

Texas Statutes and Codes Annotated _Human Resources Code (Refs & Annos) _Title 2. Department of Human Services and Department of Protective and Regulatory Services (Refs & Annos) _Subtitle D. Department of Family and Protective Services; Child Welfare and Protective Services _Chapter 42. Regulation of Certain Facilities, Homes, and Agencies That Provide Child-Care Services (Refs & Annos) _Subchapter F. Regulation of Employer-Based Day-Care Facilities

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.151

§ 42.151. Definitions

Effective: September 1, 2009

In this subchapter:

(1) "Employer-based day-care facility" means a day-care facility that is:

(A) operated by a small employer to provide care to not more than 12 children of the employer's employees; and

(B) located on the employer's premises.

(2) "Small employer" means a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other legal entity that employs fewer than 100 full-time employees.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.152

§ 42.152. Permit Required

Effective: September 1, 2007

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), a small employer may not operate an employer-based day-care facility unless the employer holds a permit issued by the department under this subchapter.

(b) A small employer is not required to obtain a permit to operate an employer-based day-care facility under this subchapter if the employer holds a license to operate a child-care facility that is issued by the department under Subchapter C. An employer that holds that license must comply with the applicable provisions of Subchapter C, the applicable rules of the department, and any specific terms of the license.

(c) Notwithstanding any other law, including Section 42.041, a small employer that holds a permit issued under this subchapter is not required to hold a license under Subchapter C to operate an employer-based day-care facility.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.153

§ 42.153. Application; Initial Inspection and Background and Criminal History Checks

Current through the end of the 2013 Third Called Session of the 83rd Legislature

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Effective: September 1, 2007

(a) The department shall develop and implement a streamlined procedure by which a small employer may apply for and be issued a permit to operate an employer-based day-care facility. The employer must submit an application for the permit to the department on a form prescribed by the department.

(b) Except as provided by Section 42.154, on receipt of a small employer's application for a permit, the department shall:

(1) conduct an initial inspection of the employer-based day-care facility to ensure that the employer is able to comply with the provisions of this subchapter and that the facility complies with the fire safety and sanitation standards of the political subdivision in which the facility is located; and

(2) conduct a background and criminal history check on each prospective caregiver whose name is submitted as required by Section 42.159(a).

(c) The department may charge an applicant an administrative fee in a reasonable amount that is sufficient to cover the costs of the department in processing the application.

(d) The department shall process an application not later than the 30th day after the date the department receives all of the required information.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.154

§ 42.154. Conversion of License

Effective: September 1, 2007

(a) The department shall develop and implement a procedure by which a small employer that holds a license to operate a child-care facility that is issued under Subchapter C before September 1, 2007, may convert the license to a permit under this subchapter. The procedure must include an abbreviated application form for use by the employer in applying for the permit.

(b) The department may waive the requirements under Section 42.153(b) for an initial inspection or background and criminal history checks with respect to a facility operated by a small employer seeking to convert a license to a permit under this section if the department determines that previously conducted inspections or background and criminal history checks, as applicable, are sufficient to ensure the safety of children receiving care at the facility.

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V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.155

§ 42.155. Parent or Guardian Within Immediate Vicinity

Effective: September 1, 2007

An employer-based day-care facility operating under this subchapter may provide care only for a child whose parent or guardian:

- (1) is an employee of the small employer to which the permit to operate the facility was issued;
- (2) works within the same building in which the facility is located; and
- (3) is away from that building only for limited periods, as defined by department rules, during the hours the child is receiving care.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.156

§ 42.156. Caregiver-to-Child Ratio

Effective: September 1, 2007

An employer-based day-care facility operating under this subchapter shall maintain a caregiver-to-child ratio of at least one caregiver to every four children receiving care.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.157

§ 42.157. Minimum Standards

Effective: September 1, 2007

The department shall encourage an employer-based day-care facility operating under this subchapter to comply with the minimum standards applicable to a child-care facility licensed under Subchapter C.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.158

