

QRIS and the Health Department

What you need to know

Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale

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| **QRIS Standard** | **Applicable Health Department Requirements** |
| Space and Furnishings | Space must be free of trip hazards such as broken tiles or torn carpets; no holes in walls or ceilings; no leaks.  Furnishings must be sealed (no raw wood), free from pinch hazards, tears, splinter and holes; in good repair.  If windows open, must be screened to prevent insect entry.  All items must be free of visible dirt; facility must have procedures for cleaning rugs; no signs of pests/vermin present. |
| Furnishing for Routine Care, Play, and Learning | Furnishings must be sealed (no raw wood), free from pinch hazards, tears, splinter and holes; in good repair.  Diapering stations must be secured from children's access; chemicals stored properly.  Nap mats must be in good repair; cleaned and sanitized as needed (daily if not labeled; weekly if labeled and used for an individual child).  Extra toys/supplies storage secured from children's access. |
| Furnishings for Relaxation and Comfort | Rugs should be vacuumed daily; steam cleaned routinely; facility must have procedures for cleaning rug if vomiting incident occurs.  Soft toys (includes toys, dramatic play clothing, pillows, puppets) must be laundered weekly for non-mouthed toys and after each use for mouthed toys.  Upholstered furniture must be in good repair - no tears or exposed foam. |
| Room Arrangement for Play | Toy and surface sanitation procedures followed. \* link to appendix chart, bleach mixing |
| Space for Privacy | Space must be free of trip hazards such as broken tiles or torn carpets; no holes in walls or ceilings; no leaks.  Furnishings must be sealed (no raw wood), free from pinch hazards, tears, splinter and holes; in good repair. |
| Child Related Display | N/A |
| Space for Gross Motor Play | All indoor and outdoor equipment is free from hazards (broken plastic, protruding screws, splinters, holes, broken toys).  Outdoor play areas must be fenced.  Outdoor play areas have no standing water.  Outdoor play areas have shock absorbent material under equipment.  Shade available for part of outdoor area.  Outdoor play areas are inspected by staff to ensure there are no hazards before allowing children to play. |
| Gross Motor Equipment | All indoor and outdoor equipment is free from hazards (broken plastic, protruding screws, splinters, holes, broken toys). |
| Personal care routines | If parents share health information pertinent to the center (ie child had a fever, vomiting, diarrhea), center must appropriately exclude according to guideline. |
| Meals/snacks | Food permit available if required. See \*\*\*\*  All staff wash hands in dedicated hand sink. \*NOTE: QRIS states that hand must be washed 5-10 seconds -- health department requires 20 seconds  No bare hand contact procedures must be used.  All refrigerators equipped with thermometers and maintain food at 41F or below (ambient air temp 36-38F)  All children's lunches and water bottles are labeled with their name.  Menu posted.  No raw meat cooked at facility.  Facilities may not cut melons, leafy greens, or tomatoes.  If facility does cooking activities with children, a food permit, written operational plan and a certified food protection manager are required.  All food must be stored properly (off the floor, not under chemicals).  If reusable dishes are used - must be washed rinsed and sanitized according to food regulations.  Tables are cleaned and sanitized (3 steps) before and after eating.  Once served to a child, food is not kept for later use.  Facility observes best by dates for milk and dairy products.  Date marking is used for any items opened and kept more than 7 days. |
| Nap / Rest | Nap mats must be in good repair; cleaned using the 3 step process as needed (daily if not labeled; weekly if labeled and used for an individual child).  Nap mats are spaced at least 2 feet apart. (QRIS requires 36 inches)  Bedding is laundered at least weekly either by facility or sent home with parents.  Cuddly toys provided belong to individual child and not shared; or laundered before next use. |
| Toileting / Diapering | Diapering procedure posted and followed (provide link to chart).  Diapering area fully stocked.  Hand washing conducted after toileting / diaper change.  Toilets stocked with toilet paper.  Hand sinks stocked with liquid pump soap and paper towels.  Hand washing signs posted in all restrooms / hand sinks.  Facility has procedures in place for cleaning up accidents.  Diapering table must be located within 5 visible feet of a hand washing sink.  Trash receptacle for diapers must be lined, hands free, and not accessible to children.  Diaper changing table cleaned with 3 step process after each diaper change.  Toilets are flushed.  Children must be monitored when using the restroom. |
