

1 **10A NCAC 09 .0102 is amended as published in 37:24 NCR 2212-2216 as follows:**

2

3 **10A NCAC 09 .0102 DEFINITIONS**

4 The terms and phrases used in this Chapter are defined as follows except when the context of the rule requires a  
5 different meaning. The definitions prescribed in G.S. 110-86 also apply to these Rules.

6 (1) "Activity area" means a space that is accessible to children and where related equipment and  
7 materials are kept in accordance with G.S. 110-91(12).

8 (2) "Agency" as used in this Chapter means Division of Child Development and Early Education,  
9 Department of Health and Human Services located at 333 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, North Carolina  
10 27609.

11 (3) "Appellant" means the person or persons who request a contested case hearing.

12 (4) "Asbestos hazard" means a condition that results in exposure to asbestos in excess of the standards  
13 set forth in 10A NCAC 41C .0607(a) or to a category of asbestos containing material defined at 40  
14 C.F.R. 763.88(b)(1)-(6).

15 (4) (5) "Basic School-Age Care" training (BSAC training) means the training on the elements of quality  
16 afterschool care for school-age children, developed by the North Carolina State University  
17 Department of 4-H Youth Development and subsequently revised by the North Carolina School-age  
18 Quality Improvement Project.

19 (5) (6) "Biocontaminant" means blood, bodily fluids, or excretions that may spread infectious disease.

20 (6) (7) "Child Care Center" means an arrangement where, at any one time, there are three or more  
21 preschool-age children or nine or more school-age children receiving child care. This does not  
22 include arrangements described in Item (18) of this Rule regarding Family Child Care Homes.

23 (7) (8) "Child Care Facility" means child care centers, family child care homes, and any other child care  
24 arrangement not excluded by G.S. 110-86(2), that provides child care, regardless of the time of day,  
25 wherever operated, and whether or not operated for profit.

26 (8) (9) "Child care provider" as defined by G.S. 110-90.2(a)(2) includes the following employees who have  
27 contact with the children in a child care program:

28 (a) facility directors;

29 (b) child care administrative staff;

30 (c) teachers;

31 (d) teachers' aides;

32 (e) substitute providers;

33 (f) uncompensated providers;

34 (g) cooks;

35 (h) maintenance personnel; and

36 (i) drivers.

- 1       ~~(9)~~(10) "Child Development Associate Credential" means the national early childhood credential  
2           administered by the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition.
- 3       ~~(10)~~(11) "Curriculum" means a curriculum that has been approved as set forth in these Rules by the NC Child  
4           Care Commission as comprehensive, evidenced-based, and with a reading component.
- 5       ~~(11)~~(12) "Developmentally appropriate" means suitable to the chronological age range and developmental  
6           characteristics of a specific group of children.
- 7       ~~(12)~~(13) "Division" means the Division of Child Development and Early Education within the Department  
8           of Health and Human Services.
- 9       ~~(13)~~(14) "Domains" means the developmental areas of learning described in the North Carolina Foundations  
10           for Early Learning and Development © 2013, available on the Division's website at  
11           [https://ncchildcare.nc.gov/providers/pv\\_foundations.asp](https://ncchildcare.nc.gov/providers/pv_foundations.asp). This instrument is incorporated by  
12           reference and does not include subsequent editions. The domains address children's emotional and  
13           social development, health and physical development, approaches to play and learning, language  
14           development, and communication and cognitive development.
- 15       ~~(14)~~(15) "Drop-in care" means a child care arrangement where children attend on an intermittent,  
16           unscheduled basis.
- 17       ~~(15)~~(16) "Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale - Revised Edition" (Harms, Clifford, and Cryer, 2005,  
18           published by Teachers College Press, New York, NY) is the instrument used to evaluate the quality  
19           of care received by a group of children in a child care center, when the majority of children in the  
20           group are two and a half years old through five years old, to achieve three or more points for the  
21           program standards of a rated license. This instrument is incorporated by reference and does not  
22           include subsequent editions. A copy of the scale is available for purchase on the Teachers College  
23           Press website at [http://www.teacherscollegepress.com/assessment\\_materials.html](http://www.teacherscollegepress.com/assessment_materials.html),  
24           [https://www.tcpres.com/search?search\\_term=assessment+materials](https://www.tcpres.com/search?search_term=assessment+materials). The cost of this scale is  
25           ~~twenty-four~~ ~~twenty-five~~ dollars and ninety-five cents (~~\$24.95~~). (~~\$25.95~~). A copy of this instrument  
26           is on file at the Division at the address given in Item (2) of this Rule and is available for public  
27           inspection during regular business hours. For the purposes of this Rule, "regular business hours" for  
28           the Division means 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during weekdays, excluding state holidays.
- 29       ~~(16)~~(17) "Experience working with school-age children" means working with school-age children as a child  
30           care administrator, program coordinator, group leader, assistant group leader, lead teacher, teacher  
31           or aide.
- 32       ~~(17)~~(18) "Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale – Revised Edition" (Harms, Cryer and Clifford, 2007,  
33           published by Teachers College Press, New York, NY) is the instrument used to evaluate the quality  
34           of care received by children in family child care homes to achieve three or more points for the  
35           program standards of a rated license. This instrument is incorporated by reference and does not  
36           include subsequent editions. A copy of the scale is available for purchase on the Teachers College  
37           Press website at [http://www.teacherscollegepress.com/assessment\\_materials.html](http://www.teacherscollegepress.com/assessment_materials.html).

