

Policies and Procedures Regarding Physical Plant Requirements
for Child Day Care Centers and Group Day Care Homes
(Effective December 22, 2011 until the time final regulations are adopted)

In regard to the physical plant requirements specified in section 19a-79-7a of the Regulations for Connecticut State Agencies, the following requirements shall NOT apply to programs that serve exclusively school age children:

- The building, equipment and services shall be maintained in a good state of repair. A maintenance program shall be established that ensures that the interior, exterior and grounds of the building are maintained, kept clean and orderly, free from accumulations of refuse, dampness, stagnant water, dilapidated structures and other health and safety hazards
- Windows that open to the outside and are used for ventilation shall be equipped with sixteen (16) mesh screening
- Electrical outlets shall be provided with safety covers or approved safety outlets
- Any unprotected glass doors, windows or mirrors to which children have access shall be protected to a height of thirty six (36) inches from the floor or surface on which a child stands
- There shall be an area available for the individual storage of each child's clothing and bedding
- The water heating equipment shall deliver water at the tap, the temperature of which shall be within a range of sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit to one hundred fifteen (115) degrees Fahrenheit. It shall have the capacity to deliver the required amounts at all times in conformance with the State of Connecticut Basic Building Codes
- Walls, ceilings, floors and rugs shall be maintained in a state of repair and be washable or easily cleanable. Rugs, if used, shall be secured to the floor
- There shall be effective measures taken to prevent vermin from entering or breeding in the child day care center or group day care home. All openings to the outer air used for ventilation shall be screened with a minimum of sixteen (16) mesh screening and doors shall be provided to prevent the entrance of vectors
- Adequate equipment for rest shall be provided. An individual cot shall be provided for any child who regularly remains five (5) hours or longer each day. When cots are shared, they shall be washed and disinfected and linens changed between children. In a group day care home, an individual mat or individual sleeping bag may be substituted for the individual cot
- Metal equipment shall be free from rust or chipping paint
- Hardware such as air conditioners, water heaters or fuse boxes shall be inaccessible to children
- Fences used to protect children from hazards shall be at least four (4) feet in height

Programs that serve exclusively school age children must maintain a building and equipment that is sanitary and free of health and safety hazards.

Programs that serve exclusively school age children may utilize program space with the ambient air temperature less than sixty-five (65) degrees Fahrenheit provided the temperature is warm enough to accommodate the activities with comfort. Programs that serve exclusively school age children may utilize program space with lighting less than the fifty (50) foot candles and thirty (30) foot candles required pursuant to section 19a-79-7a(e)(9) provided the lighting is bright enough to accommodate the activities with comfort.

Programs located in a public school or private school in compliance with section 10-188 of the Connecticut General Statutes and approved by the State Board of Education or accredited by an accredited agency recognized by the State Board of Education are not required to verify compliance with the water testing requirements of 19a-79-7a(c). Programs that are located in a facility that is subject to the requirements related to radon testing in school buildings pursuant to section 10-220 of Connecticut General Statutes are not required to verify compliance with the radon testing requirement of 19a-79-7a(e)(17).