

Child Care and Education Committee Meeting Summary **for June 8, 2017 and July 20, 2017**

June 8, 2017

Required Training for Staff of Licensed Child Care Programs

- The committee would like to see a table of staff training and qualifications for easy review.
- The committee recommended pursuing rules that would require ongoing training be completed throughout the license period with periodic submission dates, perhaps every six months or maybe annually. The idea is to prevent providers from cramming in all the training right before their expiration date.
- Concerns about how low the required training hours are compared to the national standards recommended by Caring For Our Children. Discussion about increasing training hours incrementally over a several year period.
- Concerns about the proposal requiring that all training be verified by ORO. What about other trainings that may not fit within ORO's training criteria? ORO can be a cumbersome process with providers submitting training and not getting it verified in a timely manner. Want to hear back about ORO barriers and how it can be addressed.

Minimum Qualifications for Staff of Licensed Child Care Programs

- Committee recommended that the qualifications for Director of certified centers include increasing two Step levels in the Oregon Registry every two years until at least a Step 9 is attained in addition to the current requirements for training and education.
- The consensus was that qualification requirements for teachers and head teachers in certified centers include a minimum Step level in the Oregon Registry in addition to training and education requirements.
- Modify the minimum qualifying hours of experience for Aide II's in certified centers to incorporate experience gained while working at certified facilities other than where they currently are employed.
- The committee would like to see a grid comparing the continuum of qualifications of staff across all licensed types of care.

Caregiver to Child Ratio Tables for Certified Centers

- The committee discussed deleting Table B as an option for caregiver/child ratios. Recommended pursuing rules phasing out the Table over a five year period to lessen the impact on programs that are currently using Table B.

Caregiver to Child Ratio Tables for Certified Family Child Care Homes

- Committee recommended an emphasis be placed on encouraging a stable continuum of care when developing ratio tables.

Adding Minimum Square Footage Requirements for Registered Family Child Care Homes

- Committee members expressed concerns that low income providers could be impacted by a square footage requirement.
- Committee recommended researching other states child care licensing rules for comparison.

Increasing Rules for Program of Activities for Registered Family Child Care Homes

- Committee discussed the potential impacts increased requirements could have on providers.
- Discussed further limiting screen time for children in care. Possibly research other states' rules for comparison.

Increasing Rules for Children That Sleep in Child Care

- Committee discussed not allowing blankets to be in cribs with sleeping infants. This would follow national standards. Possible provider conflicts with parents that would like their infants to have a comfort blanket.
- Committee discussed not allowing swaddling of infants and the possible conflicts between providers and parents.
- Committee recommended following national standards by moving infants that arrive to care asleep in a car seat to a safe, flat sleeping surface. Possible provider and parent conflicts.

July 20, 2017

Adding Minimum Square Footage Requirements for Registered Family Child Care Homes

- Topic tabled for August meeting.

Minimum Qualifications for Staff of Licensed Child Care Programs

- Presented proposed rule language that would require directors go up two levels in the registry every two years until at least a Step 9 is attained. The committee wanted further information on the child development knowledge requirement.
- Pending licensing staff feedback, committee members reached consensus to remove the head teacher designation.
- Rules were presented that would require teachers to have a combination of training and experience. Committee reached consensus to move forward with the proposed rule language.
- Rules were presented that would require a staff person to have 240 hours of experience in any certified facility before they would qualify to be an Aide II. Committee reached consensus to move forward with the proposed rule language.