1 [https://www.tcpress.com/search?search\\_term=assessment+materials](https://www.tcpress.com/search?search_term=assessment+materials). The cost of this scale is  
2 ~~twenty-four~~ twenty-five dollars and ninety-five cents (~~(\$24.95)~~, (\$25.95)). A copy of this instrument  
3 is on file at the Division at the address given in Item (2) of this Rule and is available for public  
4 inspection during regular business hours.

5 ~~(18)~~(19) "Family Child Care Home" means a child care arrangement located in a residence where, at any one  
6 time, more than two children, but less than nine children, receive child care. Family child care home  
7 operators must reside at the location of the family child care home.

8 ~~(19)~~(20) "First aid kit" is a collection of first aid supplies (such as bandages, tweezers, disposable nonporous  
9 gloves, micro shield or face mask, liquid soap, cold pack) for treatment of minor injuries or  
10 stabilization of major injuries.

11 ~~(20)~~(21) "Group" means the children assigned to a specific caregiver or caregivers, to meet the staff/child  
12 ratios set forth in G.S. 110-91(7) and in this Chapter, using space the Division has identified for  
13 each group.

14 ~~(21)~~(22) "Health care professional" means:

- 15 (a) a physician licensed in North Carolina;
- 16 (b) a nurse practitioner approved to practice in North Carolina; or
- 17 (c) a licensed physician assistant.

18 ~~(22)~~(23) "Household member" means a person who resides in a family home as evidenced by factors  
19 including maintaining clothing and personal effects at the household address, receiving mail at the  
20 household address, using identification with the household address, or eating and sleeping at the  
21 household address on a regular basis.

22 ~~(23)~~(24) "If weather conditions permit" means:

- 23 (a) temperatures that fall within the guidelines developed by the Iowa Department of Public  
24 Health and specified on the Child Care Weather Watch chart. These guidelines shall be  
25 used when determining appropriate weather conditions for taking children outside for  
26 outdoor learning activities and playtime. This chart may be downloaded free of charge from  
27 <http://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/Files/HCCI/weatherwatch.pdf>; and is incorporated by  
28 reference and includes subsequent editions and amendments;
- 29 (b) following the air quality standards as set out in 15A NCAC 18A .2832(d). The Air  
30 Quality Color Guide can be found on the Division's web site at  
31 ~~<https://xapps.ncdenr.org/aq/ForecastCenterEnvista> or call 1-888-RU4NCAIR (1-888-784-~~  
32 ~~6224);~~ [https://www.deq.nc.gov/mitigation-](https://www.deq.nc.gov/mitigation-services/publicfolder/library/news/brochures/air-quality-color-guide/download)  
33 [services/publicfolder/library/news/brochures/air-quality-color-guide/download](https://www.deq.nc.gov/mitigation-services/publicfolder/library/news/brochures/air-quality-color-guide/download); and
- 34 (c) no active precipitation. Caregivers may choose to go outdoors when there is active  
35 precipitation if children have appropriate clothing such as rain boots and rain coats, or if  
36 they are under a covered area.

37 ~~(24)~~(25) "Infant" means any child from birth through 12 months of age.

1 ~~(25)~~(26) "Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale - Revised Edition" (Harms, Cryer, and Clifford, 2003,  
2 published by Teachers College Press, New York, NY) is the instrument used to evaluate the quality  
3 of care received by a group of children in a child care center, when the majority of children in the  
4 group are younger than 30 months old, to achieve three or more points for the program standards of  
5 a rated license. This instrument is incorporated by reference and does not include subsequent  
6 editions. A copy of the scale is available for purchase on the Teachers College Press website at  
7 [http://www.teacherscollegepress.com/assessment\\_materials.html](http://www.teacherscollegepress.com/assessment_materials.html).

8 [http://www.tcpres.com/search?search\\_term=assessment+materials](http://www.tcpres.com/search?search_term=assessment+materials). The cost of this scale is  
9 ~~twenty-four~~ twenty-five dollars and ninety-five cents (~~(\$24.95)~~ (\$25.95)). A copy of this instrument  
10 is on file at the Division at the address given in Item (2) of this Rule and is available for public  
11 inspection during regular business hours.

