

Texas Administrative Code _Title 40. Social Services and Assistance _Part 19. Department of Family and Protective Services _Chapter 746. Minimum Standards for Child-Care Centers _Subchapter H. Basic Care Requirements for Infants

40 TAC § 746.2401
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2401

§ 746.2401. What are the basic care requirements for infants?

Basic care for infants must include:

- (1) Care by the same caregiver on a regular basis, when possible;
- (2) Individual attention given to each child including playing, talking, cuddling, and holding;
- (3) Holding and comforting a child who is upset;
- (4) Prompt attention given to physical needs, such as feeding and diapering;**
- (5) Talking to children as they are fed, changed, and held, such as naming objects, singing, or saying rhymes;
- (6) Ensuring the environment is free of objects that may cause choking in children younger than three years; and
- (7) Never leaving an infant unsupervised.

40 TAC § 746.2403
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2403

§ 746.2403. How must I arrange the infant care area?

The room arrangement of the infant care area must:

- (1) Make it possible for caregivers to see and/or hear all children at a glance and be able to intervene when necessary;

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(2) Include safe, open floor space for floor time play;

(3) Separate infants from children more than 18 months older than the youngest child in the group, except when 12 or fewer children are in care;

(4) Have cribs far enough apart so that one infant may not reach into another crib;

(5) Provide caregivers with enough space to walk and work between cribs, cots, and mats; and

(6) Ensure older children do not use the infant area as a passageway to other areas of the building.

40 TAC § 746.2405

Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2405

§ 746.2405. What furnishings and equipment must I have in the infant care area?

Furnishings and equipment for infants must include at least the following:

(1) An adult-sized rocker or chair;

(2) An individual crib for each non-walking infant;

(3) An individual crib, cot, bed, or mat that is waterproof or washable for each walking infant;

(4) A hand-washing sink in the diaper-changing area, as specified in § 746.4403 of this title (relating to Must I have a hand-washing sink in the diaper-changing area?); and

(5) A sufficient number of toys to keep children engaged in activities.

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40 TAC § 746.2407
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2407

§ 746.2407. Must the equipment I use for infants be equipped with safety straps?

If you use high chairs, swings, strollers, infant carriers, rockers and bouncer seats, or similar types of equipment, they must be equipped with safety straps that must be fastened whenever a child is using the equipment.

40 TAC § 746.2409
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2409

§ 746.2409. What specific safety requirements must my cribs meet?

(a) All cribs must have:

- (1) A firm, flat mattress that snugly fits the sides of the crib. The mattress must not be supplemented with additional foam material or pads;
- (2) Sheets that fit snugly and do not present an entanglement hazard;
- (3) A mattress that is waterproof or washable;
- (4) Secure mattress support hangers, and no loose hardware or improperly installed or damaged parts;
- (5) A maximum of 2 3/8 inches between crib slats or poles;
- (6) No corner posts over 1/16 inch above the end panels;
- (7) No cutout areas in the headboard or footboard that would entrap a child's head or body;

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(8) Drop gates, if present, which fasten securely and cannot be opened by a child; and

(9) Documentation that each crib meets the applicable federal rules at Title 16, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 1219 or 1220, concerning “Safety Standards for Full-Size Baby Cribs” and “Safety Standards for Non-Full-Size Baby Cribs,” respectively, or documentation that each crib is a medical device listed and registered with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

(b) You must sanitize each crib before a different child uses it and when soiled.

(c) You must never leave children in the crib with the drop gate down.

**40 TAC § 746.2411
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2411**

§ 746.2411. Are mesh cribs or port-a-cribs allowed?

Yes. Non-full-size, portable, or mesh-side cribs are allowed, but some additional safety requirements must be followed:

(1) You must use non-full-size, portable, or mesh-side cribs according to the manufacturer’s instructions. These cribs must also have:

(A) A minimum height of 22 inches from the top of the railing to the mattress support at its lowest level;

(B) Mesh openings that are 1/4 inch or less;

(C) Mesh which is securely attached to top rail, side rail, and floor plate; and

(D) Folded sides that securely latch in place when raised.

(2) You must never leave a child in a mesh-sided crib with a side folded down.

