|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Caring for Our Children Standards:**  STANDARD 1.1.1.2: Ratios for Large Family Child Care Homes and Centers \*Stepping Stones Standard\* Child:staff ratios in large family child care homes and centers should be maintained as follows during all hours of operation, including in vehicles during transport.  Child Care Centers • Less than 12 months of age, the maximum child-staff ratio is 3:1 and the maximum group size is 6. • Between 13 and 32 months, the maximum child-staff ratio is 4:1 and the maximum group size is 8. • For 3 year olds, the maximum child-staff ratio is 7:1 and the maximum group size is 14. • For 4 year olds, the maximum child-staff ratio is 8:1 and the maximum group size is 16. • For 5 year olds, the maximum child-staff ratio is 8:1 and the maximum group size is 16. • For 6 to 8 year olds, the maximum child-staff ratio is 10:1 and the maximum group size is 20. • For 9 to 12 year olds, the maximum child-staff ratio is 12:1 and the maximum group size is 24. | | |
| Current Rules | Proposed Rule Concept | Notes, Pros and Cons |
| Centers with certification in effect on July 15, 2001, shall comply with age groupings, staff/child ratios and group size in either Table 3A or Table 3B for as long as the facility is continuously used for child care, under the following conditions:   * + 1. The center must choose to operate under Table 3A or Table 3B; centers shall not operate under a combination of both;     2. If centers wish to change from operating under one set of ratios to operating under the other set of ratios, the change shall occur at the time of certification renewal; and     3. Centers may change options only twice. | Centers that are operating under Table 3B, must be in compliance with the caregiver/child ratio in current rule by xxx xx, xxxx. [Possibly a five year implementation plan.] | 231 Centers are currently operating under Table 3B.  Pros:  From ages 24 months to 30 months, Table 3A will allow one more child in the staff child ratio; 1:5 with a maximum group size of 10, as opposed to 1:4 from Table 3B, with a group size of 8.  Table 3A is closer to Caring For Our Children standards with the ages of 3 to 5 year olds.  Cons:  From ages 30 months to 35 months, Table 3A will allow 5 fewer children in the staff child ratio; 1:5 with a group size of 10 in Table 2A, as opposed to 1:10 ratio with a maximum group size of 20 in Table 3B.  Many centers are set up for Table 3B and do not have capacity to accommodate another age group; the 4 age groups in Table 3A compared to the three age groups ion Table 3B.  Note: Both Tables will allow for a 1:10 ratio from 35 months to attending kindergarten.  With attending kindergarten and older, both tables will allow a ratio of 1:15.  Impact:  **Centers Table 3B – survey information**  Survey sent to 197 out of 231 Certified Child Care Centers who are listed as operating under Table 3B.  62 Individuals responded to the survey 27% of facilities operating under Table 3B.  52% (32 centers) of respondents said they would be required to hire additional staff if they were required to move to table 3A.  42% (26) of respondents said they would need to make physical modifications to their buildings. Comments ranged from needing a new bathroom or classroom space to having no options for accommodating a change.  49.2% (33) of individuals added comments on other possible changes such as closing down, limiting enrollment to 36 months and over, decreasing overall capacity, etc.  Approximately 24% of respondents reported that changing to Table 3A would require no changes to staffing or facilities. |

Current Table 3A

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Age of Children** | **Minimum Number of Caregivers to Children** | **Maximum Number of Children in a Group** |
| Six Weeks of Age through 23 Months | 1:4 | 8 |
| 24 Months of Age through 35 Months | 1:5 | 10 |
| 36 Months of Age to Attending Kindergarten | 1:10 | 20 |
| Attending Kindergarten and Older | 1:15 | 30 |

Current Table 3B

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Age of Children** | **Minimum Number of Caregivers to Children** | **Maximum Number of Children in a Group** |
| Six Weeks of Age and Under 30 Months | 1:4 | 8 |
| 30 Months of Age to Attending Kindergarten | 1:10 | 20 |
| Attending Kindergarten and Older | 1:15 | 30 |