12 ~~(26)~~(27) "ITS-SIDS Training" means the Infant/Toddler Safe Sleep and SIDS Risk Reduction Training  
13 developed by the NC Healthy Start Foundation and administered by the North Carolina Child Care  
14 Health and Safety Resource Center for the Division of Child Development and Early Education for  
15 caregivers of children ages 12 months and younger. Information regarding trainer and training  
16 availability can be found on the Division's website at  
17 [http://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/providers/pv\\_itssidsproject.asp](http://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/providers/pv_itssidsproject.asp).

18 ~~(27)~~(28) "Lead Teacher" means an individual who is responsible for planning and implementing the daily  
19 program of activities for a group of children in a child care facility. A lead teacher is counted in  
20 staff/child ratio, has unsupervised contact with children, and is monetarily compensated by the  
21 facility.

22 ~~(28)~~(29) "Licensee" means the person or entity that is granted permission by the State of North Carolina to  
23 operate a child care facility. The owner of a facility is the licensee.

24 ~~(29)~~(30) "Lockdown drill" means an emergency safety procedure in which occupants of the facility remain  
25 in a locked indoor space and is used when emergency personnel or law enforcement determine a  
26 dangerous person is in the vicinity.

27 ~~(30)~~(31) "North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential" means the state early childhood  
28 administration credential that is based on completion of required early childhood coursework taken  
29 at any NC Community College. Other post secondary curriculum coursework shall be approved as  
30 equivalent if the Division determines that the content of the other post secondary curriculum  
31 coursework offered is substantially equivalent to the NC Early Childhood Administration Credential  
32 Coursework. A copy of the North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential requirements  
33 is on file at the Division at the address given in Item (2) of this Rule and is available for public  
34 inspection or copying at no charge during regular business hours. This information can be found on  
35 the Division's website at <http://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/providers/credent.asp>.

36 ~~(31)~~(32) "North Carolina Early Educator Certification (certification)" is an acknowledgement of an  
37 individual's verified level of educational achievement based on a standardized scale. The North

1 Carolina Institute for Child Development Professionals certifies individuals and assigns a  
2 certification level on two scales:

- 3 (a) the Early Care and Education Professional Scale (ECE Scale) in effect as of July 1, 2010;  
4 or  
5 (b) the School Age Professional Scale (SA Scale) in effect as of May 19, 2010.

6 Each scale reflects the amount of education earned in the content area pertinent to the ages  
7 of children served. The ECE Scale is designed for individuals working with or on behalf  
8 of children ages birth to five. The SA Scale is designed for individuals working with or on  
9 behalf of children ages 5 to 12 who are served in school age care settings. Information on  
10 the voluntary certification process can be found on the North Carolina Institute for Child  
11 Development Professionals website at [http://ncicdp.org/certification-licensure/eec-](http://ncicdp.org/certification-licensure/eec-overview/)  
12 [overview/](http://ncicdp.org/certification-licensure/eec-overview/).

13 ~~(32)~~(33) "North Carolina Early Childhood Credential" means the state early childhood credential that is based  
14 on completion of required early childhood coursework taken at any ~~NC~~ North Carolina Community  
15 College. Other ~~post-secondary curriculum coursework~~ equivalences shall be approved by the  
16 Division as equivalent if the Division determines that the content of ~~the other post-secondary~~  
17 ~~curriculum~~ coursework or other pathways are offered ~~is~~ substantially equivalent to the NC North  
18 Carolina Early Childhood Credential Coursework. coursework. Equivalent coursework shall  
19 include, but not be limited to:

- 20 (a) a currently active Child Development Associate Credential from the Council for  
21 Professional Recognition, a Certified Child Care Professional Credential from the  
22 National Early Childhood Program Accreditation, or a Montessori Credential from any  
23 of the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, American Montessori  
24 Society, National Center for Montessori Education, or Association Montessori  
25 Internationale; or  
26 (b) a passing score on a test developed by the early childhood faculty of the North Carolina  
27 Community College System designed to demonstrate an individual's mastery of the  
28 concepts taught in early childhood coursework taken at any North Carolina community  
29 college.

30 A copy of the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential requirements is on file at the Division  
31 at the address given in Item (2) of this Rule and is available for public inspection or copying at no  
32 charge during regular business hours. This information can be found on the Division's website at  
33 <http://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/providers/credent.asp>.

34 ~~(33)~~(34) "Operator" means the owner, director, or other person having responsibility for operation of a child  
35 care facility subject to licensing.

