

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2023 and 2024 SB1695

Introduced 2/8/2023, by Sen. Adriane Johnson

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 505/5a from Ch. 23, par. 5005a 20 ILCS 505/50 new 110 ILCS 947/35 225 ILCS 10/4.1 from Ch. 23, par. 2214.1 225 ILCS 10/7 from Ch. 23, par. 2217 225 ILCS 10/25 new

Amends the Children and Family Services Act. Provides that the reimbursement amount for certain child care services shall be increased by at least 8%. Requires the Department of Children and Family Services to provide additional training for Department representatives who work with early childhood education providers. Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Provides that the Illinois Student Assistance Commission may award a grant to an eligible applicant enrolled in an early childhood education program who, after graduation, will work in a child care facility. Amends the Child Care Act of 1969. Provides that the Department shall ensure that the amount of time it takes to complete a criminal background investigation does not exceed 90 days. Provides that certain classes and trainings shall be waived for licensed day care home providers, licensed group day care home providers, and licensed day care center directors and classroom staff to the extent the classes and trainings are duplicative of an individual's educational training or if the individual has a master's or bachelor's degree in early childhood education or an equivalent subject. Provides that the Department shall implement a child care facility educator substitution pool program, which shall provide to child care facilities the contact information for early childhood educators willing to provide substitute services to other child care facilities in a specified geographic area.

LRB103 26903 AMQ 53267 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Children and Family Services Act is amended by changing Section 5a and adding Sections 50 and 55 as follows:
- 7 (20 ILCS 505/5a) (from Ch. 23, par. 5005a)
- 8 (Text of Section before amendment by P.A. 102-926)
- 9 Sec. 5a. Reimbursable services for which the Department of 10 Children and Family Services shall pay 100% of the reasonable 11 cost pursuant to a written contract negotiated between the 12 Department and the agency furnishing the services (which shall 13 include but not be limited to the determination of reasonable
- 14 cost, the services being purchased and the duration of the
- 15 agreement) include, but are not limited to:

16 SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- 17 Adjunctive Therapy;
- 18 Child Care Service, including day care;
- 19 Clinical Therapy;
- 20 Custodial Service;
- 21 Field Work Students;
- 22 Food Service;

1	Normal Education;			
2	<pre>In-Service Training;</pre>			
3	Intake or Evaluation, or both;			
4	Medical Services;			
5	Recreation;			
6	Social Work or Counselling, or both;			
7	Supportive Staff;			
8	Volunteers.			
9	OBJECT EXPENSES			
10	Professional Fees and Contract Service Payments;			
11	Supplies;			
12	Telephone and Telegram;			
13	Occupancy;			
14	Local Transportation;			
15	Equipment and Other Fixed Assets, including amortization			
16	of same;			
17	Miscellaneous.			
18	ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS			
19	Program Administration;			
20	Supervision and Consultation;			
21	Inspection and Monitoring for purposes of issuing			
22	licenses;			
23	Determination of Children who are eligible			
24	for federal or other reimbursement;			

- 1 Postage and Shipping;
- 2 Outside Printing, Artwork, etc.;
- 3 Subscriptions and Reference Publications;
- 4 Management and General Expense.
- 5 Reimbursement of administrative costs other than inspection
- 6 and monitoring for purposes of issuing licenses may not exceed
- 7 20% of the costs for other services.
- 8 The Department may offer services to any child or family
- 9 with respect to whom a report of suspected child abuse or
- 10 neglect has been called in to the hotline after completion of a
- 11 family assessment as provided under subsection (a-5) of
- 12 Section 7.4 of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act
- and the Department has determined that services are needed to
- 14 address the safety of the child and other family members and
- 15 the risk of subsequent maltreatment. Acceptance of such
- services shall be voluntary.
- 17 All Object Expenses, Service Activities and Administrative
- 18 Costs are allowable.
- 19 If a survey instrument is used in the rate setting
- 20 process:
- 21 (a) with respect to any day care centers, it shall be
- limited to those agencies which receive reimbursement from
- 23 the State;
- 24 (b) the cost survey instrument shall be promulgated by
- 25 rule;
- 26 (c) any requirements of the respondents shall be

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- promulgated by rule;
- 2 (d) all screens, limits or other tests of 3 reasonableness, allowability and reimbursability shall be 4 promulgated by rule;
- (e) adjustments may be made by the Department to rates
 when it determines that reported wage and salary levels
 are insufficient to attract capable caregivers in
 sufficient numbers.