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**40 TAC § 746.2413
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2413**

§ 746.2413. Are stacking wall cribs allowed?

Yes. Stacking wall cribs must meet the requirements in § 746.2409 of this title (relating to What specific safety requirements must my cribs meet?) and:

- (1) Are limited to two stacked cribs;
- (2) Must be used according to manufacturer's directions; and
- (3) Doors/gates must be securely latched anytime a child is in the crib.

**40 TAC § 746.2415
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2415**

§ 746.2415. Are specific types of equipment prohibited for use with infants?

Yes. The following list of equipment, identified as unsafe for infants by the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the American Academy of Pediatrics, must not be used in the child-care center:

- (1) Baby walkers;
- (2) Baby bungee jumpers;
- (3) Accordion safety gates;
- (4) Toys that are not large enough to prevent swallowing or choking;
- (5) Bean bags, waterbeds, and foam pads for use as sleeping equipment; and

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(6) Soft or loose bedding such as blankets, sleep positioning devices, stuffed toys, quilts, pillows, bumper pads, and comforters must not be used in cribs for children younger than 12 months of age.

40 TAC § 746.2417
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2417

§ 746.2417. What activities must I provide for infants?

Activities for infants must include at least the following:

(1) Daily opportunities for outdoor play as weather permits;

(2) Opportunities to explore outside the crib or other confining equipment multiple times each day;

(3) Opportunities for reaching, grasping, pulling up, creeping, crawling, and walking in a safe, clean, uncluttered area;

(4) Opportunities for visual stimulation through nonverbal communication. Examples of age-appropriate equipment include large pictures of faces and familiar objects, simple, soft, washable books and toys, unbreakable mirrors or mobiles attached to cribs visible from the baby's position, and brightly patterned crib sheets;

(5) Opportunities for auditory stimulation. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include verbal communication, soothing music, and musical or sounding toys;

(6) Opportunities for sensory stimulation. Examples of age-appropriate equipment include surfaces, fabrics, textured toys, washable dolls, and toy animals;

(7) Opportunities for small-muscle development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment include busy boxes, rattles, teething toys, grasping toys, shaking or squeezing toys, or cloth toys; and

(8) Opportunities for large-muscle development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include blankets or quilts for floor time, crib and play gyms, variety of light-weight balls, and pillows or supportive

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equipment for those learning to sit up.

40 TAC § 746.2419
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2419

§ 746.2419. Are there specific requirements for feeding infants?

Yes. You must:

(1) Hold infants birth through six months while feeding them;

(2) Hold infants over six months who are unable to sit unassisted in a high chair or other seating equipment while feeding them;

(3) Never prop bottles. The child or an adult must hold the bottle;

(4) Provide regular snack and meal times for infants who eat table food;

(5) Ensure children no longer being held for feeding are fed in a safe manner;

(6) Label bottles and training cups with the child's first name and initial of last name;

(7) Never allow children to walk around with or sleep with a bottle or training cup;

(8) Never use the hand-washing sink or diaper-changing surface for food preparation, or for washing food service/preparation equipment, bottles, pacifiers or toys; and

(9) Sanitize high chair trays before each use.

40 TAC § 746.2421
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2421

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§ 746.2421. Must I obtain written feeding instructions for children not ready for table food?

(a) Yes. For children not yet ready for table food, you must obtain and follow written feeding instructions that are signed and dated by the child's parent or physician.

(b) You must review and update the feeding instructions with the parent every 30 days until the child is able to eat table food.

40 TAC § 746.2423
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2423

§ 746.2423. Must I provide a regularly scheduled naptime for infants?

Yes. Each infant must have a supervised nap period that allows the infant to maintain his or her own pattern of sleeping and waking periods.

40 TAC § 746.2425
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2425

§ 746.2425. How long are infants allowed to remain in their cribs after awakening?

An infant may remain in the crib or other confining equipment for up to 30 minutes after awakening, as long as the infant is content and responsive.

40 TAC § 746.2427
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2427

§ 746.2427. Are infants required to sleep on their backs?

Infants not yet able to turn over on their own must be placed in a face-up sleeping position, unless the child's parent presents written documentation from a health-care professional stating that a different sleeping position is allowed or will not harm the infant.

