
Standards for School Administered Child Care Programs, Rule 0520-12-01

The Background:

In accordance with T.C.A. §§ 49-1-1101 – 1109, the Department of Education is mandated to inspect and approve all programs subject to the State Board's jurisdiction pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-1-302(l). This includes all public and private school-administered infant/toddler, preschool, before- and after-school programs, as well as approved Montessori programs, TEIS early intervention programs, school-based and community-based Lottery Education Afterschool Programs, and 21st Century Community Learning Centers. These programs must be in compliance with Standards for Infant/Toddler, Preschool, and School-Age Extended Care Programs Rule, adopted by the State Board and certified by the Department of Education, and verified through inspection by the Department's child care program evaluators.

The major revisions included in the first reading item of this item were as follows:

- **Page 4:** Updates the definition of “school-age child.”
- **Page 4:** Updates the definition of “school-administered.”
- **Page 12:** Clarifies requirements for transportation drivers including a pre-employment drug screening and annual random drug screening. Additionally, clarifies that drivers only providing transportation for field trips do not have to have CPR and First Aid certification.
- **Page 13:** Outlines requirements for a bathroom supervision plan.
- **Page 15:** Adds ability for children age 2 ½ to be permitted to enter the 3-6 year old classroom.
- **Page 16:** Outlines criteria that must be met in order for parents or guardians to be included in the adult: child ratio for off-site activities.
- **Page 18:** Clarifies staff must receive training annually.
- **Page 20:** Establishes requirements for part-time teachers and teaching assistants.

Since first reading, changes have been made to:

- Page 16: clarify the required student age for class assignment.
- Page 18 and 51: streamline language for age requirements and staffing.
- Page 38-39: clarify the calculation of usable space.
- Page 43: add the P endorsement to the requirements for public school bus drivers.
- Page 45: Correct language for when the bus requires an adult monitor.
- Page 51: clarify training requirements for new employees.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.