The Department of Children and Family Services may pay 100% of the reasonable costs of research and valuation focused exclusively on services to youth in care. Such research projects must be approved, in advance, by the Director of the Department.

In addition to reimbursements otherwise provided for in this Section, the Department of Human Services shall, in accordance with annual written agreements, make advance quarterly disbursements to local public agencies for child day care services with funds appropriated from the Local Effort Day Care Fund.

Neither the Department of Children and Family Services nor the Department of Human Services shall pay or approve reimbursement for day care in a facility which is operating without a valid license or permit, except in the case of day care homes or day care centers which are exempt from the licensing requirements of the "Child Care Act of 1969".

As soon as practical on or after the effective date of this

- 1 amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly, the
- 2 reimbursement rate under this Section shall be increased by at
- 3 least 8%.
- 4 (Source: P.A. 100-159, eff. 8-18-17.)
- 5 (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 102-926)
- 6 Sec. 5a. Reimbursable services for which the Department of
- 7 Children and Family Services shall pay 100% of the reasonable
- 8 cost pursuant to a written contract negotiated between the
- 9 Department and the agency furnishing the services (which shall
- 10 include but not be limited to the determination of reasonable
- 11 cost, the services being purchased and the duration of the
- 12 agreement) include, but are not limited to:
- 13 SERVICE ACTIVITIES
- 14 Adjunctive Therapy;
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- 16 Clinical Therapy;
- 17 Custodial Service;
- 18 Field Work Students;
- 19 Food Service;
- 20 Normal Education;
- 21 In-Service Training;
- 22 Intake or Evaluation, or both;
- 23 Medical Services;
- 24 Recreation;

1 Social Work or Counselling, or both; 2 Supportive Staff; 3 Volunteers. OBJECT EXPENSES 4 5 Professional Fees and Contract Service Payments; 6 Supplies; Telephone and Telegram; 7 8 Occupancy; 9 Local Transportation; 10 Equipment and Other Fixed Assets, including amortization 11 of same; 12 Miscellaneous. 13 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS 14 Program Administration; 15 Supervision and Consultation; 16 Inspection and Monitoring for purposes of issuing 17 licenses; 18 Determination of Children who are eligible for federal or other reimbursement; 19 20 Postage and Shipping; Outside Printing, Artwork, etc.; 21 22 Subscriptions and Reference Publications; 23 Management and General Expense. 24 Reimbursement of administrative costs other than inspection

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and monitoring for purposes of issuing licenses may not exceed 2 20% of the costs for other services.

The Department may offer services to any child or family with respect to whom a report of suspected child abuse or neglect has been called in to the hotline after completion of a family assessment as provided under subsection (a-5) of Section 7.4 of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act and the Department has determined that services are needed to address the safety of the child and other family members and the risk of subsequent maltreatment. Acceptance of such services shall be voluntary.

12 All Object Expenses, Service Activities and Administrative 13 Costs are allowable.

14 If a survey instrument is used in the rate setting 15 process:

- (a) with respect to any day care centers, it shall be limited to those agencies which receive reimbursement from the State;
- 19 (b) the cost survey instrument shall be promulgated by 20 rule;
- 21 (c) any requirements of the respondents shall be 22 promulgated by rule;
 - (d) all screens, limits or other tests of reasonableness, allowability and reimbursability shall be promulgated by rule;
 - (e) adjustments may be made by the Department to rates

when it determines that reported wage and salary levels are insufficient to attract capable caregivers in sufficient numbers.