§ 42.158. Caregiver Qualifications

Effective: September 1, 2007

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A caregiver employed by an employer-based day-care facility operating under this subchapter must:

- (1) be at least 18 years of age;
- (2) have received a high school diploma or its equivalent, as determined by the department;
- (3) receive at least the minimum training required for an employee of a licensed day-care center as prescribed by department rules in accordance with Sections 42.042(p) and 42.0421;
- (4) have a Child Development Associate or Certified Child-Care Professional credential or an equivalent credential, as determined by the department; and
- (5) not have been precluded from providing direct care or having direct access to a child by the department based on the results of a background and criminal history check conducted under Section 42.159.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.159

§ 42.159. Background and Criminal History Checks Required

Effective: September 1, 2007

(a) In accordance with rules adopted by the executive commissioner, a small employer shall, when applying for a permit under this subchapter and at least once during each 24 months after receiving that permit, submit to the department for use in conducting background and criminal history checks:

- (1) the name of any director of the employer-based day-care facility and the name of each caregiver employed at the facility to provide care to children; and
- (2) the name of each person 14 years of age or older who will regularly or frequently be staying or working at the facility while children are being provided care.

(b) The small employer shall also submit to the department for use in conducting background and criminal history checks the name of each prospective caregiver who will provide care to children at the facility or other prospective employee who will have direct access to those children.

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(c) The department shall conduct background and criminal history checks using:

(1) the information provided under Subsection (a) or (b), as applicable;

(2) the information made available by the Department of Public Safety under Section 411.114, Government Code, or by the Federal Bureau of Investigation or other criminal justice agency under Section 411.087, Government Code; and

(3) the department's records of reported abuse and neglect.

(d) For purposes of Sections 411.114 and 411.087, Government Code:

(1) a small employer that applies for a permit is considered an applicant for a license under this chapter; and

(2) an employer-based day-care facility operating under a permit issued under this subchapter is considered a child-care facility licensed under this chapter.

(e) The department shall require the small employer to pay to the department a fee in an amount not to exceed the administrative costs the department incurs in conducting a background and criminal history check under this section.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.160

§ 42.160. Applicability of Other Law

Effective: September 1, 2007

Except as otherwise provided by this subchapter, an employer-based day-care facility operating under this subchapter is not a child-care facility, as defined by Section 42.002, and the provisions of this chapter and the department's rules that apply to a child-care facility licensed under Subchapter C do not apply to an employer-based day-care facility.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.161

§ 42.161. Reporting of Incidents and Violations

Effective: September 1, 2007

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An employer-based day-care facility operating under this subchapter and each employee of that facility are subject to the reporting requirements of Section 42.063 to the same extent a licensed child-care facility and employees of licensed child-care facilities are subject to that section.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.162

§ 42.162. Authority to Conduct Limited Inspections

Effective: September 1, 2007

(a) The department may inspect an employer-based day-care facility operating under this subchapter if the department receives a complaint or report of child abuse or neglect alleged to have occurred at the facility.

(b) If the department inspects an employer-based day-care facility as authorized by this section, the department may require the small employer operating the facility to take appropriate corrective action the department determines necessary to comply with the requirements of this subchapter and to ensure the health and safety of children receiving care at the facility. The department may continue to inspect the facility until corrective action is taken and for a reasonable time after that action is taken to ensure continued compliance.

(c) The department may charge a small employer issued a permit under this subchapter a reasonable fee for the cost of services provided by the department in formulating, monitoring, and implementing a corrective action plan under this section.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.163

§ 42.163. Suspension, Denial, or Revocation

Effective: September 1, 2007

(a) The department may suspend, deny, or revoke a permit issued to a small employer under this subchapter if the employer does not comply with the provisions of this subchapter or any applicable department rules.

(b) The department may refuse to issue a permit under this subchapter to a small employer that had its authorization to operate a child-care facility issued under another subchapter revoked, suspended, or not renewed for a reason relating to child health or safety as determined by the department.

