

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION EARLY LEARNING DIVISION

DIVISION 300

CERTIFIED CHILD CARE CENTERS

General Provisions

414-300-0005

Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in OAR 414-300-0000 through 414-300-0415, have the following meanings:

- (1) "Activity Area" means the area of the center that is available, during all the hours of operation, for the children's activities. This area excludes kitchens, hallways, toilet rooms, multi-purpose areas used by all children, lockers, office, storage areas, isolation quarters, staff room, furnace room, and that part of rooms occupied by heating stoves, or stationary equipment not used by children. Additional exclusions may apply for specific age groups.
- (2) "Attendance" means children actually present in the center at any given time.
- (3) "Capacity" means the total number of children allowed in the center at any one time, based on the available indoor and outdoor square footage, the number of toilets in the center and the number of qualified staff.
- (4) "Caregiver" means any person in the child care center who works directly with the children, providing care, supervision, and guidance.
- (5) "Central Background Registry" means OCC's Registry of individuals who have been approved to work in a child care facility in Oregon pursuant to ORS 657A.030 and OAR 414-061-0000 through 414-061-0120.
- (6) "Certificate" means the document that is issued by OCC to a child care center pursuant to ORS 657A.280.
- (7) "Child Care" means the care, supervision, and guidance on a regular basis of a child, unaccompanied by a parent, guardian, or custodian, during a part of the 24 hours of the day, with or without compensation. Child care does not include the care provided:
 - (a) In the home of the child;
 - (b) By the child's parent or guardian, or person acting in loco parentis;
 - (c) By a person related to the child by blood or marriage within the fourth degree as determined by civil law;
 - (d) On an occasional basis by a person, sponsor, or organization not ordinarily engaged in providing child care; or
 - (e) By providers of medical services.

(8) "Child Care Area" means that indoor and outdoor area specifically certified for use by the center and includes all activity areas and other areas of the facility used to provide child care, such as kitchen, toilet rooms, offices, storage areas, and rooms used solely for napping or eating. This may be a specific portion or portions of the building and grounds of a larger facility or one or more buildings at the same location.

(9) "Child Care Child" means any child six weeks of age or older and under 13 years of age, or a child with special needs under the age of 18 who requires a level of care over and above the norm for his/her age, for whom the child care center has supervisory responsibility in the temporary absence of the parent.

(10) "Child Care Center" or "Center" means a child care facility that is certified to care for thirteen or more children, or a facility that is certified to care for twelve or fewer children and located in a building constructed as other than a single family dwelling.

(11) "Child with Special Needs" means a child under the age of 18 who requires a level of care over and above the norm for his/her age due to a physical, developmental, behavioral, mental or medical disability.

(12) "OCC" means the Office of Child Care of the Department of Education or the Administrator or staff of the Office of Child Care.

(13) "Child Care Facility" means any facility that provides child care to children, including a child care center, certified family child care home, and registered family child care home. It includes those known under a descriptive name, such as nursery school, preschool, kindergarten, child play school, before or after school care, or child development center, except those excluded under ORS 657A.250. This term applies to the total child care operation and includes the physical setting, administration, staff, equipment, program, and care of children.

(14) "Civil Penalty" means a fine imposed by OCC on a facility for violation of these rules.

(15) "Comparable group care program" means a program which has the following elements:

(a) Staff are supervised by knowledgeable professionals;

(b) Training of staff is provided or required annually;

(c) Group size is similar to a certified child care facility;

(d) Curriculum is age appropriate; and

(e) The program is not providing uncertified drop-in care.

(16) "Contracted services" means activities (e.g., tumbling, music) provided by an organization or program other than the center, where non-center staff come into the center or the children are transported to another location.

(17) "Director" means a person who is designated by the operator as director or administrator of the center and who meets the qualifications of director pursuant to OAR 414-300-0080.

(18) "Drop-in Care" means care provided on an unscheduled, irregular basis, any time of the day or night, exclusively for drop-in children in a child care center.

(19) "Enrollment" means all children registered to attend the center.

(20) "Group" means a specific number of children assigned to specific staff.

(21) "Guidance and discipline" means the on-going process of helping children develop self control and assume responsibility for their own acts.

(22) "Head Teacher" means the person(s) who is responsible for the development and implementation of the program of activities for each infant and toddler, preschool age, and school-age program in the center.

(23) "Infant" means a child who is at least six weeks of age but is not yet walking alone.

(24) "Infant and Toddler Age Program" means care and education provided in a center, or part of a center, to children between the ages of six weeks and thirty-six months.

