

## **7.702.46 Infant Program Staff**

### **A. Staff Requirements**

1. If a center operates solely as an infant program, there must be a director who meets the qualifications for a director of either a small center or a large center (Sections 7.702.44 and 7.702.43), depending upon the number of children for which the infant center is licensed.

2. The infant program must have an infant program supervisor who has verified training and experience in one of the following:

a. A registered nurse, licensed to practice in Colorado, with a minimum of 6 months of experience in the care of infants.

b. A licensed practical nurse, licensed to practice in Colorado, with twelve (12) months of experience in the care of infants.

c. An adult who holds a certificate in infant and toddler care from a regionally accredited college or university with completion of a minimum of 30 semester hours in the development and care of infants and toddlers in a group setting.

d. An adult who is currently certified as a Child Development Associate (CDA) and has completed the Department approved expanding quality in infant and toddler development course of training.

e. An adult who:

1) Holds a current early childhood professional Credential Level III Version 2.0, as determined by the Colorado Department of Education;

2) Has completed one three-semester-hour class in infant/toddler development; or,

3) Has completed the Department-approved "Expanding Quality in Infant and Toddler Development" and holds twelve months of verifiable full-day experience working with infants and/or toddlers.

f. An adult who:

1) Is at least nineteen (19) years of age, and,

2) Is qualified as an early childhood teacher (Section 7.702.44, A), and,

3) Has a minimum of twelve (12) months of verifiable full-day experience in the group care of infants or toddlers; and,

4) Has completed at least two (2) three (3)-semester hour college courses from a regionally accredited college or university on the development and care of infants and toddlers in a group setting, one (1) of which must be infant/toddler development or the Department approved expanding quality in infant and toddler development course of training.

g. An adult who:

1) Is at least 19 years of age; and,

2) Is qualified as an early childhood teacher (Section 7.702.44, A); and,

3) Has at least two (2) years of verifiable full-day experience in the group care of infants or toddlers; and,

4) Will complete within the first 6 months of employment two (2) three-semester hour college courses from a regionally accredited college or university with one of the courses being infant/toddler development or the Department approved expanding quality in infant and toddler development.

3. An infant program early childhood teacher must have completed eight (8) hours of orientation in the infant program from the infant program supervisor including, but not limited to, the following topics:

a. Toys and equipment, appropriate activities for infants and toddlers, appropriate sleep positions for infants and toddlers, the safe and appropriate diaper change technique; and,

b. At least six (6) months of experience in the care of infants or toddlers; and,

c. Meet qualifications for an early childhood teacher found at Section 7.702.44, A, or be qualified as an infant program supervisor.

4. The infant program staff aide must be at least eighteen (18) years of age, must have completed eight (8) hours of orientation as listed above, at the infant program and must work under the direct supervision of an infant early childhood teacher.

5. There must be at least one (1) staff member on duty in each infant room at all times who holds a current Department-approved First Aid and Safety certificate that includes CPR for all ages of children.

### **B. Required Staff and Supervision**

(See chart in Section 7.702.45)

1. In the infant program there must be a qualified infant program supervisor present 60 percent of the hours of operation of the infant program who is responsible for the care of the infants. An individual qualified as an infant early childhood teacher must be responsible during the remaining time.

2. The infant program supervisor or an infant early childhood teacher must be assigned to each group of 10 or fewer infants in attendance. An infant program staff aide may be assigned to assist the infant program supervisor or early childhood teacher when 6 through 10 infants are in care in the group to maintain the staff ratio of 1 adult for each 5 infants.

3. There must be assigned at least one (1) infant program supervisor in the infant program for each 20 or fewer infants in attendance.

### **7.702.47 Toddler Program Staff**

#### **Staff Requirements**

A. If a center operates solely as a toddler program, there must be a director who meets the qualifications for a director of either a large center or a small center (7.702.42 and 7.702.43), depending upon the number of children for which the toddler center is licensed.

B. The toddler early childhood teacher, a staff member assigned responsibility for a single group and working under the supervision of the director, must meet at least one of the following qualifications:

1. A registered nurse, licensed to practice in Colorado, with a minimum of 6 months of experience in the care of infants and/or toddlers;

2. An adult who holds a certificate in infant and toddler care from a regionally accredited college or university with completion of at least thirty (30) semester hours or equivalent in such courses as child growth and development, nutrition, and care practices with children birth to three (3) years of age;

3. An adult who is certified as a Child Development Associate (CDA) or Certified Child Care Professional (CCP) or holds another Department-approved certificate;

4. A licensed practical nurse with at least twelve (12) months of verifiable experience in the care of children less than three (3) years of age;

5. An adult who meets the education and experience requirements for early childhood teacher of a large center (Section 7.702.44, A); or,

6. A current early childhood professional Credential Level II Version 1.0 or LEVEL III version 2.0 as determined by the Colorado Department of Education.

C. Staff aides must be at least sixteen (16) years of age, must work directly under the supervision of the director or a toddler early childhood teacher, and must have completed 8 hours of orientation at the toddler program.

D. For every fifteen (15) or fewer toddlers, there must be at least one staff member in the toddler program at all times who has a current Department-approved First Aid and CPR for all ages of children.