



Division of Child Development and Early Education
5 Star Rated License • Prekindergarten • Subsidized Early Education for Kids



Child Care in N.C. An Overview



NCIOM Meeting
February 17, 2012





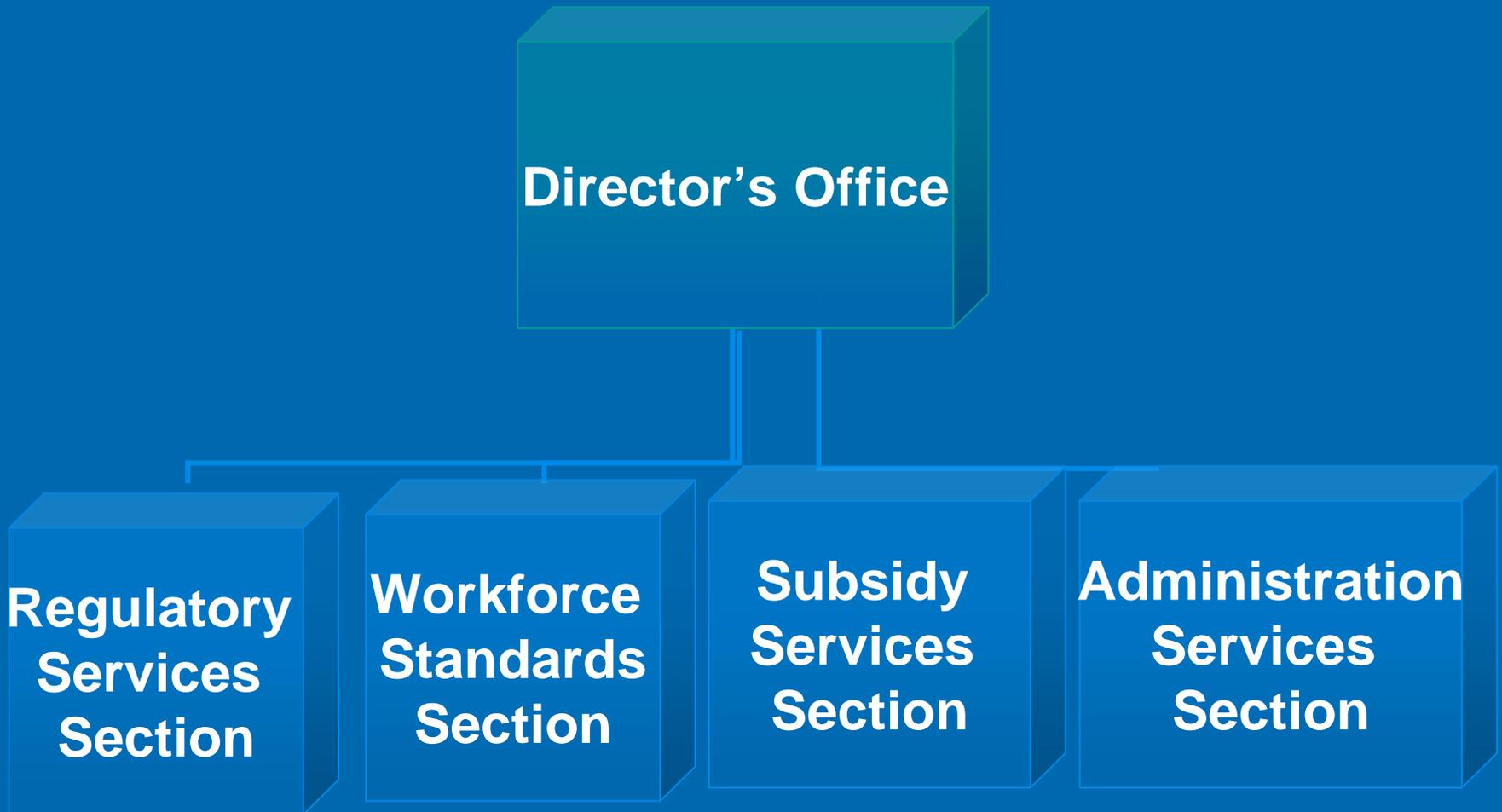
Division of Child Development and Early Education Mission

