

441—109.10(237A) Health and safety policies. The child care center shall establish definite health policies, including the criteria for excluding a sick child from the center. The policies shall be consistent with the recommendations of the National Health and Safety Performance Standards and shall include, but are not limited to:

109.10(1) Physical examination report.

a. Preschool-age children. For each child five years of age and younger not enrolled in kindergarten, the child care center shall require an admission physical examination report, submitted within 30 days from the date of admission, signed by a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, chiropractor, physician's assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner. The date of the physical examination shall be no more than 12 months prior to the first day of attendance at the center. The written report shall include past health history, status of present health including allergies, medications, and acute or chronic conditions, and recommendations for continued care when necessary. Annually thereafter, a statement of health condition, signed by a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, chiropractor, physician's assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner, shall be submitted that includes any change in functioning, allergies, medications, or acute or chronic conditions.

b. School-age children. For each child five years of age and older and enrolled in school, the child care center shall require, prior to admission, a statement of health status signed by the parent or legal guardian that certifies that the child is free of communicable disease and that specifies any allergies, medications, or acute or chronic conditions. The statement from the parent shall be submitted annually thereafter.

c. Religious exemption. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to require medical treatment or immunization for staff or the child of any person who is a member of a church or religious organization which has guidelines governing medical treatment for disease that are contrary to these rules. In these instances, an official statement from the organization shall be incorporated in the personnel or child's file.

109.10(2) Medical and dental emergencies. The center shall have sufficient information and authorization to meet the medical and dental emergencies of children. The center shall have written procedures for medical and dental emergencies and shall ensure, through orientation and training, that all staff are knowledgeable of and able to implement the procedures.

109.10(3) Medications. The center shall have written procedures for the dispensing, storage, authorization, and recording of all prescription and nonprescription medications, including the following:

a. All medications shall be stored in their original containers, with accompanying physician or pharmacist's directions and label intact and stored so they are inaccessible to children and the public. Nonprescription medications shall be labeled with the child's name.

b. For every day an authorization for medication is in effect and the child is in attendance, there shall be a notation of administration including the name of the medicine, date, time, dosage given or applied, and the initials of the person administering the medication or the reason the medication was not given.

c. In the case of medications that are administered on an ongoing, long-term basis, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of the prescription.

d. A child care staff member shall not provide medications to a child if the staff member has not completed preservice/orientation training that includes medication administration.

109.10(4) Daily contact. Each child shall have direct contact with a staff person upon arrival for early detection of apparent illness, communicable disease, or unusual condition or behavior which may adversely affect the child or the group. The center shall post notice at the main entrance to the center where it is visible to parents and the public of exposure of a child receiving care by the center to a communicable disease, the symptoms, and the period of communicability. If the center is located in a building used for other purposes and shares the main entrance to the building, the notice shall be conspicuously posted in the center in an area that is frequented daily by parents or the public.

109.10(5) Infectious disease control. Centers shall establish policies and procedures related to infectious disease control and the use of universal precautions with the handling of any bodily excrement or discharge or blood. Soiled diapers shall be stored in containers separate from other waste.

109.10(6) *Quiet area for ill or injured.* The center shall provide a quiet area under supervision for a child who appears to be ill or injured. The parents or a designated person shall be notified of the child's status in the event of a serious illness or emergency.

109.10(7) *Staff hand washing.* The center shall ensure that staff demonstrate clean personal hygiene sufficient to prevent or minimize the transmission of illness or disease. All staff shall wash their hands at the following times:

- a. Upon arrival at the center.
- b. Immediately before eating or participating in any food service activity.
- c. After diapering a child.
- d. Before leaving the rest room either with a child or by themselves.
- e. Before and after administering nonemergency first aid to a child if gloves are not worn.
- f. After handling animals and cleaning cages.

109.10(8) *Children's hand washing.* The center shall ensure that staff assist children in personal hygiene sufficient to prevent or minimize the transmission of illness or disease. For each infant or child with a disability, a separate cloth for washing and one for rinsing may be used in place of running water. Children's hands shall be washed at the following times:

- a. Immediately before eating or participating in any food service activity.
- b. After using the rest room or being diapered.
- c. After handling animals.

109.10(9) *First-aid kit.* The center shall ensure that a clearly labeled first-aid kit is available and easily accessible to staff at all times whenever children are in the center, in the outdoor play area, and on field trips. The kit shall be sufficient to address first aid related to minor injury or trauma and shall be stored in an area inaccessible to children.

109.10(10) *Recording incidents.*

a. Incidents involving a child, including minor injuries, minor changes in health status, or other minor behavioral concerns, shall be reported to the parents, guardians, and legal custodians on the day of the incident. Incidents resulting in an injury to a child shall be reported to the parent on the day of the incident.

b. Incidents resulting in a serious injury, as defined in Iowa Code section 702.18, to a child in the child care facility or in the care of child care facility staff or incidents resulting in a significant change in the health status of a child shall be verbally reported to the parents, guardians, and legal custodians immediately.

(1) Serious injuries shall be reported to the department within 24 hours of the incident.

(2) Serious injuries shall be documented and information maintained in the child's file as required by subrule 109.9(2).

c. The parents, guardians, and legal custodians of any child included in incidents involving inappropriate, sexually acting-out behavior shall be notified immediately after the incident. A written report fully documenting every incident shall be provided to the parent or person authorized to remove the child from the center. The written report shall be prepared by the staff member who observed the incident, and a copy shall be retained in the child's file.