1 ~~(34)~~(35) "Owner" means any person with a five percent or greater equity interest in a child care facility;  
2 however, stockholders of corporations who own child care facilities shall not be subject to mandatory  
3 criminal history checks pursuant to G.S. 110-90.2 unless they are a child care provider.

4 ~~(35)~~(36) "Parent" means a child's parent, legal guardian, or full-time custodian.

5 ~~(36)~~(37) "Passageway" means a hall or corridor.

6 ~~(37)~~(38) "Person" means any individual, trust, estate, partnership, corporation, joint stock company,  
7 consortium, or any other group, entity, organization, or association.

8 ~~(38)~~(39) "Premises" means the entire child care building and grounds including natural areas, outbuildings,  
9 dwellings, vehicles, parking lots, driveways and other structures located on the property.

10 ~~(39)~~(40) "Preschooler" or "preschool-age child" means any child who is at least three years of age and does  
11 not fit the definition of school-age child in this Rule.

12 ~~(40)~~(41) "Reside" refers to any person that lives at a child care facility location. Factors for determining  
13 residence include:

14 (a) use of the child care facility address as a permanent address for personal identification or  
15 mail delivery;

16 (b) use of the child care facility to store personal belongings such as furniture, clothing, and  
17 toiletry items; and

18 (c) names listed on official documents such as criminal records or property tax records.

19 ~~(41)~~(42) "School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale, Updated Edition" (Harms, Jacobs, and White, 2014,  
20 published by Teachers College Press) is the instrument used to evaluate the quality of care received  
21 by a group of children in a child care center, when the majority of the children in the group are older  
22 than five years, to achieve three or more points for the program standards of a rated license. This  
23 instrument is incorporated by reference and does not include subsequent editions. A copy of the  
24 scale is available for purchase on the Teacher College Press website at  
25 ~~[https://www.teacherscollegepress.com/assessment\\_materials.html](https://www.teacherscollegepress.com/assessment_materials.html)~~

26 [https://www.tcpspress.com/search?search\\_term=assessment+materials](https://www.tcpspress.com/search?search_term=assessment+materials). The cost of this scale is  
27 ~~twenty-four~~ twenty-five dollars and ninety-five cents (~~\$24.95~~). (\$25.95). A copy of this instrument  
28 is on file at the Division at the address given in Item (2) of this Rule and is available for public  
29 inspection during regular business hours.

30 ~~(42)~~(43) "School-age child" means any child who is attending or who has attended a public or private grade  
31 school or kindergarten and meets age requirements as specified in G.S. 115C-364.

32 ~~(43)~~(44) "Seasonal Program" means a recreational program as set forth in G.S. 110-86(2)(b).

33 ~~(44)~~(45) "Shelter-in-Place drill" means staying in place to take shelter rather than evacuating. It involves  
34 selecting a small interior room, with no or few windows, and used when emergency personnel or  
35 law enforcement determine there is an environmental or weather related threat.

36 ~~(45)~~(46) "Staff" or "staff member" as used in this Chapter includes child care providers, substitute providers,  
37 and uncompensated providers. Volunteers, as defined in this Rule, are not staff members.

1 ~~(46)~~(47) "Substitute provider" means any person who temporarily assumes the duties of a staff person for a  
2 time period not to exceed two consecutive months and may or may not be monetarily compensated  
3 by the facility. Any substitute provider must be at least 18 years of age and literate.

4 ~~(47)~~(48) "Teacher" means an individual who assists the Lead Teacher in planning and implementing the daily  
5 program of activities for a group of children in a child care facility. A teacher is counted in staff/child  
6 ratio, has unsupervised contact with children, and is monetarily compensated by the facility.

7 ~~(48)~~(49) "Teacher's aide" or "Aide" means a person who assists the lead teacher or the teacher in planning  
8 and implementing the daily program. A teacher's aide shall be at least 16 years old and less than 18  
9 years old, shall be literate, and may count in staff/child ratio as long as there is also a credentialed  
10 staff person who is at least 21 years of age present in the room and available to respond to the needs  
11 of the teacher's aide and children in care.

12 ~~(49)~~(50) "Toddler" means any child ages 13 months to 35 months of age.

13 ~~(50)~~(51) "Track-Out Program" means any child care provided to school-age children when they are out of  
14 school on a year-round school calendar.

15 ~~(51)~~(52) "Uncompensated provider" means a person who works in a child care facility and is counted in  
16 staff/child ratio or has unsupervised contact with children, but who is not monetarily compensated  
17 by the facility. Any uncompensated provider must be at least 18 years of age and literate.

18 ~~(52)~~(53) "Volunteer" means a person who works in a child care facility and is not counted in staff/child ratio,  
19 does not have unsupervised contact with children, and is not monetarily compensated by the facility.  
20 A person who is at least 13 years of age, but less than 16 years of age, may work on a volunteer  
21 basis, as long as he or she is supervised by and works with a staff person who is at least 21 years of  
22 age and meets staff qualification requirements.