- “To build a stronger social and economic future for North Carolina by promoting high quality early childhood experiences.”
- Ensure the health & safety of children in child care settings
- Provide child care financial assistance
- Improve quality and availability of child care
- Provide parent outreach



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Division of Child Development and Early Education Organizational Chart



Child Care Facts in North Carolina

➤ *Children*

- Total number 0-4 in the state 632,040
- Total number 5-14 in the state 1,267,049
- Number in Regulated Child Care 250,836
- Number Receiving Subsidized Care 74,749
- Number Receiving Pre-K 24,800

➤ *Regulated Arrangements*

- Child Care Centers 4,811
- Family Child Care Homes 3,168
- Centers in a Residence 517
- Religious Sponsored 378

What is Child Care in North Carolina?

Child Care in North Carolina is defined as a program or arrangement where:

3 or more children less than 13 years of age, that do not reside where the care is provided, receive care on a regular basis of at least once per week for more than 4 hours per day from persons other than their guardians or full-time custodians. (*GS 110-86 (2)*)



Child Care Arrangements Exempt from Licensing

- Care in the child's own home
- Recreational programs
- Specialized activities
- Drop-In/Short Term Care
- Public Schools
- Bible Schools
- Cooperative Arrangements
- Multi-Child Care Components
- Nonpublic schools

Types of Child Care Programs

- Child Care Center
- Center in Residence
- Family Child Care Home
- Religious Sponsored

Compliance History

- Shows how well the program followed the rules after getting the license
- Updated after every visit
- Must maintain at least a 75% compliance history for the past 18 months

Two Component System:

➤ Program Standards

Staff/child ratio, group size, operational and personnel policies, Environment Rating Scale assessment scores

➤ Education Standards

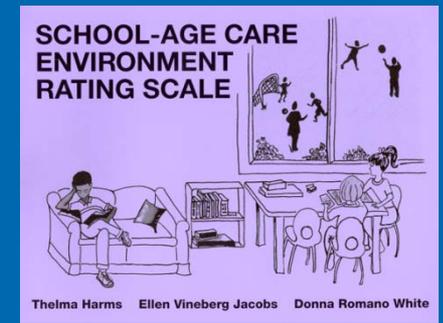
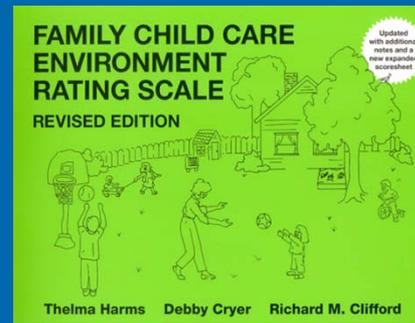
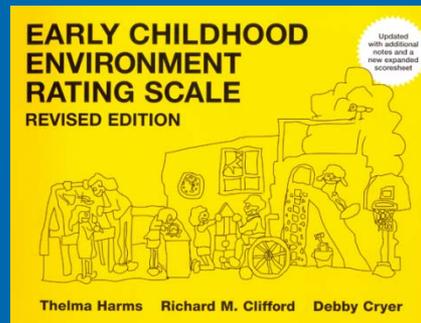
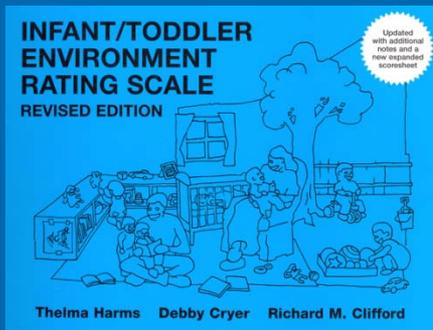
Staff education and experience

