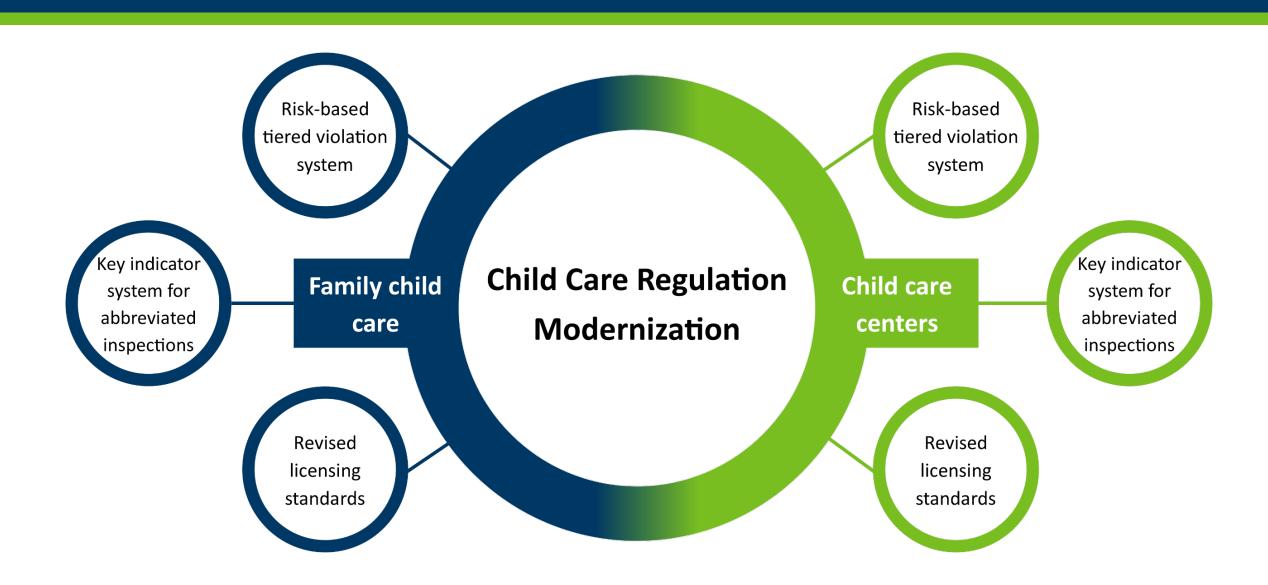


Child Care Regulation Modernization Projects

Angela Urbanek, Brandon Tice, and Katherine DiBenedetto



Projects at a glance



Child Care Regulation Modernization Projects

- The 2021 Legislature allocated federal funding to support regulation modernization projects for both licensed child care centers and family child care
- DHS has a three-year contract with the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) to conduct these projects
- For Family Child Care and Child Care Centers, the regulation modernization projects support the development of:
 - Risk-based tiered violation systems
 - Key indicator systems for abbreviated inspections
 - Revised licensing standards

DHS and NARA: Collaboration to modernize regulations

NARA and DHS are working together to:

- Develop and implement a stakeholder engagement process that solicits input from parents, licensed child care providers, licensors, experts in child development, staff from DHS, and others
- Initiate pilot projects to identify technical or policy issues
- Create a report and proposed legislation to implement the new licensing components and revised licensing standards
 - The report is due to the legislature by February 1, 2024
 - Some components will need to be adopted into statute or rule before they take effect



Project Components



Risk-based tiered violation systems

- With stakeholder input, NARA will develop a tiered enforcement framework that is weighted to reflect the level of risk that a violation poses to children
- The National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) will:
 - Gather data and input from DHS, family child care providers, child care centers, county licensing
 agencies, and other stakeholders
 - ✓ Collect and analyze data to determine when various enforcement mechanisms would be used
 - Use data analysis and stakeholder input to develop a weighted risk assessment system
 - Develop a pilot project to implement the risk-based tiered violation system
 - Develop materials to help licensors, providers, and the public understand the new system

Key indicator systems for abbreviated inspections

- Abbreviated inspections will include:
 - ✓ a subset of standards, known as key indicators, which statistically predict compliance with the entire list of standards
 - high-risk rules that are determined through stakeholder input
 - and a set of random rules.

