

Washoe County Human Services Agency

Regulations for Child Care Facilities

Staff-To-Child Ratio

SECTION 24 STAFF-TO-CHILD RATIO

- 24.1 Individual attention and supervision. A facility must have a staff which is sufficient in number to provide physical care, supervision and individual attention to each child and allow time for interaction between the staff and the children to promote the children's social competence, emotional well-being, and intellectual development. A member of the staff who is supervising a child, and counting as a caregiver in the staff to child ratio, must:
  - A. Be physically present in the room where the child being supervised is present;
  - B. Observe, oversee and guide the child;
  - C. Be aware of the needs of the child and accountable for the care of the child; and
  - D. Maintain a proximity to the child that allows the member of the staff to be capable of intervening if his assistance or direction is needed by the child.
- 24.2 Director as part of staff. Only those staff members working directly with the children shall be counted in the staff-to-child ratio. The facility Director may be counted in the ratio when present at the facility.
- 24.3 Additional staff (cook). Except in family child care and group child care homes, provisions shall be made for additional staff for cooking and maintenance.
- \*24.4 Staff-to-child ratio. Except as otherwise provided in Subsection 29.5 of these Regulations, licensee shall adhere to the following minimum standards for staff-to-child ratio:
  - A. Family child care home
    - 1. One caregiver shall be on duty at all times with provisions for an alternate on call in case of an emergency.
    - 2. Two caregivers shall be on duty when four or more of the children in the facility are children with special needs.
    - \*3. Maximum number of children is six with the following limitations:

Children's Age	Maximum Number of Children Per Age Category
Less than 1 year of age	2
1 year of age or older but less than 3 years of age	4
3 years of age or older	6