

## Licensed Family Child Care: Implementation plan for 2025 legislative changes

New laws passed by the 2025 Legislature include several provisions that impact family child care. This document outlines an overview of each change, instructions for what providers need to do about the change, the date the change is effective, and guidance on how licensors will monitor these changes.

The hyperlinks within this document direct license holders to where the new law can be found. When reviewing the new law:

- Text that is stricken with a line through it reflects words that are being removed from the law.
- Text that is underlined reflects words that are being added to the law.
- Text that is unchanged reflects what the law was before and continues to be the law.

Later this year, the Minnesota Office of the Revisor of Statutes will update the statute sections on their website to reflect the new laws.

### Annual training

#### Overview

In order to meet federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) requirements, language was added to the annual training statute (Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.70, subd. 8) specifying that substitutes and adult caregivers who provide care for 500 or fewer hours per year must complete a minimum of one hour of training each calendar year. There is no change to the training topics or frequency.

See [MN Laws, Chapter 3, Article 14, Section 14](#).

**Effective date: July 1, 2025**

#### What providers need to do

Beginning July 1, 2025, providers will need to include the length of training when documenting annual in-service training for substitutes and adult caregivers who provide care for 500 or fewer hours per year to ensure the one-hour minimum training requirement has been met.

## What licensors need to do

Licensors will review documentation of annual training to ensure that substitutes and adult caregivers who provide care for 500 or fewer hours per year have completed a minimum of one hour of training each calendar year.

## Family child care regulation modernization

### Overview

New language updates the timelines and requirements for engaging with family child care providers for the Family Child Care Regulation Modernization project. The due date for the department to submit proposed legislation is updated to January 1, 2026. This language states that updated licensing standards and the risk-based model cannot be implemented earlier than January 1, 2027. It clarifies that the new standards must protect health and safety and be child-centered, family-friendly, and fair to providers. The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) is required to engage with family child care providers at least five times with daytime and evening sessions, and to engage with providers whose primary language is not English. This language requires that materials be translated into Hmong, Somali, and Spanish. The new language removes the requirement for the risk-based model, otherwise known as the weighted risk system, to be grounded in national regulatory best practices.

See [MN Laws, Chapter 3, Article 13, Section 15](#).

**Effective date: July 1, 2025**

## What providers need to do

Providers do not need to take any action.

## What licensors need to do

Licensors do not need to take any action. The DCYF Child Care Regulation Modernization team will continue working, consistent with the legislative direction, to update the family child care licensing standards, and develop a risk-based tiered violation system (also known as the weighted risk system) and key indicator system for abbreviated inspections.

## Child passenger restraint systems training

### Overview

Child passenger restraint systems training under section 142B.51, subd. 2 and 142B.70, subd. 7 was changed to require the training before transporting a child or children under age nine in a motor vehicle. The previous requirement was under age eight. This change aligns with 2024 Minnesota transportation law changes in [section 169.685](#) to require children up to age nine to use a child passenger restraint.

See [MN Laws, Chapter 3, Article 14, Sections 9, 13](#).

**Effective date: January 1, 2026**

## What providers need to do

Providers must ensure that anyone who is placing a child or children under age nine in a child passenger restraint has completed child passenger restraint systems training. This training was already required for children under age eight, therefore, the change in language will likely not impact your training requirements unless you are transporting children who are over eight years old but under nine.

As a reminder, the Department of Public Safety (DPS) fully transitioned from CARS training to B.E.S.T. (Basic Education for Safe Travel) as of January 1, 2025. DPS updated its BuckleUpMN.org website to include [information for caregivers](#), including licensed child care providers. On the website is a [flyer](#) about B.E.S.T. and information about how to complete the two-step training. There is also a [tool](#) for locating B.E.S.T. facilitators. Questions about the training can be submitted to DPS on the [Contact Us](#) page.

## What licensors need to do

As is current practice, licensors will review child passenger restraint training for all individuals that place a child in a passenger restraint (such as a car seat or booster seat). Beginning January 1, 2026, licensors will review that the training was completed by everyone who places a child under age nine into a passenger restraint in a motor vehicle.

## Correction orders on Licensing Information Lookup (LIL)

### Overview

Pending federal approval, correction order violation information cannot be posted until: the 20-day reconsideration request timeline has passed; or, if reconsideration has been requested, until the commissioner's final disposition has been provided.

See [MN Laws, Chapter 3, Article 14, Section 3](#).

**Effective date: January 1, 2026, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.**

## What providers need to do

There is no change to what providers need to do.

## What licensors need to do

Licensors should wait for further guidance from DCYF on the implementation of this requirement.

## Interpretive guidance

### Overview

Beginning July 1, 2026, license holders may request interpretive guidance from the department on a rule or statute prior to requesting reconsideration of a correction order.

See [MN Laws, Chapter 3, Article 14, Section 3](#).

**Effective date: July 1, 2026**

### What providers need to do

After July 1, 2026, a provider may request interpretive guidance from the department on a rule or statute prior to requesting reconsideration of a correction order. Additional information about this process will be shared with providers prior to the effective date.

### What licensors need to do

Licensors should wait for further guidance from DCYF on the implementation of this requirement.

## County responses to requests

### Overview

By July 1, 2026, DCYF must establish time frames for county licensors to respond to time-sensitive or urgent requests.

See [MN Laws, Chapter 3, Article 14, Section 21](#).

**Effective date: Day following final enactment. Time frames must be established by July 1, 2026.**

### What providers need to do

Providers do not need to make any changes.

### What licensors need to do

Licensors will need to respond to time-sensitive or urgent requests from providers within the established time frames. DCYF Licensing will provide further guidance on the time frames to county licensors prior to July 1, 2026.

# Electronic Licensing Inspection Checklist Information (ELICI)

## Overview

By July 1, 2026, county licensors will be required to use ELICI during family child care provider inspections and complete the inspection report on site.

See [MN Laws, Chapter 3, Article 14, Section 21](#).

**Effective date: Day following final enactment. Use of ELICI is required by July 1, 2026.**

## What providers need to do

Providers do not need to make any changes.

## What licensors need to do

Licensors should wait for further guidance from DCYF on the implementation of this requirement.

## Additional information

### Licensing Information Lookup (LIL)

The 2025 legislature provided funding to support IT changes to LIL to come into compliance with the updated federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) rule. The April 2024 rule change now requires all items that are reviewed at a visit to be displayed. This means LIL must display areas of compliance and noncompliance for each visit. Changes were also made to the documented technical assistance language in [section 142B.171, subd. 2](#), removing the language that documented technical assistance will not be publicly posted. In order to comply with the updated CCDF rule to display all areas of compliance and non-compliance, items of documented technical assistance will now need to be posted on LIL. There will be opportunities for child care providers and the public in the coming months to provide input on how this information should be displayed.

### Background studies

Updates on legislative changes related to background studies are posted on the ["What's new" for background studies webpage](#).