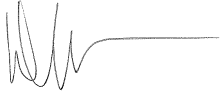


Illinois Department of Children & Family Services

TO: Day Care Center Providers
FROM: Dixie Lee Peterson 
DATE: December 2011
SUBJECT: **Proposed Changes to Licensing Standards**

The Department is proposing changes to Part 407, Licensing Standards for Day Care Centers. The proposed changes include the following:

Gateways to Opportunity Registry

To augment professionalism and quality of care at day care centers in Illinois, starting July 1, 2012, the proposed amendments will allow the Department to automatically enroll, at time of initial licensure, new day care providers and, at renewal, currently licensed providers to the Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System administered jointly by the State Board of Education and the Department of Human Services.

The amendments also require day care providers and staff to register in the "Gateways to Opportunity Registry" in order for them to receive resources and tools to improve the quality and accountability for early care and education.

New Safety Standards for Cribs

Section 407.350 requires that by December 28, 2012 the day care center shall obtain certification that all cribs used by the center meet or exceed the federal safety standards in 16 Code of Federal Regulations 1219. This certification from the manufacturer must be available for inspection by the licensing representative.

COMMENTS AND COPIES OF PROPOSED CHANGES

On November 4, 2011, the Secretary of State published the proposed changes in Volume 35, Issue 45, of the Illinois Register, copies of which are available in local libraries and on the Secretary of State's website at: <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com>. Copies are also available on the DCFS website <http://www.state.il.us/dcfs> or may be requested from the Office of Child and Family Policy at the address below. Comments may be sent to:

Office of Child and Family Policy
Department of Children and Family Services
406 E. Monroe, Station #65
Springfield, IL 62701-1983
E-Mail: CFPolicy@idcfs.state.il.us
Fax: 217-557-0692

Comments will be accepted through January 30, 2012

Office of Child and Family Policy
406 E. Monroe Street, Sta. 65D • Springfield, Illinois 62701

