



**Department of  
Early Education and Care**  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## Family Child Care Licensing

### **POLICY STATEMENT: Supervision While Accompanying a Child To and From a Vehicle**

---

Family Child Care Licensing regulations at 606 CMR 7.10 *et seq.* require that the caregiver exercise good judgment in supervising children who are in his or her care. When a child uses specialized transportation to and/or from the family child care home, it may be necessary for the caregiver to accompany the child to and/or from the vehicle. Whenever possible, if there is a monitor on the transportation vehicle, the monitor will be responsible for accompanying the child between the FCC home and the vehicle. The following requirements are for caregivers who are *required* to meet a child at the transportation vehicle.

- The approved space must include space either on the ground level or the first floor level. If a provider is licensed for space above the first floor level, every child care child must be brought to the first floor level before the caregiver can leave the premises to accompany a child to or from a vehicle.
- The caregiver must make sure every child remaining in the home is in a hazard free environment.
- The caregiver must consider the number, ages, and needs of children in care in order to ensure the safety of all child care children while accompanying a child to or from a transport vehicle. The caregiver must take special precautions to ensure the safety of all children when there is a child care child who is unusually aggressive or active or exhibits behavior difficulties.
- The provider must notify parents of all children in care that he/she is accompanying children to and from transportation vehicles and must obtain written consent of all parents involved. This consent includes those parents who have children enrolled in the family child care home at the time the practice begins as well as the parents of children enrolled after the practice has begun.
- The caregiver may accompany a child to or from the vehicle as long as he or she remains in clear view of the family child care home.
- The maximum distance allowable between the family child care home and the transportation vehicle is 50 feet.
- The caregiver must remain in the home with the child care children until the transport vehicle arrives at her home. The caregiver must minimize the amount of time she is away from the child care children.

As provided in 102 CMR 1.06 *et seq.*, the Department of Child Care Services retains the right to make inquiries and home visits to determine compliance with Family Child Care Licensing regulations.

NOTE: This policy applies only to transport vehicles that require a caregiver to accompany a child between the transport vehicle and the family child care home. Child care children who walk to or from the school bus stop may walk unescorted if the child's parent gives the provider written authorization. If the parent prefers the caregiver to accompany the child to and/or from the bus stop, the caregiver must either bring all of the child care children with him/her or leave an EEC-approved assistant with the remaining child care children.