

NOTICE TO DAY CARE PROVIDERS

From: Shontée Blankenship, Deputy Director of Licensing

Date: February 16, 2024

This notice is to advise day care center owners, directors, and advisory groups that a copy of proposed changes to Rule 407, Licensing Standards for Day Care Centers has been posted to the DCFS website and the DCFS Sunshine Site.

A link to the draft changes may be accessed under the “Announcements for Providers” tab on the DCFS website at:

<https://dcfs.illinois.gov/about-us/notices/pr-policy-providers.html>

A link to the draft changes may also be accessed under the “News” tab on the DCFS Sunshine Site at:

<https://sunshine.dcfs.illinois.gov/Content/Licensing/Welcome.aspx>

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO RULE 407, LICENSING STANDARDS FOR DAY CARE CENTERS IS IN DRAFT FORM, AND HAS NOT BEGUN THE FORMAL RULEMAKING PROCESS.

Many changes to Rule 407 are required due to amendments to various Illinois Statutes, including but not limited to, the Child Care Act of 1969 and the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. In addition, DCFS must align day care licensing rules with the federal mandates in the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act.

At this time we are asking for feedback from the day care center community. The Department is planning a series of Listening Sessions through a Virtual Town Hall format to solicit input from our providers and stakeholders. You may also submit comments to the DCFS Office of Child and Family Policy via email at DCFS.Policy@illinois.gov.

Stay tuned to our website, DCFS Facebook page, and your email for more information on the upcoming Listening Sessions, and how you may attend. We look forward to hearing from you.