23  
24 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88; 110-90.2; 143B-168.3;  
25 Eff. January 1, 1986;  
26 Amended Eff. April 1, 1992; October 1, 1991; October 1, 1990; November 1, 1989;  
27 Temporary Amendment Eff. January 1, 1996;  
28 Amended Eff. March 1, 2015; May 1, 2013; September 1, 2012; July 3, 2012; July 1, 2012;  
29 November 1, 2007; May 2006; May 1, 2004; April 1, 2003; July 1, 2000; April 1, 1999; July 1,  
30 1998; April 1, 1997;  
31 Readopted Eff. October 1, 2017;  
32 Amended Eff. November 1, 2023; February 1, 2022; February 1, 2021; September 1, 2019.

1 **10A NCAC 09 .0601 is amended as published in 37:24 NCR 2216 as follows:**

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3

**SECTION .0600 - SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS**

4

**10A NCAC 09 .0601 SAFE ENVIRONMENT**

6 (a) A safe indoor and outdoor environment shall be provided for the children in care in accordance with rules in this  
7 Section.

8 (b) All equipment and furnishings shall be in good repair. All commercially manufactured equipment and furnishings  
9 shall be assembled and installed according to procedures specified by the manufacturer. For equipment and furnishings  
10 purchased after September 1, 2017, the manufacturer's instructions shall be kept on file or electronically accessible, if  
11 available.

12 (c) Equipment and furnishings shall be sturdy, stable, and free of hazards that may injure children including sharp  
13 edges, lead based or peeling paint, rust, loose nails, splinters, protrusions (excluding nuts and bolts on sides of fences),  
14 and pinch and crush points.

15 (d) All equipment and furnishings not meeting the requirements of Paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Rule shall be removed  
16 from the premises immediately or made inaccessible to the children.

17 (e) Each child care center shall provide equipment and furnishings that are child-size or that can be adapted use by  
18 children. Chairs and tables shall be of appropriate height for the children who will be using them.

19 (f) Each child care center shall be free of lead poisoning hazards as defined in G.S. ~~130A-131.7(7)~~. 130A-131.7(7)  
20 and asbestos hazards.

21

22 *History Note: Authority G.S. 110-91(3),(6); 143B-168.3;*

23 *Eff. January 1, 1986;*

24 *Amended Eff. January 1, 1996; January 1, 1991;*

25 *Readopted Eff. October 1, 2017;*

26 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2023; February 1, 2021.*

27



1 **10A NCAC 09 .1707 is amended as published in 37:24 NCR 2216-2217 as follows:**

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3 **10A NCAC 09 .1707 BUILDING REQUIREMENTS**

4 The applicant shall ensure that the family child care home complies with the following requirements:

5 (1) all children are kept on the ground level of exit discharge; ~~with an exit at grade~~;

6 (2) all family child care homes must be free of lead poisoning hazards as defined in G.S. ~~130A-131.7(7)~~;  
7 130A-131.7(7) and asbestos hazards;

8 (3) all homes are equipped with an electrically operated (with a battery backup) smoke detector, or one  
9 electrically operated and one battery operated smoke detector located next to each other;

10 (4) all homes are provided with at least one five pound 2-A: 10-B: C type extinguisher for every 2,500  
11 square feet of floor area;

12 (5) heating appliances shall be installed and maintained according to the NC Building Code;

13 (6) all indoor areas used by children are heated when the temperature is below 65 degrees and ventilated  
14 when the temperature is above 85 degrees;

15 (7) pipes or radiators that are hot enough to be capable of burning children and are accessible to the  
16 children are covered or insulated; and

17 (8) children are cared for in space designated as the caregiving area on a floor plan provided by the  
18 operator to the Division as specified in 10A NCAC 09 .1709. Changes to the designated caregiving  
19 space shall be submitted to the Division 30 days prior to the new space being used by children.

20

21 *History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-86(3); 110-91; 143B-168.3;*

22 *Eff. October 1, 2017;*

23 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2023; February 1, 2021.*

1 **10A NCAC 09 .1725 is amended as published in 37:24 NCR 2217 as follows:**

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3 **10A NCAC 09 .1725 SANITATION REQUIREMENTS FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES**

4 (a) To assure the health of children through proper sanitation, the family child care home operator shall:

5 (1) collect and submit samples of water from each well used for the children's water supply for  
6 bacteriological analysis to the local health department or a laboratory certified to analyze drinking  
7 water for public water supplies by ~~the North Carolina Division of Laboratory Services~~ the North  
8 Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health every two years. Results of the analysis shall be on file  
9 in the home;