40 TAC § 746.2428
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2428

§ 746.2428. May I swaddle an infant to help the infant sleep?

No. You may not lay a swaddled infant down to sleep or rest on any surface at any time.

40 TAC § 746.2429
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2429

§ 746.2429. If an infant has difficulty falling asleep, may I cover the infant's head or crib?

No. Infants must not have their heads, faces, or cribs covered by items such as blankets, linens, or clothing at any time.

40 TAC § 746.2431

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Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2431

§ 746.2431. Must I share a daily report with parents for each infant in my care?

You must provide a daily written report to the child's parent when the child is picked up from the child-care center. The report must contain:

(1) Times the child slept;

(2) Times and amount of food consumed;

(3) Times of diaper changes;

(4) Child's general mood for the day; and

(5) A brief summary of the activities in which the child participated.

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40 TAC § 746.2501
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2501

§ 746.2501. What are the basic care requirements for toddlers?

Basic care for toddlers must include:

(1) Routines such as diapering, feeding, sleeping, and indoor and outdoor activity times, maintained as closely as possible;

(2) Care given by the same caregiver on a regular basis, when possible;

(3) Individual attention given to each child including playing, talking, and cuddling;

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(4) Holding and comforting a child who is upset; and

(5) Ensuring the environment is free of objects that may cause choking in children younger than three years of age.

**40 TAC § 746.2503
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2503**

§ 746.2503. How must I arrange the toddler care area?

The toddler care area must include:

(1) Spaces in the room that allow both individual and group time; and

(2) A play environment that allows the caregiver to supervise all children as defined in § 746.1205 of this title (relating to What does Licensing mean by “supervise children at all times?”).

**40 TAC § 746.2505
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2505**

§ 746.2505. What furnishings and equipment must I provide for toddlers?

Furnishings and equipment for toddlers must include at least the following:

(1) Age-appropriate seating, tables, and nap or rest equipment;

(2) Enough popular items available so that toddlers are not forced to compete for them;

(3) Containers or low shelving so items children can safely use without direct supervision are accessible to children; and

(4) Training cups, if used, that are:

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(A) Labeled with the child's first name and initial of last name or otherwise individually assigned to each child; and/or;

(B) Cleaned and sanitized between each use.

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40 TAC § 746.2507
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2507

§ 746.2507. What activities must I provide for toddlers?

Activities for toddlers must include at least the following:

(1) Daily morning and afternoon opportunities for outdoor play when weather permits;

(2) Opportunities for thinking skills and sensory development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include shape/item sorting toys, stacking or nesting toys, puzzles with less than six pieces, washable board books, washable blocks, and snapping and take-apart toys;

(3) Opportunities for small-muscle development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include large-size washable crayons and markers, variety of paper and art materials, table or easel for art, large paintbrushes, non-toxic play-dough, large-sized washable toy transportation vehicles, toy animals, and toy people;

(4) Opportunities for large-muscle development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include low-climbing structures, small riding toys, toys for pushing or pulling, a variety of light-weight balls for indoor and outdoor play, and rhythm instruments;

(5) Opportunities for active play both indoors and outdoors. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include music, songs, simple games and dramatic or imaginary play that encourage movement such as dancing, running, climbing, stretching, walking and marching;

(6) Opportunities for language development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include washable soft animals or puppets, simple picture books, and pictures of familiar items and places;

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(7) Opportunities for social/emotional development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include dress-up clothes and accessories, housekeeping equipment, unbreakable mirrors, washable dolls with accessories, items for practicing buttoning, zipping, lacing and snapping, and baskets, tubs, and tote bags (not plastic bags) for carrying and toting;

(8) Opportunities to develop self-help skills such as toileting, hand washing, and feeding;

(9) Regular meal and snack times; and

(10) Supervised naptimes.

40 TAC § 746.2509
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2509

§ 746.2509. Must I share a daily report with parents for each toddler in my care?

No, however you must have a plan for personal contact with parents that provides for an exchange of information regarding observations, comments, and concerns regarding their child.

40 TAC § 746.2601
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2601

§ 746.2601. What are the basic care requirements for pre-kindergarten age children?

Caregivers must provide pre-kindergarten age children individual attention and encourage children to communicate and express feelings in appropriate ways.