Revised licensing standards

- Relying on its experience in other states, NARA will draft updated licensing standards for family child care and child care centers
- NARA will navigate DHS, child care providers, county licensing agencies and other stakeholders through the process of developing the new updated standards by:
 - Collecting stakeholder input on current licensing standards
 - Drafting proposed revisions to licensing standards
 - Developing a pilot project to implement revised standards
 - Reviewing and revising draft standards with stakeholders



Feedback Needed: FCC Training Regulations



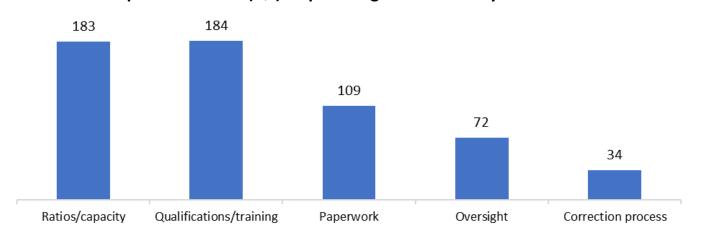
Feedback so far on FCC training requirements

In a revised licensing standards survey conducted October 2022, we received feedback on two questions related to FCC licensing standards.

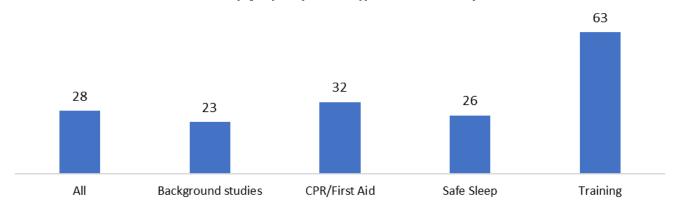
- Q8: What current licensing standards for family child care do you think are not working or need improvement?
- Q10: What current licensing standards for family child care are effective and should remain the same?

FCC Training in top responses for 'updates needed' and 'remain the same'

Updates Needed (Q8): Top 5 Categories for Family Child Care



Remain the Same (Q10): Top 5 Categories for Family Child Care



Feedback comparison: working and not working (1 of 2)

What is <u>not</u> working for FCC training?

- "Offer a larger variety of training to meet the criteria. For providers who have been doing this many years- it's hard to feel challenged, or learn anything when the exact same training is required every year."
- "Training is confusing. 245A.50 All of the different categories, required at different times for FCC. Substitute training is confusing."
- "CPR and first aid trainings should be yearly and be provided at no cost to providers"

Feedback comparison: working and not working (2 of 2)

What is working for FCC training?

- "Licensing requirements/training are effective."
- "Safe sleep & training requirements [are working]."
- "I think there are plenty and good trainings available to us at affordable and accessible options."
- "Ongoing Training is good"
- "The new updated forms are great!!"

What do you think?

We shared with you some of what we've heard so far...now we want to hear from you:

For FCC training requirements as laid out in statute and regulation:

- What are the areas you would identify for reform?
- What are areas you would identify as wanting to keep the same?

Jamboard Activity

Est. 40 mins time

- We're going to put a <u>Jamboard</u> up, with one board for each question.
- Place your post-it notes with your ideas on each board:
 - Board 1: what about training regulations needs to change
 - Board 2: what about training regulations should remain the same
 - Board 3: what is the best way to engage stakeholders in providing input?
- Once enough posts are added, we will highlight themes and discuss

Next Steps for Revised Licensing Standards

- **Summer 2023:** Use stakeholder feedback to inform review of training sections of licensing standards
- Beginning Fall 2024: targeted stakeholder engagement on revised licensing standards
 - Could include follow up discussion on training regulations with this group
- Throughout 2024: multiple opportunities for stakeholders to provide feedback on revised licensing standards



Thank You!

Regulation Modernization Team

Ccregmodernization.dhs@state.mn.us