(25) "Night Care" means care given to children who sleep at the child care center for all or part of the night.

(26) "Nonserious Violation" means OCC has made a valid finding when assessing a complaint alleging a violation not listed in OAR 414-300-0005(42)

(27) "Occasional" means infrequently or sporadically, including but not limited to care that is provided during summer or other holiday breaks when children are not attending school, but not to exceed 70 calendar days in a year.

(28) "Operator" means the person, group, corporation, partnership, governing body, association, or other public or private organization legally responsible for the overall operation of the center and who has the authority to perform the duties necessary to meet certification requirements. If the operator is other than the owner, an individual must be appointed as the operator by the owner.

(29) "Oregon Registry" means the voluntary registry at the Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education at Portland State University that documents the training, education and experience of individuals who work in childhood care and education.

(30) "Outbreak of a communicable disease" means two cases from separate households associated with a suspected common source.

(31) "Owner" means the person, group, corporation, partnership, governing body, association, or other public or private organization which holds the child care center as property and has a major financial stake in the operation of the center. The owner may or may not be active in the operation of the center; the owner may also be the operator.

(32) "Parent" means parent(s), custodian(s), or guardian(s), exercising physical care and legal custody of the child.

(33) "Parent cooperative" means a child care program in which:

(a) Care is provided by parents on a rotating basis;

(b) Membership in the cooperative includes parents;

(c) There are written policies and procedures; and

(d) A board of directors that includes parents of the children cared for by the cooperative controls the policies and procedures of the program.

(34) "Premises" means the structure that is identified on the application, including indoors and outdoors and space not directly used for child care.

(35) "Preschool-Age Child" means a child who is 36 months of age to eligible to be enrolled in the first grade and, during the months of summer vacation from school, eligible to be enrolled in the first grade in the next school year. For purposes of these rules, children attending kindergarten may be considered school-age children.

(36) "Preschool-Age Program" means care and education provided in a center, or part of a center, to children 36 months of age to attending kindergarten.

(37) "Program" means all activities and care provided for the children during their hours of attendance at the center.

(38) "Qualifying Teaching Experience" means:

(a) For infant/toddler and preschool age groups, 1,500 hours, gained with a group of the same age children in at least three-hour blocks, within a 36-month period;

(b) For school-age groups, 600 hours, gained with a group of the same age children in at least three-hour blocks, within a 36-month period. Qualifying teaching experience must be documented. Time spent in a college practicum or practice teaching is considered qualifying teaching experience. The following does not constitute qualifying teaching experience: leader of a scout troop; Sunday school teacher; and coaching.

(38) "Sanitizing" means using a bactericidal treatment that provides enough heat or concentration of chemicals for enough time to reduce the bacterial count, including disease-producing organisms, to a safe level on utensils, equipment, and toys.

(40) "School-Age Child" means a child eligible to be enrolled in the first grade or above and, during the months of summer vacation from school, a child eligible to be enrolled in the first grade or above in the next school year, up to age 13. For purposes of these rules, children attending kindergarten may be considered school-age children.

(41) "School-Age Program" means care and education provided in a center, part of a center, school or other facility to children attending kindergarten or eligible to be enrolled in the first grade or above and, during the months of summer vacation from school, eligible to be enrolled in the first grade or above in the next school year.

(42) "Serious complaint" means a complaint filed against:

(a) A certified child care center by a person who has alleged that:

(A) Children are in imminent danger;

(B) There are more children in care than allowed by certified capacity;

(C) Corporal punishment is being used;

(D) Children are not being supervised;

(E) Multiple or serious fire, health or safety hazards are present in the center;

(F) Extreme unsanitary conditions are present in the center; or

(G) Adults are in the center who are not enrolled in the Central Background Registry; or

(b) A facility providing child care, as defined ORS 657A.250(3), which is not a certified child care center by a person who has alleged that there are more children in care than allowed by law.

(43) "Serious Violation" means OCC has made a valid finding when assessing a complaint that alleges:

(a) Children are in imminent danger;

- (b) There are more children in care than allowed by law;
- (c) Corporal punishment is being used;
- (d) Children are not being supervised;
- (e) Multiple or serious fire, health or safety hazards are present in the home;
- (f) Extreme unsanitary conditions are present in the center;
- (g) Adults are in the center who are not enrolled in the Central Background Registry; or
- (h) A facility is providing child care as defined in ORS 657A.250(4) which is not a certified child care center, by a person who has alleged that there are more children in care than allowed by law.

(44) "Site Director/Supervisor" means the person in charge of the facility at a site which is part of a larger multi-site program.