10 (2) collect and submit samples of water from each water outlet used for drinking or food preparation  
11 for lead analysis to the local health department or a laboratory certified to analyze for lead in  
12 drinking water by the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health. Results of the analysis shall  
13 be on file in the home. For operators that submit an application for licensure after the effective date  
14 of this Rule, water samples shall be collected by the operator and tested during the application  
15 process. For all other family child care homes, water samples shall be collected by the operator and  
16 tested within 12 months of the effective date of this Rule;

17 ~~(3)~~ (2) wash his or her hands prior to caring for children each day;

18 ~~(4)~~ (3) ensure that each child's hands are washed upon arrival at the home each day;

19 ~~(5)~~ (4) have sanitary toilet, diaper changing and hand washing facilities as follows:

20 (A) diaper changing areas shall be separate from food preparation areas;

21 (B) toileting areas shall have toilet tissue available at all times;

22 (C) all toilet fixtures shall be cleanable and in good repair;

23 (D) handwashing areas shall have soap and paper towels or other drying devices available at  
24 all times;

25 (E) diapering surfaces shall be smooth, intact, nonabsorbent and cleanable; and

26 (F) potty chairs and diapering surfaces shall be cleaned after each use.

27 ~~(6)~~ (5) use sanitary diapering procedures. Diapers shall be changed whenever they become soiled or wet.  
28 The operator shall:

29 (A) gather all supplies before placing a child on the diapering surface;

30 (B) wash his or her hands before, as well as after, diapering each child;

31 (C) ensure the child's hands are washed after diapering the child; and

32 (D) place soiled diapers in a covered, leak proof container which is emptied and cleaned daily;

33 ~~(7)~~ (6) use sanitary procedures when preparing and serving food. The operator shall:

34 (A) wash his or her hands before and after handling food and feeding the children; and

35 (B) ensure the child's hands are washed before and after the child is fed;

36 ~~(8)~~ (7) wash his or her hands, and ensure the child's hands are washed, after toileting or handling bodily  
37 fluids;

- 1            ~~(9)~~ (8) handwashing procedures shall include:
- 2                    (A)     using liquid soap and water;
- 3                    (B)     rubbing hands vigorously with soap and water for 15 seconds;
- 4                    (C)     washing all surfaces of the hands, to include the backs of hands, palms, wrists, under
- 5    fingernails and between fingers;
- 6                    (D)     rinsing well for 10 seconds;
- 7                    (E)     drying hands with a paper towel or other hand drying device; and
- 8                    (F)     turning off faucet with a paper towel or other method without recontaminating hands;

9            ~~(10)~~ (9) refrigerate all perishable food and beverages. The refrigerator shall be in good repair and maintain

10    a temperature of 45 degrees Fahrenheit or below. A refrigerator thermometer is required to monitor

11    the temperature;

- 12            ~~(11)~~ (10) have a house that is free of rodents;
- 13            ~~(12)~~ (11) screen all windows and doors used for ventilation; and
- 14            ~~(13)~~ (12) store garbage in waterproof containers with tight fitting covers.

15 (b) If reusable, cloth diapers are used, place soiled cloth diaper, after disposing of feces in toilet without rinsing, in a

16 tightly closed plastic bag or other equivalent container approved by the Division, stored out of reach of children and

17 sent daily to the child's home to be laundered or to a laundry service.

18 (c) The operator shall not force children to use the toilet and the operator shall consider the developmental readiness

19 of each child when toilet training. The operator shall provide assistance to each child to ensure proper hygiene, as

20 needed.

21 (d) The operator shall ensure that clean clothes are available in the event that a child's clothes become wet or soiled.

22 The change of clothing may be provided by the operator or by the child's parents.

23

24 *History Note:     Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88; 110-91; 143B-168.3;*

25 *Eff. October 1, 2017;*

26 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2023; September 1, 2019.*

1 **10A NCAC 09 .2204 is amended as published in 37:24 NCR 2218 as follows:**

2

3 **10A NCAC 09 .2204 PROVISIONAL CHILD CARE FACILITY LICENSE OR PROVISIONAL**  
4 **NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE**

5 A provisional child care facility license or provisional notice of compliance may be issued to an operator for any  
6 period of time not to exceed 12 months in accordance with the factors listed in 10A NCAC 09 .2201(b) for, among  
7 other things, the following reasons:

- 8 (1) a substantiation of one or more violations as a result of a complaint that do not meet the criteria for  
9 a maltreatment finding pursuant to G.S. 110-105.3(b)(3) but for which more than three months is  
10 needed to monitor for corrective action implementation;
- 11 (2) to allow a time period for correcting a violation of the building, fire, or sanitation requirements;
- 12 (3) to allow a time period for remediation of an identified lead poisoning hazard as defined in G.S.  
13 ~~130A-131.7(7)~~, 130A-131.7(7) or remediation of an asbestos hazard, regardless of whether a  
14 provisional sanitation classification has been issued;
- 15 (4) to allow a time period for correction of an administratively dissolved corporation status from the  
16 North Carolina Secretary of State;
- 17 (5) when the compliance history of the facility drops below the minimum requirement set forth in G.S.  
18 110-90;
- 19 (6) change of location of a child care facility without proper notification to the Division as specified in  
20 Rules 10A NCAC 09 .0204(b), .0403(a), and .1702(d); or
- 21 (7) pattern of noncompliance.