The Department of Children and Family Services may pay 100% of the reasonable costs of research and valuation focused exclusively on services to youth in care. Such research projects must be approved, in advance, by the Director of the Department.

In addition to reimbursements otherwise provided for in this Section, the Department of Human Services shall, in accordance with annual written agreements, make advance quarterly disbursements to local public agencies for child day care services with funds appropriated from the Local Effort Day Care Fund.

Neither the Department of Children and Family Services nor the Department of Human Services shall pay or approve reimbursement for day care in a facility which is operating without a valid license or permit, except in the case of day care homes or day care centers which are exempt from the licensing requirements of the "Child Care Act of 1969".

The rates paid to day care providers by the Department of Children and Family Services shall match the rates paid to child care providers by the Department of Human Services under the child care assistance program, including base rates and any relevant rate enhancements.

As soon as practical on or after the effective date of this

- 1 amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly, the
- 2 reimbursement rate under this Section shall be increased by at
- 3 least 8%.
- 4 (Source: P.A. 102-926, eff. 7-1-23.)
- 5 (20 ILCS 505/50 new)
- 6 Sec. 50. Training for Department staff who work with early
- 7 childhood education providers. The Department shall provide
- 8 <u>additional training for Department staff who work with early</u>
- 9 childhood education providers.
- 10 Section 10. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
- 11 amended by changing Section 35 as follows:
- 12 (110 ILCS 947/35)
- 13 Sec. 35. Monetary award program.
- 14 (a) The Commission shall, each year, receive and consider
- 15 applications for grant assistance under this Section. Subject
- 16 to a separate appropriation for such purposes, an applicant is
- 17 eligible for a grant under this Section when the Commission
- 18 finds that the applicant:
- 19 (1) is a resident of this State and a citizen or
- 20 permanent resident of the United States;
- 21 (2) is enrolled or has been accepted for enrollment in
- 22 a qualified institution for the purpose of obtaining a
- 23 degree, certificate, or other credential offered by the

1	institution,	as	applicable;	and

- (3) in the absence of grant assistance, will be deterred by financial considerations from completing an educational program at the qualified institution of his or her choice.
 - (b) The Commission shall award renewals only upon the student's application and upon the Commission's finding that the applicant:
 - (1) has remained a student in good standing;
 - (2) remains a resident of this State; and
- 11 (3) is in a financial situation that continues to
 12 warrant assistance.
 - (c) All grants shall be applicable only to tuition and necessary fee costs. The Commission shall determine the grant amount for each student, which shall not exceed the smallest of the following amounts:
 - (1) subject to appropriation, \$5,468 for fiscal year 2009, \$5,968 for fiscal year 2010, \$6,468 for fiscal year 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter through fiscal year 2022, and \$8,508 for fiscal year 2023 and each fiscal year thereafter, or such lesser amount as the Commission finds to be available, during an academic year;
 - (2) the amount which equals 2 semesters or 3 quarters tuition and other necessary fees required generally by the institution of all full-time undergraduate students; or
 - (3) such amount as the Commission finds to be

appropriate in view of the applicant's financial resources.

Subject to appropriation, the maximum grant amount for students not subject to subdivision (1) of this subsection (c) must be increased by the same percentage as any increase made by law to the maximum grant amount under subdivision (1) of this subsection (c).

"Tuition and other necessary fees" as used in this Section include the customary charge for instruction and use of facilities in general, and the additional fixed fees charged for specified purposes, which are required generally of nongrant recipients for each academic period for which the grant applicant actually enrolls, but do not include fees payable only once or breakage fees and other contingent deposits which are refundable in whole or in part. The Commission may prescribe, by rule not inconsistent with this Section, detailed provisions concerning the computation of tuition and other necessary fees.

