Summer Safety

Summer is a great time to provide child care. There are so many opportunities to get outside and enjoy the beautiful weather. Here are a few tips to make your summer safe and enjoyable for you and the children you serve.

Sunscreen-
Remember that children’s delicate skin burns quickly and easily, sunscreen should be applied before going outside and reapplied after 3 hours. Make sure to get parental permission to use sunscreen. Forms are available on our internet site to download.

Water-
Keep those children hydrated. Summertime heat and running around can quickly land a little one in the danger zone of dehydration or heat exhaustion. Keep fluids accessible and offer them frequently. Watch for warning signs (excessive sweating, muscle cramps, dizziness are common symptoms).

Wading Pools-
A Wading Pool is defined as a pool with a maximum depth of 24 inches, capable of being manually emptied and moved. It must be emptied and disinfected with a bleach solution daily (1 cup bleach/1 gallon of water). Inaccessible when not in direct use and never be left unattended, thus creating a water hazard. If you use a wading pool you must have parents sign the wading pool permission form (found on our website).

Alternatives to wading pools-
- Sprinklers
- Buckets filled with colored water and paintbrushes
- Water Table with floating toys

Playground Equipment-
Make sure that equipment surfaces are safe. Inspect equipment when you head to your playground or a community playground. Slides and surfaces that face the sun can quickly heat up, wooden beams and boards can splinter, bolts and nails can loosen. Make sure surfaces are safe.
~Renewal Basics~

- Expect a renewal packet from us within 30 days (minimum) from the date your current license expires. Make sure you do not delay in completing ALL included forms and returning them to us!
- Background studies take time! Background Study forms filled out incorrectly will likely delay the process, make sure you review the forms prior to submitting them for accuracy!
- If English is your 2nd language please have an English speaker help you with your paperwork. Unfortunately we do not have interpreters available for the renewal process. We do not have forms available in any languages other than English so please have someone review your forms for accuracy before submitting them. If you have questions you can email us and we will try to answer your questions. We can also occasionally use a phone interpreter service for a scheduled phone consult, please check with your licensing social worker if you would like to request this service (requests will be reviewed by supervisors, not all requests are guaranteed).
- The Family Systems Application included in your renewal packet does not require notarization. Notarization is required for your initial application only!
- Make sure your home, or program house is ready to go for the renewal visit so we can complete our work as quickly and as efficiently as possible.
- If you are planning to close your business during the month of your renewal for vacation days, please contact your licensing social worker and inform them of the dates you plan to be closed.

We know the renewal process can be a stressful time for some providers. Our goal is to do our jobs to monitor safety compliance with Child Care Rule and Statute in manner that is consistent and fair. Please review the information in this article to prepare for your renewal.

Please take a moment to think about the renewal process itself, what information you have learned as a veteran provider, or the questions you’ve found yourself asking before that first renewal. Email your questions to us at:

childcare.info@hennepin.us
Connecting with parents in a relaxed way can be a challenge for any child care provider. Drop-off and pick-up times can be rushed and not the best time to interact with parents in a positive way. How about inviting the parents for an old fashioned ice cream social? The children can be involved with the planning by making invitations and planning the menu.

Try making invitations by gluing paint color samples on to Popsicle sticks (photo below) with the details written on the back. Children can put together the invitations by gluing precut shapes from the color samples and adding a pre-printed detail summary on the back.

Children will love selecting their own color for the invitation and putting them together.
Internet Ideas

1. An in-home preschool program for family child care providers. I’m not sure if we would be marketing this particular program and I know there are many other ones. This is just one I’ve heard about recently.

https://preschooldelivers.com/preschool-delivers/about/

2. There is a chart called Child Care Weather Watch. I’ve heard a lot of the child care centers use it to gauge whether it is safe for children to play outside. I like it because it includes wind-chill and humidity levels.


3. There is a program for Alexa and Echo called “MyMax.” It allows the provider to simply make a statement such as “Alexa, record a diapers change” and keeps a log for the parent.

http://lovemymax.com/

4. Preschool Pantry is covered through the food program and delivers meals to the provider’s home.

https://thepreschoolpantry.com/family-child-care-start
Summer Learning

Below is a link to Hennepin Library Early Learning page with literacy ideas for preschoolers.
https://www.hclib.org/programs/early-learning

Below is a printable reading guide for 0-12 year old children.

