
Standards for School-Administered Child Care Programs Rules 0520-12-01

The Background:

T.C.A. §§ 49-1-1011 through 1109 require the State Board of Education to promulgate rules for all school-administered child care. School-administered child care programs are child care programs run by public or private schools that provide child care to children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old, as well as programs that provide before and after-school care for school-age children in grades K-12.

The Standards for School-Administered Child Care have had minor revisions in recent years, but the most recent full revision was in 2018. This item proposes a comprehensive update to the rules to better align with changes in statute and current best practices and to address questions from program directors and teachers.

Changes include, but are not limited to:

- Reclassifying the rule as a rule of the State Board rather than under Rules of the Commissioner to align with T.C.A. § 49-1-302(i)(2)(A).
- Updating requirements for ratios and group sizes for specific populations.
- Updating requirements for physical activity.
- Updating requirements for staff training.
- Further revisions to streamline the rules and move reporting and recordkeeping recommendations to Tennessee Department of Education-created guidance documents.

The Department has gathered both internal and external stakeholder feedback on these revisions, including input from the Department's Child Care Advisory Council. In addition, the State Board will hold a public rulemaking hearing between first and final reading of this item to solicit additional public feedback.

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.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Teachers and Leaders outlined in the Master Plan to ensure all young children have access to high-quality environments, high-quality adults (teachers), and high-quality instruction.

The Recommendation:

The Tennessee Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.