- (d) No applicant, including those presently receiving scholarship assistance under this Act, is eligible for monetary award program consideration under this Act after receiving a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent of 135 semester credit hours of award payments.
- 24 (d-5) In this subsection (d-5), "renewing applicant" means 25 a student attending an institution of higher learning who 26 received a Monetary Award Program grant during the prior

academic year. Beginning with the processing of applications for the 2020-2021 academic year, the Commission shall annually publish a priority deadline date for renewing applicants. Subject to appropriation, a renewing applicant who files by the published priority deadline date shall receive a grant if he or she continues to meet the eligibility requirements under this Section. A renewing applicant's failure to apply by the priority deadline date established under this subsection (d-5) shall not disqualify him or her from receiving a grant if sufficient funding is available to provide awards after that date.

- (e) The Commission, in determining the number of grants to be offered, shall take into consideration past experience with the rate of grant funds unclaimed by recipients. The Commission shall notify applicants that grant assistance is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds.
- (e-5) The General Assembly finds and declares that it is an important purpose of the Monetary Award Program to facilitate access to college both for students who pursue postsecondary education immediately following high school and for those who pursue postsecondary education later in life, particularly Illinoisans who are dislocated workers with financial need and who are seeking to improve their economic position through education. For the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years, the Commission shall give additional and specific consideration to the needs of dislocated workers with

the intent of allowing applicants who are dislocated workers an opportunity to secure financial assistance even if applying later than the general pool of applicants. The Commission's consideration shall include, in determining the number of grants to be offered, an estimate of the resources needed to serve dislocated workers who apply after the Commission initially suspends award announcements for the upcoming regular academic year, but prior to the beginning of that academic year. For the purposes of this subsection (e-5), a dislocated worker is defined as in the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

- (f) (Blank).
- (g) The Commission shall determine the eligibility of and make grants to applicants enrolled at qualified for-profit institutions in accordance with the criteria set forth in this Section. The eligibility of applicants enrolled at such for-profit institutions shall be limited as follows:
 - (1) Beginning with the academic year 1997, only to eligible first-time freshmen and first-time transfer students who have attained an associate degree.
 - (2) Beginning with the academic year 1998, only to eligible freshmen students, transfer students who have attained an associate degree, and students who receive a grant under paragraph (1) for the academic year 1997 and whose grants are being renewed for the academic year 1998.
 - (3) Beginning with the academic year 1999, to all

- 1 eligible students.
- 2 (h) The Commission may award a grant to an eligible
- 3 applicant enrolled at an Illinois public institution of higher
- 4 learning in a program that will culminate in the award of an
- 5 occupational or career and technical certificate as that term
- 6 is defined in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 1501.301.
- 7 (h-5) The Commission may award a grant to an eligible
- 8 applicant enrolled in an early childhood education program
- 9 who, after graduation, will work in a child care facility. The
- 10 grant shall cover the cost of an undergraduate degree.
- 11 (i) The Commission may adopt rules to implement this
- 12 Section.
- 13 (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 102-699, eff. 4-19-22.)
- 14 Section 15. The Child Care Act of 1969 is amended by
- 15 changing Sections 4.1 and 7 and by adding Section 25 as
- 16 follows:
- 17 (225 ILCS 10/4.1) (from Ch. 23, par. 2214.1)
- 18 Sec. 4.1. Criminal Background Investigations. The
- 19 Department shall require that each child care facility license
- 20 applicant as part of the application process, and each
- 21 employee and volunteer of a child care facility or
- 22 non-licensed service provider, as a condition of employment,
- 23 authorize an investigation to determine if such applicant,
- 24 employee, or volunteer has ever been charged with a crime and

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if so, the disposition of those charges; this authorization shall indicate the scope of the inquiry and the agencies which may be contacted. Upon this authorization, the Director shall request and receive information and assistance from any federal, State or local governmental agency as part of the authorized investigation. Each applicant, employee, volunteer of a child care facility or non-licensed service provider shall submit his or her fingerprints to the Illinois State Police in the form and manner prescribed by the Illinois State Police. These fingerprints shall be checked against the fingerprint records now and hereafter filed in the Illinois State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history records databases. The Illinois State Police shall charge a fee for conducting the criminal history records check, which shall be deposited in the State Police Services Fund and shall not exceed the actual cost of the records check. The Illinois State Police shall provide information concerning any criminal charges, and their disposition, now or hereafter filed, against an applicant, employee, or volunteer of a child care facility or non-licensed service provider upon request of the Department of Children and Family Services when the request is made in the form and manner required by the Illinois State Police.

