Biological Contaminants
- Brief 8: Transportation of Children
- Brief 9: Health and Safety Training
Tools for comparing state licensing requirements

- National Database on State Child Care Licensing Regulations
- Trends in Licensing Regulations and Policies for 2014
- Data Explorer
Welcome to the National Database of Child Care Licensing Regulations—a tool for finding and searching state and territory licensing regulations and agency contact information. Licensing requirements are frequently updated in response to new legislation, data analysis, provider feedback, and in response to new research and industry trends. This database can support licensing and Child Care and Development Fund administrators in exploring how other States and Territories have developed clear, measurable and achievable regulations to better inform child care providers and safeguard children’s health, development and well-being.

Choose a state from the map below or the list to the right. Select a State

https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/licensing
Features

- Direct links to all states’ licensing regulations and some statutes
- Downloadable and searchable PDFs of all licensing regulations
- Search content of licensing regulations by keyword
- Filter search by State, facility type, date, and regulation type
Kansas

Licensing Contact Information

Agency Name: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Child Care Licensing Program
Address: 1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 200, Topeka, KS - 66612-1274
Phone: (785) 296-1270; for county contacts, see http://www.kdheks.gov/bcclr/download/county_contacts.pdf.
Agency Web Page: http://www.kdheks.gov/bcclr/
Child Care Search Page: http://www.ks.childcareaware.org/for-parents-families/search-for-child-care/
Notes: Some cities and/or counties in Kansas have additional regulations. Please check with your city and county government for more information.

Licensing Regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulations for Licensing School Age Programs</td>
<td>07/01/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Licensing Laws</td>
<td>07/01/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulations for Licensing Day Care Homes and Group Day Care Homes</td>
<td>07/01/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulations for Licensing Preschools and Child Care Center</td>
<td>07/01/2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kansas Quality Rating Improvement System Rating Criteria Chart</td>
<td>QRIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-K Program Standards and Requirements: Kansas Preschool Program</td>
<td>PREK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Year Old At-Risk Program Standards and Requirements: Kansas Preschool Program</td>
<td>PREK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas Department of Children and Families Child Care Provider Handbook</td>
<td>CCDF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trends in Licensing Regulations and Policies for 2014

- Compilation of requirements from regulations
- 2014 NARA Survey of Licensing Programs and Policies
- Research briefs by facility type
Trends Research Briefs by Facility Type

- Child care centers

- Family child care homes

- Group child care homes
  [Link](https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/research-brief-3-trends-group-child-care-home-licensing-regulations-and-policies-2014)
Data Explorer

- State-level data from 2014 trends
  - Number and capacity of facilities
  - Ratios and group sizes
  - Preservice qualifications
  - Ongoing training hours
  - Background checks
  - Frequency and types of inspections
  - Additional data topics in process

- [https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/data](https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/data)
Data Explorer Search

![Data Explorer & State Profiles Image]
Data Explorer Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Infants (11 months)</th>
<th>Toddlers (35 months)</th>
<th>Preschool-age (59 months)</th>
<th>School-age (6 years)</th>
<th>School-age (10 years and older)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
<td>Group size not regulated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tools for Reviewing Other Child Care Program Standards

- National Program Standards Crosswalk Tool
- *Caring for Our Children Basics* Health and Safety Standards Alignment Tool
National Program Standards Crosswalk Tool

- Website: https://qrisguide.acf.hhs.gov/crosswalk/
Instructions -

Step 1 Choose Topics

- Children with Special Needs
- Eligibility, Recruitment & Transition
- Family & Community Partnerships
- Health & Safety
- Learning Environment & Practices
- Nutrition
  - Allergies/Other Special Needs
  - Food Storage/Disposal
  - Meal Preparation/Service
  - Meal Time/Environment
  - Reporting/Communications

OR

Step 1 Search

Search Keywords

Search

Keyword search

Choose topic and subtopics
Choose Standards to Compare  Step 3

Choose up to three standards:

- Association for Christian Schools International, REACH Standards and Indicators (ACSI)
- Child Care and Development Fund Final Rule (CCDF)
- Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards, Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, 3rd Edition; and Stepping Stones to Caring for Our Children, 3rd Edition (CFOC3)
- Caring for Our Children Basics: Health and Safety Foundations for Early Care and Education (CFOCB)
- Council on Accreditation After School Program Standards (COA-AS)
- Department of Defense Instruction and Effective Rating and Improvement System (DOD)
- National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs (NAC)
- National Association for the Education of Young Children, Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NAEYC)
- National Association for Family Child Care Accreditation (NAFCC)
- National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA)

[Compare Standards]

Table shows number of criteria
### Nutrition: Allergies/Other Special Needs

#### Caring for Our Children Basics: Health and Safety Foundations for Early Care and Education (CFOCB)

- 4.2.0.10 Care for Children with Food Allergies
  - Each child with a food allergy should have a written care plan that includes:
  - a) Instructions regarding the food(s) to which the child is allergic and steps to be taken to avoid that food;
  - b) A detailed treatment plan to be implemented in the event of an allergic reaction, including the names, doses, and methods of prompt administration of any medications. The plan should include specific symptoms that would indicate the need to administer one or more medications.
  - Based on the child’s care plan and prior to caring for the child, caregivers/teachers should receive training for, demonstrate competence in, and implement measures for:
    - a) Preventing exposure to the specific food(s) to which the child is allergic;
    - b) Recognizing the symptoms of an allergic reaction;
    - c) Treating allergic reactions.

#### Child Care and Development Fund Final Rule (CCDF)

- § 98.41 Health and safety requirements. (a) Each Lead Agency shall certify that there are in effect, within the State (or other area served by the Lead Agency), under State, local or tribal law, requirements (appropriate to provider setting and age of children served) that are designed, implemented, and enforced to protect the health and safety of children. Such requirements must be applicable to child care providers of services for which assistance is provided under this part. Such requirements, which are subject to monitoring pursuant to § 98.42, shall:
  - (1) Include health and safety topics consisting of, at a minimum:
  - (iv) Prevention and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions

#### National Association for Family Child Care Accreditation (NAFCC)

- 4.77 Children’s food allergies are posted in the food preparation and eating areas.
Caring for Our Children Basics Health and Safety Standards Alignment Tool

Users of the alignment tool

- Professional development program staff when reviewing training content
- Licensing staff and policy developers when drafting new standards or best practice guidelines and training new staff
- Quality rating and improvement system staff when developing and evaluating quality standards
- Training and technical assistance professionals in their work with child care providers
- Advocates and advisory councils as a blueprint for long-term planning
Sample CFOCB Standard

CFOCB 1.4.3.1, First Aid and CPR Training for Staff

“All staff members involved in providing direct care to children should have up-to-date documentation of satisfactory completion of training in pediatric first aid and current certification in pediatric CPR. Records of successful completion of training in pediatric first aid and CPR should be maintained in the personnel files of the facility.”

Alignment Example

Compare state licensing or quality rating and improvement system standards to CFOCB. The notes section can be used to document gaps in state standards or ways state standards exceed CFOCB standards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Check Alignment Level</th>
<th>State Standard</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✗ Full Alignment</td>
<td>The state standard reads, “All caregivers with direct care responsibilities must have current certification in pediatric CPR and documentation of current training in pediatric first aid. Training records must be on file at the operation and available for review upon request.”</td>
<td>The following elements are found in both standards: applies to all persons who provide direct care, requires pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR, training must be current, and documentation must be at the facility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Partial Alignment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ No Alignment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accessing Tools

◆ All tools and resources are available on the Child Care Training and Technical Assistance website at https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/.

◆ Contact us for more information about resources and technical assistance:
  - Sheri Fischer, sheri.fischer@icf.com
  - Nina Johnson, nina.johnson@icf.com
References

