

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care

Policy

Supervision of Children Over 2.9 During Nap Time

Effective Date: December 1, 2023

Field Operations – All Licensed Center-Based Programs

The Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) is committed to supporting child care providers in addressing the challenges they face to provide and expand their services while finding and hiring qualified teachers.

Through this policy, EEC outlines temporary strategies for the supervision of children at least 2 years and 9 months of age during nap time in licensed center-based programs.

Two assistant teachers or one teacher-qualified staff person may supervise a group of children, all of whom are at least two years and nine months old during nap time, *only* when:

- These strategies do not exceed 60 minutes within any one program day;
- Every classroom has a telephone, walkie talkie, or other communication equipment with direct access to a non-teaching administrator, who is available in the event that help is needed;
- All children are sleeping, resting quietly, or engaged in a quiet activity on their cots or mats;
- Accurate attendance is maintained at all times; and
- Staffing changes in response to this policy are documented in staff schedules.