22

23 *History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(6); 110-90; 110-99; 143B-168.3;*  
24 *Eff. February 1, 2019;*  
25 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2023; February 1, 2021.*

1 **10A NCAC 09 .2206 is amended as published in 37:24 NCR 2218 as follows:**

2

3 **10A NCAC 09 .2206 SUSPENSION**

4 A suspension of a license or suspension of a notice of compliance may be issued to an operator in accordance with the  
5 factors listed in 10A NCAC 09 .2201(b) for a time period not to exceed one year for the following reasons:

6 (1) the operator of the child care facility is a corporate entity that has been placed under revenue  
7 suspension by the North Carolina Secretary of State;

8 (2) when the Division has issued a provisional child care facility license or notice of compliance related  
9 to building, fire, or sanitation requirements and the operator has failed to comply;

10 (3) to allow a specific time period for correcting a violation of building, fire, or sanitation requirements,  
11 provided that the appropriate inspector documents that closure of the child care facility is necessary  
12 to protect health or safety of children during correction; ~~or~~

13 (4) when a facility is required to test for lead poisoning hazards as defined in G.S. 130A-131.7(7) or  
14 asbestos hazards or the Division has requested such testing to determine compliance with 10A  
15 NCAC 09 .0601(f) or 10A NCAC 09 .1707(2) and an operator has failed to test for lead poisoning  
16 hazards as defined in G.S. 130A-131.7(7) or asbestos hazards; or

17 ~~(4)(5)~~ when a disapproved sanitation classification is issued to a child care facility.

18 The suspension of a child care facility license or suspension of a notice of compliance shall not be stayed during the  
19 pendency of an appeal.

20

21 *History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88; 110-90; 110-102.2; 143B-168.3; 150B-3;*

22 *Eff. July 1, 1988;*

23 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2001; November 1989;*

24 *Readopted Eff. February 1, 2019 (Transferred from 10A NCAC 09 .2205);*

25 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2023; February 1, 2021.*

26

1 **10A NCAC 09 .2209 is amended as published in 37:24 NCR 2218-2219 as follows:**

2

3 **10A NCAC 09 .2209 REVOCATION OF A CHILD CARE FACILITY LICENSE OR AN ORDER TO**  
4 **CEASE OPERATION**

5 Revocation of a child care facility license or an order to cease operation may be issued to an operator in accordance  
6 with the factors listed in 10A NCAC 09 .2201(b) for the following reasons:

7 (1) child maltreatment has occurred in a child care facility and harm occurred as set forth in Rule  
8 .2201(c)(2) of this Section;

9 (2) more than two determinations of child maltreatment have occurred at a child care facility within  
10 three years;

11 (3) violation of any section of G.S. 110, Article 7 or the Rules of this Chapter or 10A NCAC 10 has  
12 been willful or continual as evidenced by:

13 (a) a pattern of noncompliance, and the operator has not made efforts to correct repeated  
14 violations or is unable to comply; or

15 (b) the operator has failed to comply with the terms of a corrective action plan issued with a  
16 special provisional or probationary license or notice of compliance;

17 (4) violation of any section of G.S. 110, Article 7 or the Rules of this Chapter or 10A NCAC 10 is  
18 hazardous to health or safety of children;

19 (5) the operator fails to comply with an implemented protection plan as set forth in G.S. 110-105.3(e);

20 (6) the operator falsifies information in violation of G.S. 110-91(14);

21 (7) the compliance history of the facility drops below the minimum requirement set forth in G.S. 110-  
22 90 and the conditions at the facility are hazardous to the health and safety of the children or staff;

23 (8) receipt of a disapproved sanitation classification that is not corrected with a superior or approved  
24 sanitation classification within 12 months of issuance of a Suspension as set forth in Rule .2206 of  
25 this Section; ~~or~~

26 (9) the operator of the child care facility is a corporate entity that has been placed under revenue  
27 suspension from the North Carolina Secretary of State that has not been corrected within one year  
28 of issuance of a Suspension as set forth in Rule .2206 of this ~~Section.~~ Section; or

29 (10) the Division has suspended the child care license or notice of compliance and the violation has not  
30 been corrected after 12 months. The revocation of a child care facility license or a notice of  
31 compliance pursuant to this Section shall not be stayed during the pendency of an appeal.

