



Summary of Changes to Child Care Regulations

Article 47 of the New York City Health Code has changed. Learn about *new* requirements for child care sites.

1. Teacher Qualifications and Screenings

Teaching staff qualifications for infant-toddler child care services (§47.15)

Criminal Justice and Child Abuse Screening of Current and Prospective Personnel; Reports to the Department (§47.19)

Day care permittees:

1. Permittees must allow professional consultants retained by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Early Intervention Program and New York City Department of Education, Committees on Preschool Special Education, or successor programs, to have access to children receiving services, without requiring proof of consultants' fingerprinting, SCR clearances or references.
2. This requirement avoids unnecessary duplication and potential delays in service provision to young children with disabilities.
3. Professional consultants will present the Notification of Professional Consultant Assignment to the Permittee on the first day of service. This notification will confirm that:
 - The consultant has been authorized to provide services to a particular child pursuant to a child's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individual Education Program (IEP).
 - The consultant has SCR clearance, is licensed or credentialed by the New York State Department of Education which includes criminal clearance, and has had reference checks.
 - The Notification also contains contact information for the Professional Consultant, his/her agency, and contact numbers for additional questions or concerns.
4. If a professional consultant does not present the Notification of Professional Consultant Assignment to the Permittee on the first day of service, the professional consultant is required to work within line of sight of the child care teacher.
5. Permittees may conduct additional SCR clearances and reference checks. However these additional checks may not delay the start of services for children.
6. Permittees are responsible for signing Session Notes/ Service Form as requested by the Professional Consultant after the session. Permittees should not sign blank session notes or service forms.

Early Intervention (EI) and Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) Agencies, Therapist/Teachers, and School Districts:

1. Agencies and CPSE School Districts:



Health

- Upon authorization and assignment of an EI/CPSE provider, complete and issue the Notification of Professional Consultant Assignment form to the professional consultant (therapist/teacher) and inform them that this form must be presented on the first day of service at the child care center.
- If a professional consultant does not present the Notification of Professional Consultant Assignment to the child care center on the first day of service, the professional consultant is required to work within line of sight of the child care teacher.
- Inform the professional consultant that they must follow the visitor policies of the program such as signing in and out, greeting child care providers and children, and sharing any plans for the visit.

2. Professional Consultants (Therapists and Teachers)

- Upon receipt of assignment, contact the child care agency via phone to inform them that you have been assigned the particular case:
 - Arrange regular schedule for services with the child care agency
 - Bring the Notification of Professional Consultant Assignment form on the first scheduled session. Keep a copy in your files and leave the original with the child care agency.
 - Follow the visitor policies of the program such as signing in and out, greeting child care providers and children, and sharing any plans for the visit.
 - Child care providers must not be asked to sign blank session notes.
 - Speak with child care provider to learn more about their program; their schedule of activities; and how both of you can work together.
 - With the consent of the parent, give a copy of the child's IFSP or IEP to the child care provider.
- In order to help support the inclusion of children with disabilities in child care activities, it is important that professional consultant work with teachers to integrate therapy into the routine activities of the facility. Professional consultant are strongly encouraged to integrate the following best practices in their work with child care providers:
 - Embed interventions during the child care program's daily routines (i.e., meal times, play times, nap times, etc.) and peer interactions.
 - Model intervention techniques and discuss how these strategies support the child's functional outcomes.
 - Allow time for questions from the child care provider.
 - Focus on supporting the child care provider in using strategies that will help the child function and engage better during the child care program's activities.

Communicate regularly with families:

- Update parents via telephone, communication log, or in person about the sessions and the strategies that they can use at home.

To review the full regulations, important forms and guidelines, visit nyc.gov/health/childcare (click “Information for Providers”).

Suggested Resources:

Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center – This resource provides information on evidence based practices in areas specific to early childhood care and education

<http://ectacenter.org/topics/evbased/evbased.asp>

<http://ectacenter.org/topics/inclusion/legis/stlegis.asp>

<http://ectacenter.org/topics/eiservices/eiservices.asp>

http://ectacenter.org/topics/eiservices/law_regs.asp

New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene Bureau of Early Intervention website:

<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/early-intervention.page>

NY State Dept. of Health Bureau of Early Intervention Parent Guide to Early Intervention:

<http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/0532/>

Seven Key Principles: Looks Like/Doesn't Look Like:

http://ectacenter.org/~pdfs/topics/families/Principles_LooksLike_DoesntLookLike3_11_08.pdf

DEC Recommended Practices in Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (April 2014): <http://www.dec-sped.org/recommendedpractices>