Center Program Standards Point Value

1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	4 Points	5 Points	6 Points	7 Points
<input type="checkbox"/> Meets minimum licensing requirements	<input type="checkbox"/> All enhanced standards <u>except either</u> <input type="checkbox"/> enhanced ratios OR <input type="checkbox"/> enhanced space	<input type="checkbox"/> All enhanced standards <u>except either</u> <input type="checkbox"/> enhanced ratios OR <input type="checkbox"/> enhanced space <u>and</u> <input type="checkbox"/> ERS = lowest classroom score at least 4.0	<input type="checkbox"/> All enhanced standards <u>except enhanced space and</u> <input type="checkbox"/> ERS = avg. 4.5 with no one classroom score lower than 4.0	<input type="checkbox"/> All enhanced standards <u>except enhanced space and</u> <input type="checkbox"/> ERS = avg. 4.75 classroom score with no one classroom score lower than 4.0	<input type="checkbox"/> All enhanced standards <u>and</u> <input type="checkbox"/> ERS = avg. 5.0 with no one classroom score lower than 4.0	<input type="checkbox"/> All enhanced standards <u>and</u> <input type="checkbox"/> enhanced ratios minus 1 <u>and</u> <input type="checkbox"/> ERS = lowest classroom score at least 5.0

Environment Rating Scales

ITERS-R, ECERS-R, FCCERS-R and SACERS:
assesses process quality in the classroom



Rating Scale Assessments

- Minimum 1/3 of classrooms evaluated (but at least one ITERS/ECERS/ SACERS)
- Classrooms randomly chosen
- Assessment takes about 4 1/2 hours per group
- Provider receives a *summary* of the assessments conducted

Education Requirements:

Administrator

Minimum: Level I NC Administrator Credential

Enhanced: Requirements increase with star level

Lead Teacher

Minimum: NC Early Childhood Credential

Enhanced: Requirements increase with star level

Teacher

High School Diploma or G.E.D.

Enhanced: Requirements increase with star level



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Education Standards

The higher the education, the more points earned

Administrator:

Having more education and experience

Lead Teacher:

75% having more education and experience

Teacher:

50% having more education and experience

Quality Point for Child Care Centers

A center may earn one quality point by meeting a variety of options:

- Education Options
- Programmatic Options

Points for Stars



Minimum Requirements



4-6 points

= 2 Stars



7-9 points

= 3 Stars



10-12 points

= 4 Stars



13-15 points

= 5 stars



State of North Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Child Development
and Early Education

Three Star Child Care License



ABC CHILD CARE CENTER

123 ANYWHERE ST
RALEIGH, NC 27777

In each area rated, this facility earned:

Staff Education: 4 out of 7 points

Program Standards: 4 out of 7 points

Quality Point: 1 out of 1 point

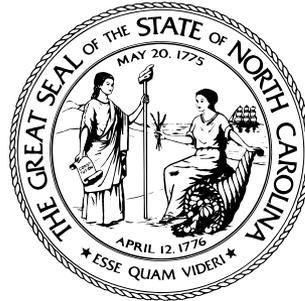
Education Option Met: Programmatic Option Met:

Total: 8 out of 15 points

ID Number: 92001033

Type of Facility: Center

Issued to: ABC Child Care



Age Range: 0 - 12 years

Capacity: 1st shift: 58; 2nd shift: 0; 3rd shift: 0

Effective Date: November 17, 2011

Restrictions:

Daytime care only

In accordance with Article 7, Chapter 110 of the North Carolina General Statutes, the above named child care facility is issued a rated license. Licenses vary from an overall rating of one to five stars, based upon their cumulative points in the three categories above.