32

33 *History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88; 110-90; 110-102.2; 143B-168.3; 150B-3;*

34 *Eff. July 1, 1988;*

35 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2001; August 1, 1990; November 1, 1989;*

36 *Readopted Eff. February 1, 2019 (Transferred from 10A NCAC 09 .2206);*

37 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2023; February 1, 2021.*

1 **10A NCAC 09 .2611 is adopted as published in 37:24 NCR 2211 as follows:**

2

3

**SECTION .2600 – MULTI-UNIT CHILD CARE CENTERS**

4

5 **10A NCAC 09 .2611 Scope**

6 The rules in this Section apply to child care centers with multiple units, licensed individually, in one building. All  
7 rules within this Chapter shall apply except as provided in this Section.

8

9 History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-86; 110-88; 110-91;

10 Eff. November 1, 2023.

11

1 **10A NCAC 09 .2612 is adopted as published in 37:24 NCR 2211 as follows:**

2

3 **10A NCAC 09 .2612 Definition of Multi-Unit Child Care Centers**

4 One building with multiple licensed units, each with a separate owner and entrance and each having its own physical  
5 and mailing address.

6

7 *History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-86; 110-88; 110-91;*

8

*Eff. November 1, 2023.*

9



1 **10A NCAC 09 .2613 is adopted as published in 37:24 NCR 2211 as follows:**

2

3 **10A NCAC 09 .2613      Licensure**

4 The Division shall make one or more inspections to each unit within the building and issue individual licenses if all  
5 applicable requirements of G.S. 110, Article 7, this Chapter, and this Section are met.

6

7 *History Note:      Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-86; 110-88; 110-91; 110-105;*

8 *Eff. November 1, 2023.*

9

1 **10A NCAC 09 .2614 is adopted as published in 37:24 NCR 2211 as follows:**

2

3 **10A NCAC 09 .2614 Outdoor Space**

4 Subject to the requirements in 10A NCAC 09 .0605, .1402, and .2809, the licensed units within the multi-unit child  
5 care center may share outdoor space provided the staff/child ratios and group sizes in this Section are maintained.

6

7 *History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-86; 110-88; 110-91;*  
8 *Eff. November 1, 2023.*

9

1 **10A NCAC 09 .2615 is adopted as published in 37:24 NCR 2211 as follows:**

2

3 **10A NCAC 09 .2615 Staff/Child Ratios**

4 The staff/child ratios and group sizes for children are as follows:

<u>Age of Children</u>	<u>Ratio Staff/Children</u>	<u>Maximum Group Size</u>
<u>0 to 12 Months</u>	<u>1/5</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>12 to 24 Months</u>	<u>1/6</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>2 to 3 Years</u>	<u>1/10</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>3 to 5 Years</u>	<u>1/15</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>5 Years and Older</u>	<u>1/25</u>	<u>25</u>

5

6 (1) when combining age groups, the staff/child ratio for the youngest child in the group shall be  
7 maintained for the entire group;

8 (2) when only one caregiver is required to meet the staff/child ratio and children under two years of  
9 age are in care, that person shall not concurrently perform food preparation or other duties which  
10 are not direct child care responsibilities;

11 (a) The unit shall post the name, address, and telephone number of an adult who has agreed  
12 in writing to be available to provide emergency relief and who can respond within a  
13 reasonable period of time; or

14 (b) There shall be a second adult on the premises who is available to provide emergency  
15 relief. This second adult may be a person in another licensed unit within the multi-unit  
16 center or support staff within the building.

17

18 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-86; 110-88; 110-91;

19 Eff. November 1, 2023.

20

1 **10A NCAC 09 .2616 is adopted as published in 37:24 NCR 2212 as follows:**

2

3 **10A NCAC 09 .2616 Provider Qualifications**

4 (a) The person who has the responsibility for administration of the program and planning and implementing daily  
5 activities for the group of children in their care shall meet the requirements for an administrator and lead teacher as  
6 outlined in G.S. § 110-91(8).

7 (b) When meeting enhanced standards, the person who has responsibility for administration of the program and  
8 planning and implementing daily activities shall meet the lead teacher requirements outlined in 10A NCAC 09 .2819.

9 (c) When meeting enhanced standards, additional staff within the licensed unit shall meet lead teacher or teacher  
10 requirements in Section .2800 of this Chapter as determined by their caregiving role.

11 (d) The person responsible for the administration of the program and program planning does not have to meet  
12 administrative hours as required in 10A NCAC 09 .0714(a).

13

14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-86; 110-88; 110-91;*

15 *Eff. November 1, 2023.*