(c) An employer-based day-care facility is subject to the emergency suspension of its permit to operate and to closure under Section 42.073 to the same extent and in the same manner as a licensed child-care facility is subject to

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V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.201

§ 42.201. Definitions

Effective: September 1, 2012

In this subchapter:

(1) “Shelter” means a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter or other facility that is designed to provide temporary living accommodations to individuals and families, including a family violence shelter, a homeless shelter, and an emergency shelter. The term does not include a temporary facility established in response to a natural or other disaster.

(2) “Shelter care” means child care that is provided:

(A) to seven or more children under 14 years of age who temporarily reside at a shelter each with an adult who is related to the child by blood or who is the child’s managing conservator;

(B) by a person who is not a temporary resident of a shelter; and

(C) while the adult described by Paragraph (A) is away from the shelter.

(3) “Shelter day-care facility” means a shelter that provides shelter care for not more than 24 hours a day, but at least four hours a day, three or more days a week.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.202

§ 42.202. Permit Required

Effective: September 1, 2012

(a) Except as provided by Subsections (b) and (e), a shelter may not provide shelter care unless the shelter holds a permit issued by the department under this subchapter.

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(b) A shelter is not required to obtain a permit to provide shelter care under this subchapter if the shelter holds a license to operate a child-care facility that is issued by the department under Subchapter C. A shelter that holds that license must comply with the applicable provisions of Subchapter C, the applicable rules of the department, and any specific terms of the license.

(c) Notwithstanding any other law, including Section 42.041, a shelter that holds a permit issued under this subchapter is not required to hold a license under Subchapter C to operate a shelter day-care facility.

(d) The department may not issue a permit under this subchapter to a shelter that provides child care to a child who is not a resident of the shelter. A shelter that provides child care described by this subsection must hold a license to operate a child-care facility issued under Subchapter C.

(e) A shelter is not required to obtain a permit under this subchapter or a license under Subchapter C if the shelter provides shelter care for:

(1) less than four hours a day or for less than three days a week; or

(2) six or fewer children.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.203

§ 42.203. Application; Initial Inspection and Background and Criminal History Checks

Effective: September 1, 2012

(a) The department shall develop and implement a streamlined procedure by which a shelter may apply for and be issued a permit to operate a shelter day-care facility. The shelter must submit an application for the permit to the department on a form prescribed by the department.

(b) Except as provided by Section 42.204, on receipt of a shelter's application for a permit, the department shall:

(1) conduct an initial inspection of the shelter day-care facility to ensure that the shelter is able to comply with the provisions of this subchapter and that the facility complies with the fire safety and sanitation standards of the political subdivision in which the facility is located; and

(2) conduct a background and criminal history check on each prospective caregiver whose name is submitted as required by Section 42.206(a).

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(c) The department may charge an applicant an administrative fee in a reasonable amount that is sufficient to cover the costs of the department in processing the application.

(d) The department shall process an application not later than the 30th day after the date the department receives all of the required information.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.204

§ 42.204. Conversion of License

Effective: September 1, 2012

(a) The department shall develop and implement a procedure by which a shelter that holds a license to operate a child-care facility that is issued under Subchapter C before September 1, 2012, may convert the license to a permit under this subchapter. The procedure must include an abbreviated application form for use by the shelter in applying for the permit.

(b) The department may waive the requirements under Section 42.203(b) for an initial inspection or background and criminal history checks with respect to a licensed child-care facility seeking to convert a license to a permit under this section if the department determines that previously conducted inspections or background and criminal history checks, as applicable, are sufficient to ensure the safety of children receiving care at the facility.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.205

§ 42.205. Caregiver Qualifications and Training; Child-to-Caregiver Ratios

Effective: September 1, 2012

(a) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules that specify the minimum:

(1) qualifications and training required for a person providing child care in a shelter day-care facility; and

(2) child-to-caregiver ratios in a shelter day-care facility.