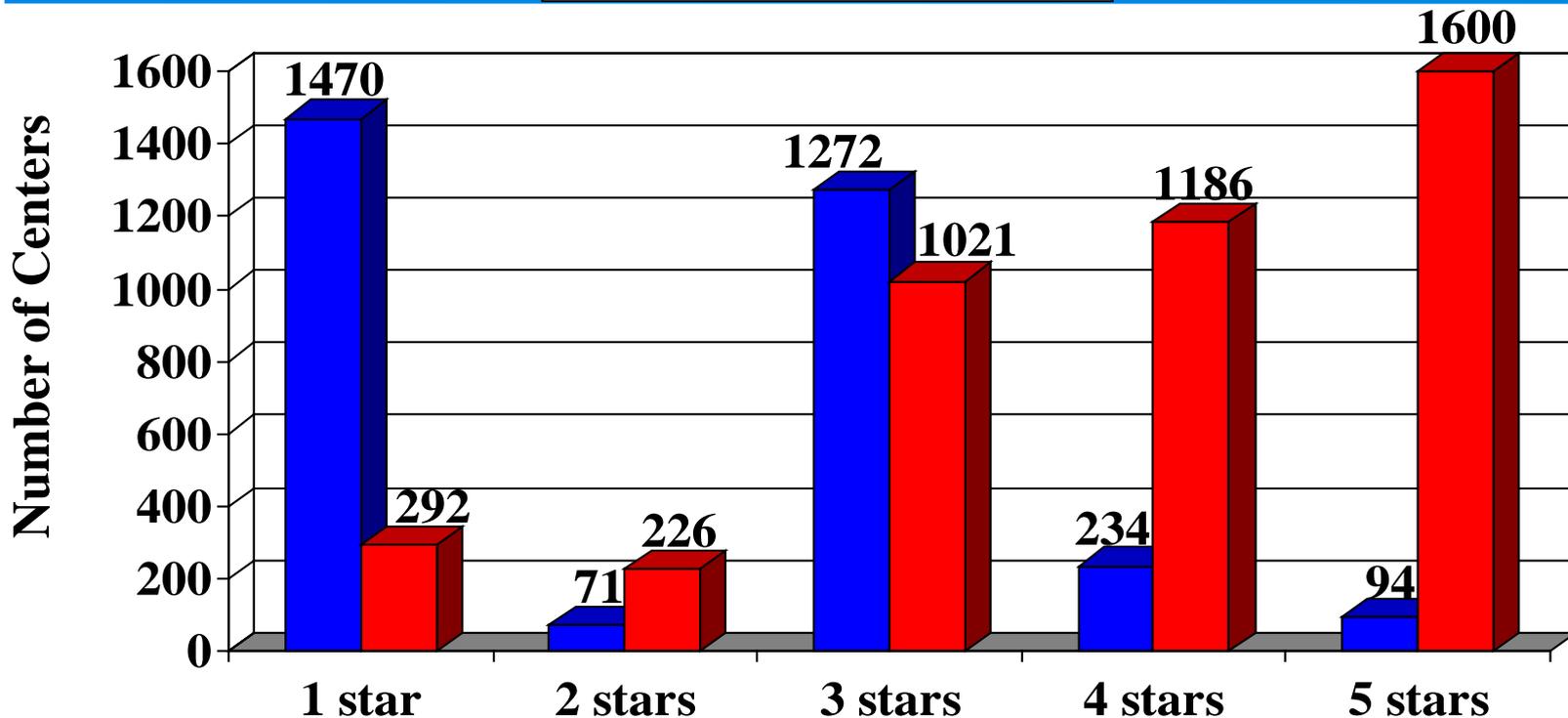
This license must be displayed in a prominent place so it may be available and shown to each child's parent or guardian when the child is enrolled. This license cannot be bought, sold or transferred. It is only valid for the location/address noted above. This permit is the property of the State of North Carolina and must be returned to the Division of Child Development in the event of termination or revocation.