(45) "Site Coordinator" means the person responsible for coordinating over-all management and operation of a number of sites in a multi-site program.

(46) "Staff" means an individual who is the director, an employee, or a volunteer who is in the center for more than a single activity.

(47) "Substitute Director" means the person in charge of the center during the hours of operation when the director is not on site.

(48) "Supervision" means the act of caring for a child or group of children. This includes awareness of and responsibility for the ongoing activity of each child. It requires physical presence, knowledge of program requirements and children's needs, and accountability for their care and well-being. Supervision also requires that staff be near and have ready access to children in order to intervene when needed.

(49) "Teacher" means a caregiver who plans and implements daily activities for a designated group of children and who meets the qualifications of teacher pursuant to OAR 414-300-0100.

(50) "Teacher Aide" means a caregiver who works under the direct supervision of a teacher and who meets the qualifications of Aide I or Aide II pursuant to OAR 414-300-0110.

(51) "Toddler" means a child who is able to walk alone but is under 36 months of age. "Younger toddler" means a child who is able to walk alone but is under 24 months of age; "older toddler" means a child who is 24 months of age but under 36 months of age.

(52) "Usable Exit" means an unobstructed door or window through which caregivers and children can evacuate the center in case of a fire or emergency. Doors must be able to be opened from the inside without a key, and window openings must be at least 20 inches wide and 22 inches in height, with a net clear opening of 5 square feet and a sill no more than 48 inches above the floor.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 329A.260

Stats. Implemented: ORS chapter 329A

Hist.: CSD 21-1988, f. & cert. ef. 9-29-88; CCD 1-1994, f. & cert. ef. 1-12-94; Renumbered from 412-010-0605; CCD 1-1995, f. 10-30-95, cert. ef. 11-1-95; CCD 4-1999(Temp), f. 10-21-99, cert. ef. 10-23-99 thru 1-1-00; CCD 9-1999, f. 12-29-99, cert. ef. 1-1-00; CCD 4-2001, f. 7-13-01, cert. ef. 7-15-01; CCD 6-2003, f. 12-23-03, cert. ef. 12-28-03; CCD 1-2007(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 3-20-07 thru 9-16-07; CCD 2-2007, f. & cert. ef. 7-13-07; CCD 3-2009(Temp), f. 12-30-09, cert. ef. 1-1-10 thru 6-30-10; CCD 3-2010, f. 6-29-10, cert. ef. 7-1-10; CCD 8-2010, f. 12-29-10, cert. ef. 1-1-11

Certificate

414-300-0015

Issuance of a Child Care Certificate

(1) A certificate shall not be issued by OCC to an applicant who holds a medical marijuana card, grows or uses medical marijuana or distributes medical marijuana.

(2) A certificate shall be issued by OCC when it has been determined the center is in compliance with OAR 414-300-0000 through 414-300-0415. There are two types of certifications. These are:

(a) A regular certificate, which, except as provided in OAR 414-300-0010(4)(b)(A), is valid for no more than one year; and

(b) A temporary certificate. A child care center may not operate under a temporary certification for more than 180 days in any 12-month period. A temporary certificate is issued when:

(A) The center is in compliance with most requirements;

(B) There are no deficiencies identified by OCC that are hazardous to children; and

(C) The operator demonstrates an effort to be in full compliance.

(3) A certificate is not transferable to any other location or to another organization or individual.

(4) Any changes in the conditions of certificate shall be requested in writing to OCC and approved by OCC before the condition(s) of the current certificate may be changed. Changes include, but are not limited to, facility capacity, age range of children, or hours of operation.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 329A.260

Stats. Implemented: ORS chapter 329A

Hist.: CSD 21-1988, f. & cert. ef. 9-29-88; CCD 1-1994, f. & cert. ef. 1-12-94; Renumbered from 412-010-0615; CCD 4-2001, f. 7-13-01, cert. ef. 7-15-01; CCD 3-2009(Temp), f. 12-30-09, cert. ef. 1-1-10 thru 6-30-10; CCD 3-2010, f. 6-29-10, cert. ef. 7-1-10; CCD 8-2010, f. 12-29-10, cert. ef. 1-1-11

Personnel

414-300-0070

General Requirements

(1) The operator shall establish a system of job descriptions, staff selection, and staff evaluation. All caregivers shall:

(a) Have competence, sound judgment, and self-control in working with children;

(b) Be mentally, physically, and emotionally capable of performing duties related to child care; and

(c) Have the required training and/or experience for the position for which they are hired.