2018summer_all.pdf
The Following changes related to Family Child Care were Recently Passed

- Providers are no longer required to post correction orders in their facility. (beginning 8-1-18)

- Child residents in the childcare ages 17 and under will not be subject to fingerprint based background studies. They will be required to submit to local and state studies as previously done by supplying name and birthdate information.

- Child Care Providers are not required to adhere to the “Positive Supports Rule” for special needs children.

- Providers with a class D license can float down to a class B license on days when a 2nd adult caregiver is not available without needing to apply for a variance provided they adhere to the capacity/ratio requirements for the class B license.

- DHS is required to conduct regional meetings to discuss changes in Rule and gather input from child care providers.
Training Reminders Effective Jan 2018

Minn. Stat. 245A.02, subd. 2c Annual or annually; family child care training requirements. For the purposes of section 245A.50, subdivisions 1 to 9, "annual" or "annually" means the 12-month period beginning on the license effective date or the annual anniversary of the effective date and ending on the day prior to the annual anniversary of the license effective date.

Overview: The definition of “annual” was modified for the purposes of family child care training requirements to allow for the completion of annual training requirements within the one year period following the license effective date, or the one year period following the anniversary of the license effective date.

What do providers need to do?

Providers need to ensure that they, and the caregivers in their program, complete annual training requirements and provide documentation to their licensor at the annual licensing inspection, or after the licensing inspection within the applicable one year period for any training completed after the date of the inspection.

The definition of “annual” does not apply to CPR/First Aid or Child Passenger Restraint Training. CPR/First Aid training must be completed within two years from the date the training was most recently completed *THESE TRAININGS CANNOT LAP*. Child Passenger Restraint Training must be completed within five years from the date the training was most recently completed (if you transport children or place children in passenger restraints).

For substitute caregivers who work for multiple licensed family child care programs, it is recommended that these caregivers complete the SUID/AHT training requirements once every 12 months to ensure compliance for each program they provide care in.
Ongoing training
Minn. Stat. 245A.50, subd. 7

Ongoing training. Training requirements for family and group family child care. For purposes of family and group family child care, the license holder and each primary caregiver must complete 16 hours of ongoing training each year. For purposes of this subdivision, a primary caregiver is an adult caregiver who provides services in the licensed setting for more than 30 days in any 12-month period. Repeat of topical training requirements in subdivisions 2 to 8 shall count toward the annual 16-hour training requirement. Additional ongoing training subjects to meet the annual 16-hour training requirement must be selected from the following areas:

(1) child development and learning training under subdivision 2, paragraph (a);

(2) developmentally appropriate learning experiences, including training in creating positive learning experiences, promoting cognitive development, promoting social and emotional development, promoting physical development, promoting creative development; and behavior guidance;

(3) relationships with families, including training in building a positive, respectful relationship with the child’s family;

(4) assessment, evaluation, and individualization, including training in observing, recording, and assessing development; assessing and using information to plan; and assessing and using information to enhance and maintain program quality;

(5) historical and contemporary development of early childhood education, including training in past and current practices in early childhood education and how current events and issues affect children, families, and programs;

(6) professionalism, including training in knowledge, skills, and abilities that promote ongoing professional development; and

(7) health, safety, and nutrition, including training in establishing healthy practices; ensuring safety; and providing healthy nutrition.

Overview: The terminology for the list of additional ongoing training subjects to meet the annual 16-hour training requirement was also updated to align with the current Minnesota Knowledge & Competency Framework.

What do provider’s need to do?
All required trainings in section 245A.50 (Child Development and Learning; Behavior Guidance; First Aid; CPR; SUID/AHT; Supervising for Safety, etc.) completed in a given year continue to count toward the annual 16 hour training requirement for that year. If the provider or caregiver needs to complete additional training to meet the 16 hour requirement, the additional training must be selected from the subject areas in this updated subdivision.

Training offered through Develop is identified by the applicable Minnesota Knowledge & Competency Framework (KCF) Area and will count toward meeting the additional annual training requirement for license holders and caregivers.

Providers and caregivers may also select training outside of Develop and should consult with their county licensor if there are questions about whether the training will meet the ongoing training requirements.

