

## Child Care Licensing Rule Change

July 7<sup>th</sup> – 3pm-7pm

Landis Rossi - Regional Director - Region IV  
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare  
*RossiL@dhw.idaho.gov*

Landis started out the discussion by asking each who attended to introduce themselves and provide information about their program, and the number of children they serve. The Caldwell Fire Dept. was present at the meeting, as well as Genie Sue Wepner and other Dept. H&W Staff.

Audience came from all over Idaho (CDA, Twin Falls, Rupert, Idaho Falls, Boise, Caldwell, Nampa). Around 30 people attending with programs ranging from home/group facilities – 6 -12 children and Child Care programs with over 50-120 kids

Landis opened up with questions:

Q- Do programs in cities with more stringent ordinances have to apply for city and state license?

A- They would apply for city license only. State statute is the default only if the city ordinance is **less** stringent.

Q- If you want to receive ICCP and have less than 6 kids, do you need a vender license?

A- Yes, if you want to receive ICCP funds, you have to apply for a ICCP vender license no matter how many children you care for.

Q- Training language was taken out of the statute. Is there no training required for providers?

A- No, the 4 hour training requirement was inadvertently left off the bill and will be added back in. **\*\*Those who attended the meeting wanted to exclude CPR and First Aid Training, and asked for at least half of the hours be Idaho STARS approved trainings. They also asked how Idaho STARS could play a role when the rural areas are finding it difficult to find approved trainings. Online-webinar, etc...**

Q- What are the hours required for CPR training?

A- No. **\*\*The audience seemed to agree the training hours should be up to the director of the program, and the quality of the training isn't the hours received, it's the instructor. They did want to add language that required face-to-face training and not online.**

Comment- There is conflicting language around staff-child ratios. i.e., a family day care provider with 6 of their own children, caring for 6 additional children isn't required to have a license and there for isn't required to have staff to child ratios. On the other hand, a Family day care provider with 6 of their own children, caring for 7 additional children is required to have a license which includes ratios of (1:6 if youngest child in the group is under 24 months)

A- Yes, (Landis) we are going to approach the legislature this year to clarify ratios.

Comment – I've had cared for 12 children in my home for over 15 years now and due to this new licensing requirement, I'll have to drop to 8 children? That's a loss of over 1,000 dollars per month.

A- Noted in records (two providers made this same comment)

Q- I take in foster care children into my program and need clarification on Immunizations. Currently, I've been told that if I don't have immunization records within 14 days, it's recommended that I take the children down to the health district and start their shots over?

A- New language will include "leniency for special circumstances" given to providers, grandparents and extend family members for required Immunization records.

Q- How about Immunization requirements for Providers?

A- There isn't a requirement for providers to have Immunizations. Will add clarifications to the document.

Q- There needs to be clarification on the Fire Code. What is checked, for example, Carbon Monoxide detectors are they required?

A- Yes, we can make more clarification with regard to fire code. However, we have found that Carbon Monoxide detectors are not effective and will not be required.

Q- There needs to be clarification on Background checks. What type of background check is required?

A- We will add more clarification to the language. At this point, if you are applying for a new license, you are required to complete the full (Federal) background check. When renewing your license, you are only required to do the \$10 Idaho State Police check.

Q- What about non-employees, are they required to have a background check?

A- After much discussion on this topic, Landis noted the language will add "12 hours or more a month of volunteer hours will require a background check. Not sure which?"

Q- With regards to Health and Safety checks, will the inspector be looking at indoor and outdoor equipment?

A- Yes, clarification will be added to include Safety inspection will include Indoor/Outdoor equipment.