Information concerning convictions of a license applicant, employee, or volunteer of a child care facility or non-licensed service provider investigated under this Section,

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including the source of the information and any conclusions or recommendations derived from the information, shall be provided, upon request, to such applicant, employee, volunteer of a child care facility or non-licensed service provider prior to final action by the Department on the application. State conviction information provided by Illinois State Police regarding employees, prospective employees, or volunteers of non-licensed service providers and child care facilities licensed under this Act shall be provided to the operator of such facility, and, upon request, to the employee, prospective employee, or volunteer of a child facility or non-licensed service provider. care Any information concerning criminal charges and the disposition of such charges obtained by the Department shall be confidential and may not be transmitted outside the Department, except as required herein, and may not be transmitted to anyone within the Department except as needed for the purpose of evaluating an application or an employee or volunteer of a child care facility or non-licensed service provider. Only information and standards which bear a reasonable and rational relation to the performance of a child care facility shall be used by the Department or any licensee. Any employee of the Department of Children and Family Services, Illinois State Police, or a child care facility receiving confidential information under this Section who gives or causes to be given any confidential information concerning any criminal convictions of

- 1 applicant, employee, or volunteer of a child care facility or
- 2 non-licensed service provider, shall be guilty of a Class A
- 3 misdemeanor unless release of such information is authorized
- 4 by this Section.
- 5 A child care facility may hire, on a probationary basis,
- 6 any employee or volunteer of a child care facility or
- 7 non-licensed service provider authorizing a criminal
- 8 background investigation under this Section, pending the
- 9 result of such investigation. Employees and volunteers of a
- 10 child care facility or non-licensed service provider shall be
- 11 notified prior to hiring that such employment may be
- 12 terminated on the basis of criminal background information
- obtained by the facility.
- 14 The Department shall ensure that the amount of time it
- takes to complete the criminal background investigation under
- this Section does not exceed 90 days.
- 17 (Source: P.A. 102-538, eff. 8-20-21.)
- 18 (225 ILCS 10/7) (from Ch. 23, par. 2217)
- 19 Sec. 7. (a) The Department must prescribe and publish
- 20 minimum standards for licensing that apply to the various
- 21 types of facilities for child care defined in this Act and that
- 22 are equally applicable to like institutions under the control
- of the Department and to foster family homes used by and under
- 24 the direct supervision of the Department. The Department shall
- 25 seek the advice and assistance of persons representative of

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- the various types of child care facilities in establishing such standards. The standards prescribed and published under this Act take effect as provided in the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, restricted and are regulations pertaining to the following matters and to any rules and regulations required or permitted by any other Section of this Act:
 - (1) The operation and conduct of the facility and responsibility it assumes for child care;
 - (2) The character, suitability and qualifications of the applicant and other persons directly responsible for the care and welfare of children served. All child day care center licensees and employees who are required to report child abuse or neglect under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act shall be required to attend training on recognizing child abuse and neglect, as prescribed by Department rules;
 - (3) The general financial ability and competence of the applicant to provide necessary care for children and to maintain prescribed standards;
 - (4) The number of individuals or staff required to insure adequate supervision and care of the children received. The standards shall provide that each child care institution, maternity center, day care center, group home, day care home, and group day care home shall have on its premises during its hours of operation at least one

staff member certified in first aid, in the Heimlich maneuver and in cardiopulmonary resuscitation by the American Red Cross or other organization approved by rule of the Department. Child welfare agencies shall not be subject to such a staffing requirement. The Department may offer, or arrange for the offering, on a periodic basis in each community in this State in cooperation with the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association or other appropriate organization, voluntary programs to train operators of foster family homes and day care homes in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation;