40 TAC § 746.2603
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2603

§ 746.2603. What physical space requirements must I provide for pre-kindergarten age children?

Physical space requirements for pre-kindergarten age children must include:

(1) Space for furnishings and activities without limiting children's movement; and

(2) Space in which children are allowed to find or create individual activities, but which still permits the caregiver to easily supervise.

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40 TAC § 746.2605
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2605

§ 746.2605. What furnishings and equipment must I provide for pre-kindergarten age children?

Furnishings and equipment for pre-kindergarten age children must include at least the following:

(1) Interest centers, such as dramatic play, block building, stories and books, science and nature activities, art and music activities, sensory, and problem-solving activities that are:

(A) Clearly defined;

(B) Organized for independent use by children; and

(C) Arranged so the children's activities are visible to the caregiver;

(2) Age-appropriate seating, tables, and nap or rest equipment;

(3) Enough popular items available so that children are not forced to compete for them; and

(4) Containers or low shelving available so items children can safely use without direct supervision are accessible to children.

40 TAC § 746.2607
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2607

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§ 746.2607. What activities must I provide for pre-kindergarten age children?

Activities for pre-kindergarten age children must include at least the following:

(1) Daily morning and afternoon opportunities for outdoor play when weather permits;

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(2) Opportunities for thinking skills and sensory development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include sand/water play, blocks, framed puzzles with up to 30 pieces, variety of large stringing beads, and simple board games;

(3) Opportunities for small-muscle development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include large non-toxic crayons, markers, paint, water colors and various size brushes, adjustable easels, collage materials, chalkboard and chalk, clay/dough and tools, workbench and accessories, round end scissors, glue and paste, different types of music and videos, rhythm instruments, and fingerplays;

(4) Opportunities for large-muscle development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include small wagons, light-weight balls of all sizes, small wheelbarrows, tricycles, push toys, swings, slides, climbing equipment, balance beam, hanging bars, and outdoor building materials;

(5) Opportunities for active play both indoors and outdoors. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include active games such as tag and hot potato, dancing and creative movement to music and singing, simple games and dramatic or imaginary play that encourages running, stretching, climbing, walking and marching;

(6) Opportunities for language development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include flannel board stories, puppets, and variety of storybooks, writing materials, and stories on tape;

(7) Opportunities for social/emotional development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include dress-up clothes and accessories, mirrors, dolls, simple props for different themes, puppets, transportation toys, play animals, and table games;

(8) Opportunities to develop self-help skills such as toileting, hand washing, returning equipment to storage areas or containers, and serving and feeding;

(9) Regular meal and snack times; and

(10) Supervised naptimes.

40 TAC § 746.2701
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2701

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§ 746.2701. What are the basic care requirements for school-age children?

Basic care requirements for school-age children must include:

- (1) Individual attention from and conversation with adults;
- (2) Physical care routines appropriate to each child's developmental needs;
- (3) Flexible programming according to ages, interests, and abilities of the children; and
- (4) A caregiver who is aware of the arrival and departure of each child, including dismissing children who ride the bus or walk home.

40 TAC § 746.2703

Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2703

§ 746.2703. What physical space requirements must I provide for the school-age care area?

The school-age care area must include:

(1) Space to set up interest centers or focused play areas during the activity, such as arts and crafts; music and movement; blocks and construction; drama and theater; math and reasoning activities; science and nature; language and reading activities, such as books, story tapes and language games, stories read or told on a weekly basis, and cultural awareness, which are:

(A) Organized for independent use by children; and

(B) Arranged so the caregiver can supervise the children according to § 746.1205 of this title (relating to What does Licensing mean by "supervise children at all times"?);

(2) Space where children can have individual activities yet be supervised; and

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(3) Space for quiet time to do homework.

40 TAC § 746.2705
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2705

§ 746.2705. What furnishings and equipment must I provide for school-age children?

Furnishings and equipment for school-age children must include at least the following:

(1) Age-appropriate seating, tables, or desks to meet children's needs, such as workspace to do homework and table-top activities;

(2) Age-appropriate nap or rest equipment; and

(3) Containers or shelving available so that items children can safely use without direct supervision are accessible to children.