(b) In adopting rules under this section, the executive commissioner shall consider:

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- (1) the special circumstances and needs of families that seek temporary shelter; and
- (2) the role of a shelter in assisting and supporting families in crisis.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.206

§ 42.206. Background and Criminal History Checks Required

Effective: September 1, 2012

(a) In accordance with rules adopted by the executive commissioner, a shelter shall, when applying for a permit under this subchapter and at least once during each 24-month period after receiving that permit, submit to the department for use in conducting background and criminal history checks:

- (1) the name of any director or prospective director of the shelter day-care facility and the name of each caregiver or prospective caregiver employed at the facility to provide care to children;
- (2) the name of each person counted in child-to-caregiver ratios at the shelter day-care facility; and
- (3) the name of each person 14 years of age or older who will have unsupervised access to one or more children while in the care of the shelter day-care facility.

(b) In addition to the requirements of Subsection (a), a shelter shall submit a complete set of fingerprints of each person required to undergo a criminal history check under Subsection (a) if:

- (1) the person has lived outside the state at any time during the previous five years; or
- (2) the shelter has reason to suspect that the person has a criminal history in another state.

(c) The department shall conduct background and criminal history checks using:

- (1) the information provided under Subsection (a) or (b), as applicable;

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(2) the information made available by the Department of Public Safety under Section 411.114, Government Code, or by the Federal Bureau of Investigation or another criminal justice agency under Section 411.087, Government Code; and

(3) the department's records of reported abuse and neglect.

(d) For purposes of Sections 411.114 and 411.087, Government Code:

(1) a shelter that applies for a permit is considered to be an applicant for a license under this chapter; and

(2) a shelter day-care facility operating under a permit issued under this subchapter is considered to be a child-care facility licensed under this chapter.

(e) The department shall require the shelter to pay to the department a fee in an amount not to exceed the administrative costs the department incurs in conducting a background and criminal history check under this section.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.207

§ 42.207. Applicability of Other Law

Effective: September 1, 2012

Except as otherwise provided by this subchapter, a shelter day-care facility operating under this subchapter is not a child-care facility, as defined by Section 42.002, and the provisions of this chapter and the department's rules that apply to a child-care facility licensed under Subchapter C do not apply to a shelter day-care facility.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.208

§ 42.208. Reporting of Incidents and Violations

Effective: September 1, 2012

A shelter day-care facility operating under this subchapter and each employee of that facility are subject to the reporting requirements of Section 42.063 to the same extent a licensed child-care facility and employees of licensed child-care facilities are subject to that section.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.209

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§ 42.209. Authority to Conduct Limited Inspections

Effective: September 1, 2012

(a) The department may inspect a shelter day-care facility operating under this subchapter if the department receives a complaint or report of child abuse or neglect alleged to have occurred at the shelter day-care facility.

(b) If the department inspects a shelter day-care facility as authorized by this section, the department may require the facility to take appropriate corrective action the department determines necessary to comply with the requirements of this subchapter and to ensure the health and safety of children receiving care at the facility. The department may continue to inspect the facility until corrective action is taken and for a reasonable time after that action is taken to ensure continued compliance.

(c) The department may charge a shelter issued a permit under this subchapter a reasonable fee for the cost of services provided by the department in formulating, monitoring, and implementing a corrective action plan under this section.

V.T.C.A., Human Resources Code § 42.210

§ 42.210. Suspension, Denial, or Revocation

Effective: September 1, 2012

(a) The department may suspend, deny, or revoke a permit issued to a shelter under this subchapter if the shelter does not comply with the provisions of this subchapter or any applicable department rules.

(b) The department may refuse to issue a permit under this subchapter to a shelter that had its authorization to operate a child-care facility issued under another subchapter revoked, suspended, or not renewed for a reason relating to child health or safety as determined by the department.

(c) A shelter day-care facility is subject to the emergency suspension of its permit to operate and to closure under Section 42.073 to the same extent and in the same manner as a licensed child-care facility is subject to that section.