Early Learning Division
Office of Child Care | 875 Union St, Salem, OR 97311
Phone (503) 947-1400 | FAX (503) 947-1428 | www.childcareinoregon.org

Dear Provider,

As many of you know, the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014 was signed into law on November 19, 2014. The major requirements of the law are:

1. Protect the health and safety of children in child care;
2. Help parents make informed child care choices and access information to support child development;
3. Provide equal access to stable, high quality child care for low-income children; and
4. Enhance the quality of child care and the early childhood workforce.

This federal law includes several changes that will impact families and child care providers. Information on the implications of this new law has been shared through various meetings, stakeholder engagement activities, and public meetings of the Early Learning Council and the Child Care and Education Committee of the Council. In addition, a public hearing on the draft Child Care and Development Fund state plan was held on February 18, 2016.

The major health and safety changes for Registered Family Child Care Homes are:

1. A new training requirement for all providers and substitutes beginning September 30, 2016;
2. Annual unannounced monitoring starting November 2016;
3. Changes to background checks that start in January 2017.

This letter only covers the new health and safety training requirement and will be the first in a series of notifications on the changes and how they will affect your program.

Follow up communication by email is important to the success of timely communication from the Early Learning Division. Please make sure your email information is current by going to this link http://bit.ly/eldupdate to submit an update or contact our Central Office at 800-556-6616.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Central Office or your licensing specialist.

Sincerely,

Dawn Woods
Child Care Director

Enclosures

Health and Safety Training Requirements for Existing Registered Family Child Care Providers and Substitutes

1. **What are the new health & safety training requirements?**
   Health and Safety training that covers specific topic areas is required for any licensed child care provider who provides direct care. Our new online ***"Introduction to Child Care Health and Safety"*** training includes topics required by federal law and all current Registered Family Child Care Home providers must complete the online training by June 30, 2017. The topics in the training include:
   - Prevention and control of infectious diseases
   - Prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleep practices
   - Administration of medication
   - Prevention and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions
   - Building and physical premises safety
   - Prevention of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma
   - Emergency preparedness and response planning
   - Handling and storage of hazardous materials and the disposal of bio-contaminants
   - Appropriate precautions in transporting children

2. **Who is required to take the health and safety training?**
   All current Registered Family Child Care providers and substitutes, who provide direct care to children, are required to have the training.

3. **When is the health and safety training to be completed?**
   All ***new*** Registered Family Child Care Home providers will be required to complete the ***Introduction to Child Care Health and Safety*** training before a certificate to operate is issued. Because this is a new requirement, ***current*** providers and substitutes have an extended timeframe to complete the training, by June 30, 2017. New substitutes will be required to complete the training **before** caring for children.

4. **How often is the health and safety training required?**
   Because the training is basic information for those who work in a licensed program, it is a one-time requirement. Oregon Registry Online maintains a record of the individual's completion of the training, therefore the training is portable.

5. **Should I start taking the training now?**
   We appreciate you planning ahead. The updated online ***Introduction to Child Care Health and Safety*** will be available on September 30, 2016. The link will be sent via email to you and will be posted on our website. The Child Care Resource and Referral program in your area will also have information on how to access this training. Please wait until September 30 to take the training as the new components required in federal law are not incorporated into the training at this time.

6. **Where can I obtain the health and safety training?**
   This free training is only available online. The link to the training will be emailed to all providers and will be posted on the Office of Child Care website as soon as it is available. www.childcareinoregon.org. The Child Care Resource and Referral program in your area will also have information on how to access the training. The training must be completed individually and will be tracked in your Oregon Registry Online (ORO) account. The training is available in English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese and Chinese.

7. **Will previous health and safety training such as "Oregon Kids Healthy and Safe" count as meeting the requirement?**

   No, previous training does not cover all the topics required under federal law. The State must document that all child care providers have received the training in all areas required under federal law. The ***Introduction to Child Care Health and Safety*** training is a good review for seasoned caregivers.

8. **Does this training count toward annual training requirements?**
   Yes, the two hour training will count for required annual training hours completed within the license period.

9. **Once I have completed the Introduction to Child Care Health and Safety training, can I take it again and have it count for my yearly on-going training?**
   The ***Introduction to Child Care Health and Safety*** training contains basic information required for starting a position working in a licensed program and training credit is only applied one time. The goal of ongoing annual training is designed to offer more in-depth training opportunities to address ongoing progression of professional development.