40 TAC § 746.2707
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2707

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§ 746.2707. What activities must I provide for school-age children?

Activities for school-age children must include at least the following:

(1) Study time for those children who choose to work on homework assignments;

(2) Daily morning and afternoon opportunities for outdoor play when weather permits;

(3) Opportunities for thinking skills and sensory development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include sand and water play; construction materials/blocks; puzzles with 50 or more pieces; pattern-making materials, such as wood, paper, plastic, beads, ceramic tiles, cloth, or cardboard; games that contain rules and require some skill or strategy; specific skill development materials, such as rulers, tape measures, telescopes, weather observation equipment, models of the solar system, and microscopes; books; and magazines;

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(4) Opportunities for small-muscle development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include art and craft materials, such as paints, markers, colored pencils, crayons, clay, weaving, or braiding materials; music and musical instruments of all types; and tape/CD recorders and players;

(5) Opportunities for large-muscle development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include balls and sports equipment, such as kick balls, baseballs, soccer balls, basketballs, skates, and horseshoes; riding equipment, such as kick scooters or skateboards, with kneepads, elbow pads, and helmets; outdoor and gym equipment such as slides, swings, climbing apparatus, and upper-body equipment;

(6) Opportunities for active play both indoors and outdoors. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include active games such as tag and Simon says, dancing and creative movement to music and singing, simple games and dramatic or imaginary play that encourages running, stretching, climbing, and walking;

(7) Opportunities for social/emotional development. Examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities include dolls with detailed, realistic accessories; role-play materials, including real equipment for library, hospital, post office, costumes, makeup and disguise materials; puppets and puppet show equipment; transportation toys, such as small vehicles or models; play and art materials; nature materials; and human and animal figurines;

(8) Regular meal and snack times; and

(9) Naptimes, or a period of rest for those children too old to nap, during which children should be supervised according to § 746.1205 of this title (relating to What does Licensing mean by “supervise children at all times”?).

**40 TAC § 746.2801
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2801**

§ 746.2801. To what extent may caregivers discipline the children in their care?

Discipline must be:

(1) Individualized and consistent for each child;

(2) Appropriate to the child’s level of understanding; and

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(3) Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control.

40 TAC § 746.2803
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2803

§ 746.2803. What methods of discipline and guidance may a caregiver use?

A caregiver may only use positive methods of discipline and guidance that encourage self-esteem, self-control, and self-direction, which include at least the following:

- (1) Using praise and encouragement of good behavior instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior;
- (2) Reminding a child of behavior expectations daily by using clear, positive statements;
- (3) Redirecting behavior using positive statements; and
- (4) Using brief supervised separation or time out from the group, when appropriate for the child's age and development, which is limited to no more than one minute per year of the child's age.

40 TAC § 746.2805
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2805

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§ 746.2805. What types of discipline and guidance or punishment are prohibited?

There must be no harsh, cruel, or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of discipline and guidance are prohibited:

(1) Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment;

(2) Punishment associated with food, naps, or toilet training;

(3) Pinching, shaking, or biting a child;

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(4) Hitting a child with a hand or instrument;

(5) Putting anything in or on a child's mouth;

(6) Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting, or yelling at a child;

(7) Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive, or profane language;

(8) Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom, or closet with the door closed; and

(9) Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age.

40 TAC § 746.2807
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2807

§ 746.2807. May my employees discipline their own children who are in care at my center?

Yes, during operating hours an employee may discipline the employee's own child as long as the employee does not violate the requirements specified in this subchapter.

40 TAC § 746.2809
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2809

§ 746.2809. Must I have a written discipline and guidance policy?

(a) You must have a written discipline and guidance policy that complies with the rules in this subchapter. You may use a copy of this subchapter for your written discipline and guidance policy.

(b) You must provide a copy of your written discipline and guidance policy to parents and employees.

(c) You must keep documentation showing that all parents and employees have received a copy of your written discipline and guidance policy. You may do this as a part of your operation policies or in a separate document.

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40 TAC § 746.2813
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2813

§ 746.2813. How often must I update my written discipline and guidance policy?

You must update your written discipline and guidance policy each time you make changes. You must keep documentation at your child-care center showing that all parents and employees have received a copy of your revised discipline and guidance policy.