There was no change to the number of annual hours (16) of ongoing training required for the license holder and any adult caregiver who provides care for more than 30 days in a 12 month period.
Child development and learning; behavior guidance training
Minn. Stat. 245A.50, subd. 2 Child development and learning and behavior guidance training. (a) For purposes of family and group family child care, the license holder and each adult caregiver who provides care in the licensed setting for more than 30 days in any 12-month period shall complete and document at least four hours of child growth and behavior guidance training prior to initial licensure, and before caring for children. For purposes of this subdivision, "child development and learning training" means training in understanding how children develop physically, cognitively, emotionally, and socially and learn as part of the children's family, culture, and community. "Behavior guidance training" means training in the understanding of the functions of child behavior and strategies for managing challenging situations. At least two hours of child development and learning or behavior guidance training must be repeated annually. Training curriculum shall be developed or approved by the commissioner of human services.
Supervising for Safety

Minn. Stat. 245A.50, subd. 9. Supervising for safety; training requirement. (a) Before initial licensure and before caring for a child, all family child care license holders and each adult caregiver who provides care in the licensed family child care home for more than 30 days in any 12-month period shall complete and document the completion of the six-hour Supervising for Safety for Family Child Care course developed by the commissioner. (b) The family child care license holder and each adult caregiver who provides care in the licensed family child care home for more than 30 days in any 12-month period shall complete and document: (1) the annual completion of a two-hour active supervision course developed by the commissioner; and (2) the completion at least once every five years of the two-hour courses Health and Safety I and Health and Safety II. A license holder's or adult caregiver's completion of either training in a given year meets the annual active supervision training requirement in clause (1).

Overview: The additional health and safety training topics required by the federal CCDF were incorporated into the existing training course. The six-hour Supervising for Safety for Family Child Care course for new license holders and adult caregivers was updated effective January 1, 2017, to include all of the required health and safety topics. Ongoing training for the required health and safety topics has been incorporated into the existing annual two-hour active supervision training requirement as Health and Safety I and Health and Safety II.

What do providers need to do?

There was no change to the requirement for newly licensed providers and caregivers to complete a six-hour Supervising for Safety course prior to initial licensure, and to complete a two-hour active supervision course each year. ** The newly required Health and Safety I and II trainings will meet the annual active supervision training requirement in the year completed. Each license holder and adult caregiver is required to complete each of the Health and Safety course once every five years.

Newly licensed providers and new caregivers who completed their initial six hour Supervising for Safety training after January 1, 2017, will need to complete each of the Health and Safety I and Health & Safety II within five years after they completed the initial six hour course, and then complete each of the two courses every five years thereafter.

All other licensed providers and caregivers have five years from January 1, 2018, to complete both the Health and Safety I, and Health and Safety II. Both courses must be completed by December 31, 2022, and then every five years thereafter. Although providers and caregivers have five years to complete this training, they are encouraged to consider taking advantage of these courses while they are offered at no charge through Develop until June 30, 2018.
SUID/AHT Exemption

Minn. Stat. 245A.50, subd. 5 (f) An individual who is related to the license holder as defined in section 245A.02, subdivision 13, and who is involved only in the care of the license holder’s own infant or child under school age and who is not designated to be a caregiver, helper, or substitute, as defined in Minnesota Rules, part 9502.0315, for the licensed program, is exempt from the sudden unexpected infant death and abusive head trauma training.

Overview: An exemption was added to the SUID/AHT training requirement to allow a person who is “related” to the provider, and who is not designated to be a caregiver, helper, or substitute in the family child care program, to care for the provider’s own infant or child without completing the SUID/AHT training.

Example: The provider’s own teenage child is not used as a helper in the family child care program. The teenager can care for their own infant or under school age sibling and is not required to complete SUID/AHT training. If the teenager assists in the care of any child who is not related to the provider, the teenager must complete SUID/AHT training. This exemption also applies to spouses and other relatives of the provider as defined in section 245A.02, subd. 13.

What do providers need to do?

Providers may allow an individual related to them who has not had SUID or AHT training to care for the provider’s own infant or child under school age. If the individual will also care for other children in the program, they must complete the applicable training(s).
Get the Child Care Connector!

Thank you for reading! If you would like to receive future editions of the Child Care Licensing Newsletter via email, let us know!

Leave us a voice message at 612-348-3883

-or-

Email us at www.childcareinfo@hennepin.us