Albert A. Delia, Acting Secretary, Department of Health & Human Services

Deborah J. Cassidy, Director, Division of Child Development

Child Care Centers with Star Rated Licenses and Enrollment (Sept. 2000 and Aug. 2011)

■ Sept. 2000 ■ Aug. 2011

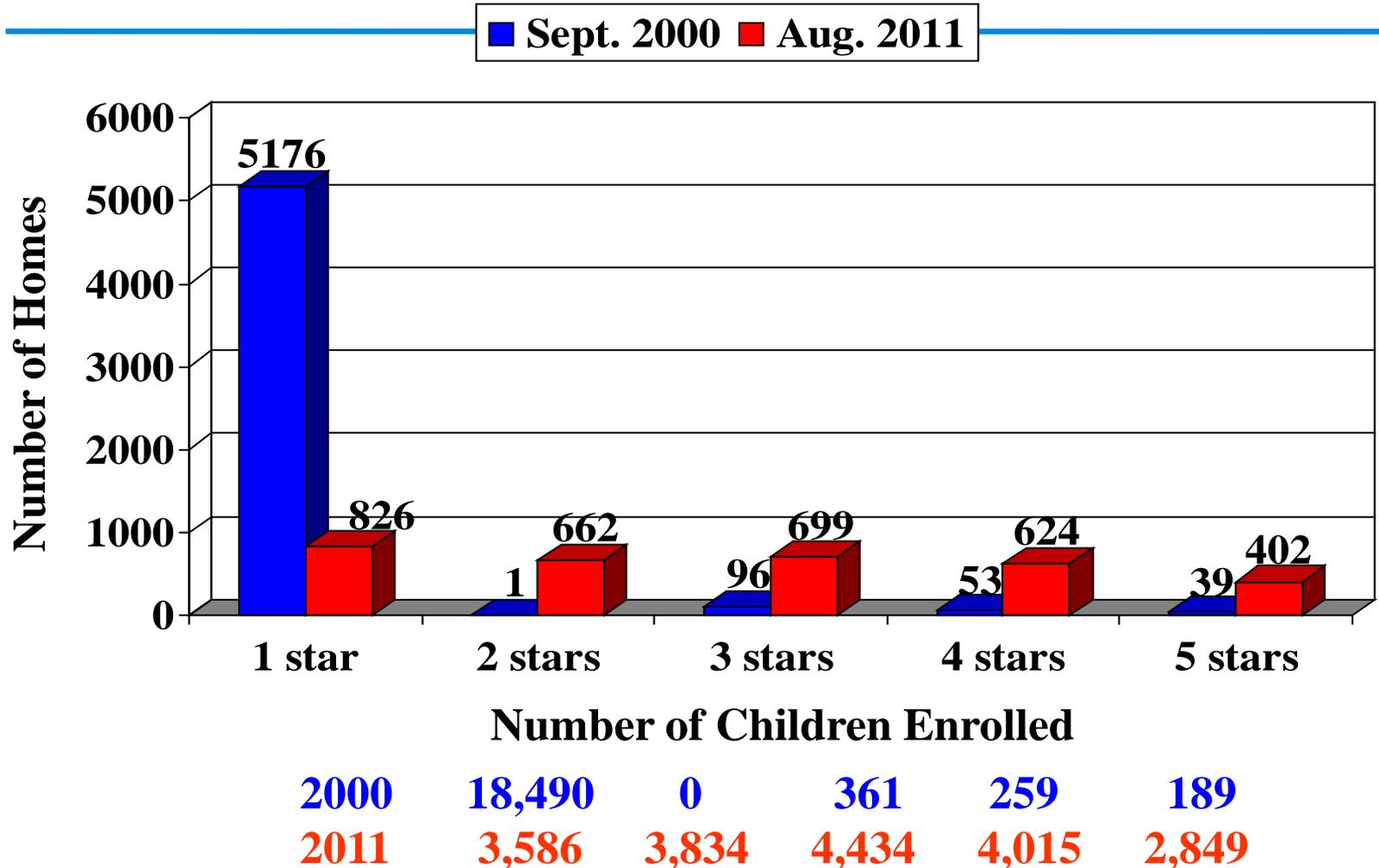


Number of Children Enrolled

2000	75,828	3,250	70,077	11,440	4,335
2011	12,726	7,787	40,425	64,805	86,532

Of the children in centers w/ 1-5 stars, 90% are enrolled in centers with ratings of 3-5 stars.