40 TAC § 746.2901
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2901

§ 746.2901. Must children have a naptime every day?

You must provide a supervised sleep or rest period after the noon meal for all children 18 months of age or older who are in care five or more consecutive hours, or according to the child's individual physical needs. You may provide sleep or rest for each child who attends the child-care center for fewer than five hours and whose individual physical needs call for a rest period while the child is in care.

40 TAC § 746.2903
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2903

§ 746.2903. How long may the nap and rest time last each day?

The sleep or rest period must not exceed three hours.

40 TAC § 746.2905
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2905

§ 746.2905. Are children required to sleep during this time?

No. You must not force a child to sleep or put anything in or on a child's head or body to force the child to rest or sleep.

40 TAC § 746.2907
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2907

§ 746.2907. Must I provide an alternative activity for those children who cannot sleep?

(a) Yes. You must allow each child who is awake after resting or sleeping for one hour to participate in an alternative, quiet activity until the nap/rest time is over for the other children.

Texas Administrative Code _Title 40. Social Services and Assistance _Part 19. Department of Family and Protective Services _Chapter 746. Minimum Standards for Child-Care Centers _Subchapter H. Basic Care Requirements for Infants

(b) You must take a toddler who sleeps or rests in a crib out of the crib for other activities when he awakens.

**40 TAC § 746.2909
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2909**

§ 746.2909. Must I arrange the napping equipment in a specific manner?

Napping equipment must:

- (1) Not block entrances or exits to the area;
- (2) Not be set up during other activities or left in place to interfere with children's activity space;
- (3) Be arranged to provide a sufficient walk and work space for caregivers between each cot and mat;
- (4) Be arranged so that each child and caregiver has access to a walkway without having to walk on or over the cots or mats of other children; and
- (5) Be arranged so the caregiver can adequately supervise all children in the group, as specified in § 746.1205 of this title (relating to What does Licensing mean by "supervise children at all times"?).

**40 TAC § 746.2911
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.2911**

§ 746.2911. May I darken the room while children are sleeping?

Yes. You may lower the lighting, provided there is adequate lighting to allow visual supervision of all children in the group at all times.

**40 TAC § 746.3001
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.3001**

§ 746.3001. May I take children away from my child-care center for field trips?

Yes. You must ensure the safety of all children on field trips or excursions and during any transportation provided by the child-care center. Anytime you take a child away from the child-care center for a field trip, you must comply with each of the following requirements:

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- (1) You must have signed permission from the parent to take a child on a field trip, including permission to transport the child, if applicable;
- (2) One or more caregivers must carry emergency medical consent forms and emergency contact information for each child on the field trip;
- (3) Caregivers must have a written list of all children on the field trip and must check the list frequently to account for the presence of all children;
- (4) Caregivers must have a first-aid kit immediately available on field trips;
- (5) Each child must wear a shirt, nametag, or other identification listing the name of the child-care center and the child-care center's telephone number;
- (6) Each caregiver must be easily identifiable by all children on the field trip by wearing a hat, child-care center tee-shirt, brightly-colored clothes, or other easily spotted identification;
- (7) Each caregiver supervising a field trip must have transportation available, or a communication device such as a cellular phone, message pager, or two-way radio available or an alternate plan for transportation at the field-trip location in case of emergency; and
- (8) Caregivers with training in CPR and first aid with rescue breathing and choking must be present on the field trip.

**40 TAC § 746.3003
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.3003**

§ 746.3003. Must I notify parents before I take children away from the child-care center on a field trip?

Yes. You must notify the parent of each child who will be on the field trip, indicating when and where the child will be going, and when the child is expected to return to the child-care center. The notice must be posted at least 48 hours in advance of a field trip. You must post the field trip notice in a prominent place where parents and others

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may view it. The notice must remain posted until all children on the field trip have returned to the child-care center.

**40 TAC § 746.3005
Tex. Admin. Code tit. 40, § 746.3005**

§ 746.3005. Must I have additional caregivers present to take children on a field trip?

Refer to Subchapter E of this chapter (relating to Child/Caregiver Ratios and Group Sizes) for child/caregiver ratios relating to field trips.