(2) There shall be a person or persons on the staff who meet(s) the qualifications of director (OAR 414-300-0080) and head teacher (OAR 414-300-0090). A person assigned the duties of the position must meet the qualifications of the position.

(3) Notwithstanding OAR 414-300-0120(3), there shall be at least one person in the center at all times who has current certification in first aid and CPR.

(4) Any staff with evidence of a child care-restrictable disease, as defined in OAR 333-019-0010, symptom of physical illness, as defined in OAR 414-300-0220(1), or mental incapacity that poses a threat to the health or safety of children shall be relieved of his/her duties.

(5) If there is evidence which casts doubt on the physical or mental competence of a person to care for children or have access to children, OCC may require that the operator provide OCC with an evaluation, or other information, as specified by OCC.

(6) No one shall have access to child care children or be in the center during child care hours who has demonstrated behavior that may have a detrimental effect on a child. This includes any individual in the center who has or may have unsupervised access, however brief, to child care children (i.e., the owner, the operator, all child care staff, maintenance staff who work on-site during hours of operation, volunteers who may be left alone with children, etc.). This does not apply to parents of children in care when they drop off and pick up their children:

(a) The operator, all child care staff and others as described in section (6) above 18 years of age or older shall be enrolled in OCC's Central Background Registry prior to the issuance of an initial or renewal certification;

(b) Prior to any new staff, including a director, or individual being on-site at the center during child care hours, the staff/individual shall be enrolled in the Central Background Registry and the center shall receive verification from OCC of the enrollment. This does not apply to parents of children in care unless they are assisting in the provision of child care. Volunteers may be exempt from this rule, as specified in OAR 414-300-0070(7);

(c) When a center is notified by OCC that a staff member or other individual has been removed from the Central Background Registry, the center shall not permit the staff member or other individual to have access to child care children;

(d) If any person listed in section (6) and section (6)(a) of this rule has been charged with, arrested for, or a warrant is out for any of the crimes which OCC has determined indicate behavior which may have a detrimental effect on a child, with final disposition not yet reached, certification will be denied or suspended until the charge, arrest, or warrant has been resolved if the person continues to operate, be employed in, or have access to children in the center;

(e) If a criminal record check shows that a warrant has been issued for any person checked, OCC will inform the originating law enforcement agency of the person's name, address, and telephone number.

(7) Alcohol shall not be consumed or stored on the child care center premises during the hours the child care business is conducted or when child care children are present. No one shall be under the influence of alcohol on the child care center premises during the hours the child care business is conducted or when child care children are present.

(8) No one shall possess, use or store illegal controlled substances on the child care center premises. No one shall be under the influence of illegal controlled substances on the child care center premises.

(9) No one shall possess, use or store medical marijuana on the premises of the child care center. No one under the influence of medical marijuana shall be on the child care center premises.

(10) Marijuana plants, derivatives and associated paraphernalia shall not be kept on the child care center premises.

(11) Volunteers must meet the following requirements:

(a) If volunteers are counted in determining the staff/child ratios, they must meet the qualifications of the position they are filling and be enrolled in the Central Background Registry;

(b) If volunteers may have unsupervised access to children, they must be enrolled in the Central Background Registry;

(c) If volunteers do not have unsupervised access to children at any time, including during emergencies, the center must have a written policy to this effect, the policy must be known to all center staff and volunteers, and the volunteers do not have to be enrolled in the Central Background Registry.

(12) No person shall smoke or carry any lighted smoking instrument, including e-cigarettes in the child care area or within ten feet of any entrance, exit, window that opens or any ventilation intake that serves an enclosed area, during child care hours or when child care children are present. No person shall use smokeless tobacco in the certified center during child care hours or when child care children are present. No person shall smoke, carry any lighted smoking instrument, e-cigarettes or use smokeless tobacco in motor vehicles while child care children are passengers.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 329A.260

Stats. Implemented: ORS chapter 329A

Hist.: CSD 21-1988, f. & cert. ef. 9-29-88; CSD 10-1990, f. & cert. ef. 4-23-90; CSD 4-1991, f. & cert. ef. 3-7-91; CSD 8-1991, f. & cert. ef. 7-1-91; CCD 1-1994, f. & cert. ef. 1-12-94; Renumbered from 412-010-0630; CCD 1-1995, f. 10-30-95, cert. ef. 11-1-95; CCD 4-2001, f. 7-13-01, cert. ef. 7-15-01; CCD 2-2007, f. & cert. ef. 7-13-07; CCD 3-2009(Temp), f. 12-30-09, cert. ef. 1-1-10 thru 6-30-10; CCD 3-2010, f. 6-29-10, cert. ef. 7-1-10