- (5) The appropriateness, safety, cleanliness, and general adequacy of the premises, including maintenance of adequate fire prevention and health standards conforming to State laws and municipal codes to provide for the physical comfort, care, and well-being of children received;
- (6) Provisions for food, clothing, educational opportunities, program, equipment and individual supplies to assure the healthy physical, mental, and spiritual development of children served;
- (7) Provisions to safeguard the legal rights of children served;
- (8) Maintenance of records pertaining to the admission, progress, health, and discharge of children, including, for day care centers and day care homes,

records indicating each child has been immunized as required by State regulations. The Department shall require proof that children enrolled in a facility have been immunized against Haemophilus Influenzae B (HIB);

- (9) Filing of reports with the Department;
- (10) Discipline of children;
- (11) Protection and fostering of the particular religious faith of the children served;
- (12) Provisions prohibiting firearms on day care center premises except in the possession of peace officers;
- (13) Provisions prohibiting handguns on day care home premises except in the possession of peace officers or other adults who must possess a handgun as a condition of employment and who reside on the premises of a day care home;
- (14) Provisions requiring that any firearm permitted on day care home premises, except handguns in the possession of peace officers, shall be kept in a disassembled state, without ammunition, in locked storage, inaccessible to children and that ammunition permitted on day care home premises shall be kept in locked storage separate from that of disassembled firearms, inaccessible to children;
- (15) Provisions requiring notification of parents or guardians enrolling children at a day care home of the

presence in the day care home of any firearms and ammunition and of the arrangements for the separate, locked storage of such firearms and ammunition;

- (16) Provisions requiring all licensed child care facility employees who care for newborns and infants to complete training every 3 years on the nature of sudden unexpected infant death (SUID), sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), and the safe sleep recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics; and
- (17) With respect to foster family homes, provisions requiring the Department to review quality of care concerns and to consider those concerns in determining whether a foster family home is qualified to care for children.

By July 1, 2022, all licensed day care home providers, licensed group day care home providers, and licensed day care center directors and classroom staff shall participate in at least one training that includes the topics of early childhood social emotional learning, infant and early childhood mental health, early childhood trauma, or adverse childhood experiences. Current licensed providers, directors, and classroom staff shall complete training by July 1, 2022 and shall participate in training that includes the above topics at least once every 3 years. However, any licensed day care home provider, licensed day care center director, or classroom staff is not required

1 to participate in this training if the individual has a
2 master's or a bachelor's degree in early childhood education

or an equivalent subject.

The Department shall waive any mandatory training or classes for a licensed day care home provider, licensed group day care home provider, or licensed day care center director to the extent that the training or classes is duplicative of the individual's educational training.

- (b) If, in a facility for general child care, there are children diagnosed as mentally ill or children diagnosed as having an intellectual or physical disability, who are determined to be in need of special mental treatment or of nursing care, or both mental treatment and nursing care, the Department shall seek the advice and recommendation of the Department of Human Services, the Department of Public Health, or both Departments regarding the residential treatment and nursing care provided by the institution.
- (c) The Department shall investigate any person applying to be licensed as a foster parent to determine whether there is any evidence of current drug or alcohol abuse in the prospective foster family. The Department shall not license a person as a foster parent if drug or alcohol abuse has been identified in the foster family or if a reasonable suspicion of such abuse exists, except that the Department may grant a foster parent license to an applicant identified with an alcohol or drug problem if the applicant has successfully