109.10(11) *Smoking.* Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall be prohibited at all times in the center and in every vehicle used to transport children. Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall be prohibited in the outdoor play area during hours of operation of the center. Nonsmoking signs shall be posted at every entrance of the child care center and in every vehicle used to transport children. All signs shall include:

- a. The telephone number for reporting complaints, and
- b. The Internet address of the department of public health (smokefreeair.iowa.gov).

109.10(12) *Transportation.* As outlined in Iowa Code section 321.446, all children transported in a motor vehicle subject to registration, except a bus, shall be individually secured by a safety belt, safety seat, or harness in accordance with federal motor vehicle safety standards and the manufacturer's instructions.

a. Children under the age of 6 shall be secured during transit in a federally approved child restraint system. Children under 1 year of age and weighing less than 20 pounds shall be secured during transit in a rear-facing child restraint system.

b. Children under the age of 12 shall not be located in the front seating section of the vehicle.

c. Drivers of vehicles shall possess a valid driver's license and shall not operate a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription or nonprescription drugs that could impair the drivers' ability to operate a motor vehicle.

d. Vehicles that are owned or leased by the center shall receive regular maintenance and inspection according to manufacturer-recommended guidelines for vehicle and tire maintenance and inspection.

109.10(13) *Field trip emergency numbers.* Emergency telephone numbers for each child shall be taken by staff when transporting children to and from school and on field trips and non-center-sponsored activities away from the premises.

109.10(14) *Pets.* Animals kept on site shall be in good health with no evidence of disease, be of such disposition as to not pose a safety threat to children, and be maintained in a clean and sanitary manner. Documentation of current vaccinations shall be available for all cats and dogs. No ferrets, reptiles, including turtles, or birds of the parrot family shall be kept on site. Pets shall not be allowed in kitchen or food preparation areas.

109.10(15) *Emergency plans.*

a. The center shall have written emergency plans and diagrams for responding to fire, tornado, and flood (if area is susceptible to flood) and plans for responding to intoxicated parents and lost or abducted children. In addition, the center shall have guidelines for responding or evacuating in case of blizzards, power failures, bomb threats, chemical spills, or other disasters that could create structural damage to the center or pose health hazards. If the center is located within a ten-mile radius of a nuclear power plant or research facility, the center shall also have plans for nuclear evacuations. Emergency plans shall include written procedures including plans for the following:

(1) Evacuation to safely leave the facility.

(2) Relocation to a common, safe location after evacuation.

(3) Shelter-in-place to take immediate shelter when the current location is unsafe to leave due to the emergency issue.

(4) Lockdown to protect children and providers from an external situation.

(5) Communication and reunification with parents or other adults responsible for the children which shall include emergency telephone numbers.

(6) Continuity of operations.

(7) To address the needs of individual children, including those with functional or access needs.

b. Emergency instructions, telephone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood (if area is susceptible to floods) shall be visibly posted by all program and outdoor exits. Emergency plan procedures shall be practiced and documented at least once a month for fire and for tornado. Records on the practice of fire and tornado drills shall be maintained for the current and previous year.

c. The center shall develop procedures for annual staff and volunteer training on these emergency plans and shall include information on responding to fire, tornadoes, intruders, intoxicated parents, and lost or abducted children in the orientation provided to new employees and volunteers.

d. The center shall conduct a daily check to ensure that all exits are unobstructed.

109.10(16) *Supervision and access.*

a. The center director and on-site supervisor shall ensure that each staff member or volunteer knows the number and names of children assigned to that staff member or volunteer for care. Assigned staff and volunteers shall provide careful supervision.

b. Any person in the center who is not an owner, staff member, or volunteer who has a record check and department approval to be involved with child care shall not have unrestricted access to children for whom that person is not the parent, guardian, or custodian.

c. Persons who are exempt from the record check process are granted access in accordance with 109.6(6) "a"(2) unless the provisions of paragraph 109.10(16) "d" apply.

d. A sex offender who has been convicted of a sex offense against a minor and who is required to register with the Iowa sex offender registry under the provisions contained in Iowa Code chapter 692A shall not operate, manage, be employed by, or act as a contractor or volunteer at a child care center. The sex offender also shall not be present upon the property of a child care center without the written permission of the center director, except for the time reasonably necessary to transport the offender's own minor child or ward to and from the center.

(1) Written permission shall include the conditions under which the sex offender may be present, including:

1. The precise location in the center where the sex offender may be present;
2. The reason for the sex offender's presence at the facility;
3. The duration of the sex offender's presence;
4. Description of the supervision that the center staff will provide the sex offender to ensure that no child is alone with the sex offender.

(2) Before giving written permission, the center director shall consult with the center licensing consultant. The written permission shall be signed and dated by the center director and the sex offender and kept on file for review by the center licensing consultant.

[**ARC 8650B**, IAB 4/7/10, effective 6/1/10; **ARC 1209C**, IAB 12/11/13, effective 2/1/14; **ARC 2646C**, IAB 8/3/16, effective 10/1/16; **ARC 3095C**, IAB 6/7/17, effective 8/1/17; **ARC 3096C**, IAB 6/7/17, effective 8/1/17; **ARC 6023C**, IAB 11/3/21, effective 1/1/22; **ARC 6626C**, IAB 11/2/22, effective 3/1/23]