Definition of Family Day Care Home

An occupied residence in which child care is regularly provided for children from at least two unrelated families and which receives a payment, fee, or grant for any of the children receiving care, whether or not operated for profit.

Licensing Authority

Every family day care home in the state shall be registered or have a license which shall be renewed annually.

Capacity Requirements/Ratio

Includes children under 13 years of age related to the caregiver.

- A maximum of 4 children age birth to 12 months
- A maximum of 6 children, with no more than 3 children age birth to 12 months of age.
- A maximum of 6 preschool children, if older than 12 months of age
- A maximum of 10 children, with no more than 5 preschool children and of those 5, no more than two under 12 months of age.

Child Care Personnel Requirements

Operator Requirements:
- Good moral character based upon a Level 2 screening standards, as provided in Chapter 435.04, F.S.
- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Must be the occupant and licensee of the home.
- Must complete the 30-clock-hour family child care training (prior to caring for children), as evidenced by passage of a competency exam.
- Must complete the 10-hour annual in-service training.
- May not be employed outside of the home during hours of operation.
- Must complete 0.5 continuing education unit or 5 clock hours of approved training in early literacy and language development birth to 5 years of age.

Requirements for Substitutes:
- Good moral character based upon a Level 2 screening standards, as provided in Chapter 435.04, F.S.
- Substitutes for the operator must be 18 years of age.
- Must be certified in first aid training and infant/child CPR.
- Must meet additional training requirements.
Additional Health & Safety Requirements

Additional health and safety requirements for family day care homes include, but are not limited to, the following:

♦ Staffing Requirements
  o Personnel
  o Substitutes
  o Training
  o Supervision

♦ Health Records
  o Immunization/Physicals
  o Medical Authorization
  o Enrollments

♦ Enforcement

♦ Health Related Requirements
  o Hazardous materials
  o Play areas
  o Pools
  o Napping/Sleeping
  o Hygiene/sanitation
  o First aid/emergency procedures
  o Communicable disease
  o Medication

Note: Additional licensing and training standards are located in s. 402.305, Florida Statues, and Chapters 65C-20, 65C-22 and 65C-25, Florida Administrative Code specific to the role(s) of child care personnel and the type of child care program.

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