- participated in an alcohol or drug treatment program,

 self-help group, or other suitable activities and if the

 Department determines that the foster family home can provide

 a safe, appropriate environment and meet the physical and

 emotional needs of children.
 - (d) The Department, in applying standards prescribed and published, as herein provided, shall offer consultation through employed staff or other qualified persons to assist applicants and licensees in meeting and maintaining minimum requirements for a license and to help them otherwise to achieve programs of excellence related to the care of children served. Such consultation shall include providing information concerning education and training in early childhood development to providers of day care home services. The Department may provide or arrange for such education and training for those providers who request such assistance.
 - (e) The Department shall distribute copies of licensing standards to all licensees and applicants for a license. Each licensee or holder of a permit shall distribute copies of the appropriate licensing standards and any other information required by the Department to child care facilities under its supervision. Each licensee or holder of a permit shall maintain appropriate documentation of the distribution of the standards. Such documentation shall be part of the records of the facility and subject to inspection by authorized representatives of the Department.

- (f) The Department shall prepare summaries of day care licensing standards. Each licensee or holder of a permit for a day care facility shall distribute a copy of the appropriate summary and any other information required by the Department, to the legal guardian of each child cared for in that facility at the time when the child is enrolled or initially placed in the facility. The licensee or holder of a permit for a day care facility shall secure appropriate documentation of the distribution of the summary and brochure. Such documentation shall be a part of the records of the facility and subject to inspection by an authorized representative of the Department.
- (g) The Department shall distribute to each licensee and holder of a permit copies of the licensing or permit standards applicable to such person's facility. Each licensee or holder of a permit shall make available by posting at all times in a common or otherwise accessible area a complete and current set of licensing standards in order that all employees of the facility may have unrestricted access to such standards. All employees of the facility shall have reviewed the standards and any subsequent changes. Each licensee or holder of a permit shall maintain appropriate documentation of the current review of licensing standards by all employees. Such records shall be part of the records of the facility and subject to inspection by authorized representatives of the Department.
- (h) Any standards involving physical examinations, immunization, or medical treatment shall include appropriate

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- exemptions for children whose parents object thereto on the grounds that they conflict with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious organization, of which the parent is an adherent or member, and for children who should not be subjected to immunization for clinical reasons.
 - (i) The Department, in cooperation with the Department of Public Health, shall work to increase immunization awareness and participation among parents of children enrolled in day care centers and day care homes by publishing on Department's website information about the benefits immunization against vaccine preventable diseases, including influenza and pertussis. The information for vaccine preventable diseases shall include the incidence and severity of the diseases, the availability of vaccines, and the importance of immunizing children and persons who frequently have close contact with children. The website content shall be reviewed annually in collaboration with the Department of Public Health to reflect the most current recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). The Department shall work with day care centers and day care homes licensed under this Act to ensure that the information is annually distributed to parents in August or September.
 - (j) Any standard adopted by the Department that requires an applicant for a license to operate a day care home to include a copy of a high school diploma or equivalent certificate with his or her application shall be deemed to be

- 1 satisfied if the applicant includes a copy of a high school
- diploma or equivalent certificate or a copy of a degree from an
- 3 accredited institution of higher education or vocational
- 4 institution or equivalent certificate.
- 5 (Source: P.A. 102-4, eff. 4-27-21.)
- 6 (225 ILCS 10/25 new)
- 7 Sec. 25. Child care facility educator substitution pool
- 8 program. The Department shall implement a child care facility
- 9 <u>educator substitution pool program, which shall provide to</u>
- 10 child care facilities the contact information for early
- 11 childhood educators willing to provide substitute services to
- other child care facilities in a specified geographic area. As
- 13 part of the program, the number of hours worked by an early
- 14 childhood educator under the program shall be tracked for
- 15 purposes of an appropriate retirement plan. The Department
- shall adopt rules to implement this Section.
- 17 Section 95. No acceleration or delay. Where this Act makes
- 18 changes in a statute that is represented in this Act by text
- that is not yet or no longer in effect (for example, a Section
- 20 represented by multiple versions), the use of that text does
- 21 not accelerate or delay the taking effect of (i) the changes
- 22 made by this Act or (ii) provisions derived from any other
- 23 Public Act.