Family Child Care Homes with Star Rated Licenses and Enrollment (Sept. 2000 and Aug. 2011)



Of the children in homes w/ 1-5 stars, 60% are enrolled in homes with ratings of 3-5 stars.

RECENT CENTER RULE CHANGES IN CHILD CARE (Activities)

- **Programs must provide a minimum of one hour of outdoor time daily, or for children in care for less than 4 hours-30 minutes is required**
- **Infants/toddlers-30 minutes throughout the day**
- **The activity plan must reflect at least 4 different activities daily, with at least one outdoors**
- **The activity plan must include a daily gross motor activity which may be indoors or outdoors**
- **Materials and opportunities for music and rhythm, science and nature, sand and water-offered weekly instead of monthly**

RECENT CENTER RULE CHANGES IN CHILD CARE (Activities)

➤ **Screen Time**

- Offered only as a free-choice activity
- Must meet a developmental goal
- Limited to no more than 2 ½ hours per week per child
- Prohibited for children less than 2 years old
- Time may be extended for special projects or special occasions

RECENT FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME RULE CHANGES IN CHILD CARE (Activities)

- **Programs must provide a minimum of one hour of outdoor time daily, or for children in care for less than 4 hours-30 minutes is required**
- **Infants/toddlers-30 minutes throughout the day**
- **The activity plan must include a daily gross motor activity which may be indoors or outdoors**
- **Same screen time rules as for centers**

Other DCDEE Initiatives

- I am Moving, I am Learning (IMIL)
- Outdoor Learning Environments

RECENT RULE CHANGES IN CHILD CARE (Nutrition)

➤ For Center and FCCH

- Accommodations for breastfeeding mothers shall be provided that include seating and an electrical outlet in a place other than a bathroom that is shielded from view by staff and the public which may be used by mothers while they are breastfeeding or expressing milk.

RECENT RULE CHANGES IN CHILD CARE (Nutrition)

➤ Legislation passed (June 2010)

- Child Care Commission in partnership with the Division of Public Health would begin to develop improved nutrition standards for child care facilities.
 - Limiting or prohibiting sweetened beverages other than 100% fruit juice for all children
 - Limiting or prohibiting whole milk to children 2 years of age or older and no flavored milk to any age child
 - Limiting or prohibiting more than 6 oz. of juice per day to any age child
 - Limiting or prohibiting juice from a bottle
 - Creating an exception for parents of children who have medical needs, special diets or food allergies
 - Creating an exception to allow a parent or guardian, to provide a child food and beverages that may not meet the nutritional standards.

Proposed Nutrition Rules

- Flavored Milk or Sugary Drinks Prohibited
- Children Two Years and Older Served Skim or Low Fat Milk
- Food Brought from Home Reflective of Cultural and Ethnic Preferences

Proposed Nutrition Rules

- Food Required for Special Diets for Medical, Religious or Cultural Reasons Provided by Center or Parents
- Food With Little/No Nutritional Value Only Available for Special Occasions
- No More Than 6 ounces of 100% Fruit Juice Offered Each Day

Proposed Nutrition Rules

- Juice in a Bottle Not Served to Infants, Without a Prescription or Written Statement from a Health Care Professional or Licensed Dietician/Nutritionist
- Staff Must Model Good Eating Behaviors by not Consuming Foods or Beverages with Little or No Nutritional Value in Children's Presence
- Parents Allowed to Provide Breast Milk

Challenges

- Legislative process-fiscal impact
- Rules related to outdoor play need to be revised to support natural outdoor environments
- Need for Parent Buy-in/Support



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Questions?

