

Rule Change Effective May 1, 2016

10A NCAC 09 .1718 REQUIREMENTS FOR DAILY OPERATIONS

- (a) Children shall be adequately supervised at all times. "Adequate supervision" shall mean that:
- (1) For pre-school age children, the operator shall be positioned in the indoor and outdoor environment to maximize his or her ability to hear and see the children at all times and render immediate assistance;
 - (2) For school-age children, the operator shall be positioned in the indoor and outdoor environment to maximize his or her ability to hear or see the children at all times and render immediate assistance;
 - (3) The operator shall interact with the children while moving about the indoor or outdoor area; and
 - (4) For children of all ages:
 - (i) the operator shall know where each child is located and be aware of children's activities at all times;
 - (ii) the operator shall provide supervision according to the individual age, needs, and capabilities of each child; and
 - (iii) all of the conditions in this Paragraph shall apply except when emergencies necessitate that adequate supervision is impossible for brief periods of time. Written documentation of emergencies stating the date, time, and reason shall be maintained and available for review by Division representatives upon request.
- (b) The operator shall provide the following on a daily basis for all children in care:
- (1) Developmentally appropriate equipment and materials for a variety of outdoor activities that allow for vigorous play, large and small muscle development, and social, emotional, and intellectual development. For purposes of this Rule "vigorous" means done with force and energy. Each child shall have the opportunity for outdoor play each day that weather conditions permit. The operator shall provide space and time for vigorous indoor activities when children cannot play outdoors;
 - (2) An individual sleeping space such as a bed, crib, play pen, cot, mat, or sleeping bag with individual linens for each pre-school aged child in care for four hours or more, or for all children if overnight care is provided, to rest. Individual sleep requirements for infants aged 12 months or younger shall be provided for as specified in 10A NCAC 09 .1724(a)(2). Linens shall be changed weekly or whenever they become soiled or wet;
 - (3) For children who are sleeping or napping, the operator is not required to visually supervise them, but shall be able to hear and respond without delay to them. Children shall not sleep or nap in a room with a closed door between the children and the operator. The operator shall be on the same level of the home where children are sleeping or napping;
 - (4) A safe sleep environment by ensuring that when a child is sleeping or napping, bedding or other objects shall not be placed in a manner that covers the child's face;
 - (5) A separate area that can be supervised pursuant to Paragraph (a) of this Rule for children who become ill to the extent that they can no longer participate in routine group activities. Parents shall be notified immediately if their child becomes too sick to remain in care;
 - (6) The opportunity each day for each child under the age of 12 months to play while awake while positioned on his or her stomach;
 - (7) Developmentally appropriate activities as planned on a written schedule. Materials or equipment shall be available indoors and outdoors to support the activities listed on the written schedule. The written schedule shall:
 - (A) Show blocks of time assigned to types of activities and include periods of time for both active play and quiet play or rest;
 - (B) Be displayed in a place where parents are able to view it;
 - (C) Reflect daily opportunities for both free choice and guided activities;
 - (D) Include a minimum of one hour of outdoor play throughout the day, if weather conditions permit; and
 - (E) Include a daily gross motor activity that may occur indoors or outdoors.
- (c) When screen time, including videos, video games, and computer usage, is provided, it shall be:
- (1) Offered only as a free choice activity;
 - (2) Used to meet a developmental goal; and
 - (3) Limited to no more than two and a half hours per week for each child two years of age and older.
- Usage time periods may be extended for specific special events, projects, occasions such as a current event,

homework, on-site computer classes, holiday, and birthday celebration. Screen time is prohibited for children under the age of two years. The operator shall offer alternate activities for children under the age of two years.

(d) Nothing contained in this Rule shall be construed to preclude a "qualified person with a disability," as defined by G.S. 168A-3(9), or a "qualified individual," as defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act at 42 U.S.C. 12111(8), from working in a licensed child care facility.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88; 110-91(2); 110-91(12);
Eff. July 1, 1998;
Amended Eff. May 1, 2016; December 1, 2012; July 1, 2010; March 1, 2006; May 1, 2004.*