| Health practices | Smoking prohibited.  Exclusion procedures must be followed.  Children's medications stored in a separate and secured area.  Staff and children must wash hands appropriately and when required.  Toy and surface sanitation procedures followed. \* link to appendix chart, bleach mixing  Facilities take precautions to exclude animals from outdoor play area, such as feral cats.  Pet guidelines are followed (link?)  If tooth brushing is done, brushes and paste must be labeled for individual child. (or paste may be squeezed by staff onto a paper for the child to scoop up). Water for brushing teeth may not be obtained from a hand sink.  Facility has procedures for dealing with soiled clothing. (must be bagged and sent home - not allowed to be laundered in center) |
| Safety Practices | All indoor and outdoor equipment is free from hazards (broken plastic, protruding screws, splinters, holes, broken toys).  Outdoor play areas must be fenced.  Outdoor play areas have no standing water.  Outdoor play areas have adequate shock absorbent material under equipment.  Blind cords are kept out of reach.  All plugs are covered or are safety plugs.  Hot water does not exceed 100°F (QRIS says 120°F).  No tripping hazards present.  All chemicals properly labeled, stored and secured from reach of children. |
| Language – Reasoning | Books should be cleaned and replaced when needed. |
| Encouraging Children to Communicate | N/A |
| Using Language to Develop Reasoning Skills | N/A |
| Informal Use of Language | N/A |
| Fine Motor Activities | Toy and surface sanitation procedures followed. \* link to appendix chart, bleach mixing  All indoor and outdoor equipment is free from hazards (broken plastic, protruding screws, splinters, holes, broken toys). |
| Art | Non-toxic materials used.  Any cleaners or paint are properly labeled, stored and secured from reach of children. |
| Music and Movement | N/A |
| Blocks | Toy and surface sanitation procedures followed. \* link to appendix chart, bleach mixing  Mouthed toys 3 step cleaned after each use; all other manipulatives weekly. |
| Sand and Water Play | Water tables are dumped, cleaned and sanitized after each use.  Discontinue use if declared in an outbreak.  Sensory bins are cleaned routinely using 3 step process; disposal of bin material, ie beans, rice, play dough, etc. |
| Dramatic Play | All dramatic play items are laundered weekly in hot water.  Hats are cleaned and sanitized after each use. |
| Nature / Science | Pet guidelines are followed (link?)  Toy and surface sanitation procedures followed. \* link to appendix chart, bleach mixing  Outdoor play areas must be fenced.  Outdoor play areas have no standing water.  Outdoor play areas are inspected by staff to ensure there are no hazards before allowing children to play. |
| Math / Number | Toy and surface sanitation procedures followed. \* link to appendix chart, bleach mixing |
| Use of TV, Video, and/or Computer | N/A |
| Promoting Acceptance of Diversity | Dolls must be laundered at least weekly.  Ethnic foods served must meet Washoe County Food Regulations. |
| Supervision of Gross Motor Activities | All indoor and outdoor equipment is free from hazards (broken plastic, protruding screws, splinters, holes, broken toys). |
| General Supervision of Children (other than gross motor) | Ill children are excluded from classrooms and supervised until picked up by a parent. |
| Discipline | N/A |
| Staff-child interaction | N/A |
| Interactions Among Children | N/A |
| Schedule | N/A |
| Free Play | Toy and surface sanitation procedures followed. \* link to appendix chart, bleach mixing |
| Group Time | Toy and surface sanitation procedures followed. \* link to appendix chart, bleach mixing |
| Provisions for Children with Disabilities | Modifications made to classrooms for accessibility are in good repair; no hazards to other children.  Any medicine is stored in a locked cabinet. |
| Provisions for Parents | N/A |
| Provisions for Personal Needs of Staff | Staff food and personal effects are stored separately from food for center and to prevent contamination.  Any medicine is stored in a locked cabinet. |
| Provisions for Professional Needs of Staff | N/A |
| Staff Interaction and Cooperation | N/A |
| Supervision and Evaluation of Staff | N/A |
| Staff Continuity | N/A |
| Opportunities for Professional Growth | N/A |