

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

NOTICE OF INTENT #05-25

State Plan for Child Care Development Fund Services for the Period October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005

In compliance with the State's Administrative Procedures Act (APA - Title 29, Chapter 101 of the Delaware Code) and under the authority of Title 31 of the Delaware Code, Chapter 5, Section 512, Delaware Health and Social Services (DHSS) / Division of Social Services (DSS) provides notice of intent. This notice is being given to provide information of public interest with respect to the intent of DSS to submit to the Child Care Bureau an amendment to the State Plan for Child Care Development Fund Services for the period October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005.

Statutory Basis

- Section 658E of the Child Care & Development Block Grant of 1990, as amended; and,
- 45 CFR §§98.10 98.18

Summary of Amendment

1) Beginning June 2005 license exempt in-home providers are required to complete 45 hours of training consisting of Health, Safety & Nutrition (9 hours); CPR and First Aid (6 hours); Child Development (15 hours); Understanding Children's Behavior (12 hours); and Understanding Early Literacy and Language Development (3 hours).

2) Existing providers have six months upon notice from The Family & Workplace Connection (FWC) to enroll and complete required training.

3) New providers must complete training within 90 days of beginning their contract with the Division of Social Services. Classes are provided by the FWC and are offered during the day and evening.

A copy of the current Child Care Development Fund Services State Plan for the period October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2005 is available upon request by contacting Sharon L. Summers, Policy & Program Development Unit, Division of Social Services, P.O. Box 906, New Castle, Delaware 19720-0906 by mail or by fax (302-255-4544).

Section 6.4 - Health and Safety Requirements for In-Home Providers (658E(c)(2)(F), 8898.41, 98.16(j))

6.4.3 For in-home care that is NOT licensed, and therefore not reflected in NRCHSCC's compilation, the following health and safety requirements apply to child care services provided under the CCDF for:

- The prevention and control of infectious disease (including age-appropriate immunizations)

In-home providers: provide or maintain clean furnishings, free from rodents and insects; maintain documentation of immunization status; separate children with symptoms of illness from other children in care; provide a clean and sanitary place for storing and changing diapers; wash hands before and after diapering and before serving meals. In-home providers must self-certify that they intend to operate a healthy and safe facility.

- Building and physical premises safety

In-home providers: Screens must be in good repair; protective receptacle covers for electrical; outlets have or have access to a working telephone; operable flash lights; first aid kits; adequate space for play and movement; storage of flammable materials away from children; kitchens must be clean and food storage areas clean; compliance with applicable community regulations; play equipment must be safe; outdoor area must be accessible by a safe route; play areas near hazards must be fenced or otherwise protected, in-home providers must self-certify.

- Health and safety training

~~In-home providers: must read and review information provided about health and safety, and attend Office of Child Licensing workshops as deemed necessary.~~

~~In addition, these providers must attend an initial DSS sponsored workshop. This workshop explains DSS rules for care, its reimbursement policies, payment and attendance reporting requirements, and provides tips for good child care and safety practices.~~

~~Also, the providers are required to have both a child abuse registry and criminal history check. A negative outcome results in termination of service.~~

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8 DE Reg. 1736 (6/1/05)