



TO: **Income Maintenance Supervisors**
Income Maintenance Lead Workers
Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators
Child Care Certification Workers

DECE/BECR OPERATIONS MEMO

No: 26-25

DATE: 6/26/26

Child Care

FROM: Michelle Evans, Director
Bureau of Early Care Regulation
Division of Early Care and Education
Department of Children and Families

SUBJECT: Revised DCF 202 Administrative Rule

CROSS REFERENCE: [DCF 202 Administrative Code](#)
[Child Care Rule Projects](#)

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2026

PURPOSE: The purpose of this memo is to notify Child Care Certification Workers of new and revised health and safety rules and to outline new procedures for certification workers in monitoring for compliance with the updated rules.

BACKGROUND: The primary purpose of the revisions to DCF 202 is to comply with the federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) requirements.

RULE CHANGES: A summary of the changes to DCF 202, Child Care Certification, include the following:

- NEW DCF 202.02(20x) adds definition of "Toddler."
- REVISED DCF 202.04(3)(b)3.d. adds "pediatric" first aid to the list of information certification workers are required to provide to prospective applicants.
- NEW DCF 202.08(1)(b)3.e. adds a requirement for training in pediatric first aid as part of the foundational training requirements for Regular certification.
- REVISED DCF 202.08(2)(e)7. to specify bodies of water and vehicular traffic when addressing hazards.
- NEW DCF 202.08(4)(p) adds a requirement for soiled diapers and other biocontaminants to be disposed of in a plastic-lined, covered container and disposed of daily.
- REVISED DCF 202.08(4m)(a)1.c. modifies the reference to children under 2 years of age to "infants and toddlers."
- NEW DCF 202.08(4m)(a)1.d. adds a requirement for the operator to include in their emergency procedures related to continuity of operations, when possible, following an emergency.
- REVISED DCF 202.08(4m)(a)2. requiring the operator to review their emergency plans annually, and to conduct and document fire and tornado drills annually.

- REVISED DCF 202.08(4m)(e)2. requiring the operator to ensure each provider, volunteer, substitute, and emergency back-up provider to receive an orientation that covers a review of children's records, including enrollment forms and parent and emergency contact information.
- REVISED DCF 202.08(4m)(e)4. and 5. are renumbered and adds additional requirements for the operator to review additional information with each provider, volunteer, substitute, and emergency back-up provider, including procedures to reduce the risk of SIDS, prevention and control of infectious diseases, handling of hazardous materials, pediatric first aid, child abuse and neglect laws, and building and physical premise safety.
- REVISED DCF 202.08(5)(e) to specify bodies of water and vehicular traffic when addressing hazards.
- NEW DCF 202.08(5)(em) added to require constant, active sight and sound supervision to be maintained during field trips away from the home to protect children from harm, including vehicular traffic, and to provide child guidance.
- REVISED DCF 202.08(9)(e) introduction to include "precautions in transporting children" and revised 6. to include "pediatric" for first aid procedures.
- NEW DCF 202.08(9)(e)10. requires a written emergency plan to be followed in case of accidents, serious illness, severe weather alerts, and other relevant information. The emergency plan shall remain in the possession of the driver while en route.
- REVISED DCF 202.08(14) to clarify mandatory child abuse and neglect reporting requirements.

A computer-based training outlining and explaining the certification rule revisions will soon be available on the [Child Care Rule Revision Project webpage](#) and may be completed by certified operators and providers as qualifying continuing education under DCF 202.08(1)(b)5.

PEDIATRIC FIRST AID TRAINING IMPLEMENTATION

Timeline:

Individuals certified or employed on or after August 1, 2026, must complete training in pediatric first aid within three months after Provisional certification or work commencing.

A substitute who replaces the certified operator on an infrequent, pre-arranged basis is not required to meet the pediatric first aid training requirements until the substitute has worked for 240 hours.

Operators certified prior to, or employees working prior to August 1, 2026, must complete training in pediatric first aid by November 1, 2026, or by the date they renew their infant/child CPR, whichever comes later.

Caregivers must complete training in pediatric first aid, as part of their initial foundational training and, unlike infant/child CPR, there is no requirement to renew their training. Training in pediatric first aid may be completed again as continuing education.

Approved Trainings:

Training in pediatric first aid teaches caregivers the skills needed to identify and respond to common pediatric emergencies, illnesses and injuries. Examples of acceptable training include, but are not limited to:

- An infant/child CPR training that includes pediatric first aid
- A stand alone in-person, virtual, online or web-based training/webinar in pediatric first aid
- [American Academy of Pediatrics Training for Teachers and Caregivers](#)
- An independent study and review of pediatric first aid procedures

- Training offered by local municipalities, fire/EMS departments, health clinics/hospitals

Applicants, operators, and providers must submit to the certification agency documentation of completion of training in pediatric first aid. It is recommended applicants/operators/providers complete an infant/child CPR training (or renewal) that includes pediatric first aid.

AUTOMATION: WISCCRS Monitoring Results (DCF 202 rules) have been updated to reflect the new and amended rules and will move to production August 1, 2026.

Until the Training Type options located in the Individuals Module have been updated to include Pediatric First Aid, certification workers shall enter pediatric first aid as "Other" with a description comment. Certification workers are required to upload training documentation using the Documents Link in the Individuals Module.

New Individual Training

Training Type *	Other ▼
Hours	<input type="text"/>
Credits	<input type="text"/>
Completion Date *	9/7/2026
Next Due Date	<input type="text"/>
Comments	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; min-height: 40px;">Pediatric first aid. Completed with infant/child CPR.</div>

Individual Document Upload

Form/Document Type *	Other - Certification ▼
File Type *	Adobe Pdf Docume... ▼
Received Date *	9/7/2026
New File *	<input type="button" value="Choose File"/> No file chosen
Comments related to scanned document	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; min-height: 20px;">Pediatric First Aid</div>

FORMS AND PUBLICATIONS: Forms, publications, and templates have been or are currently being revised to reflect changes in DCF 202. [The Staff Orientation Checklist – Certified Family Child Care Center](#) will be revised to accommodate the new requirements under 202.08(4m)(e). The [Certification Training webpage](#) has been updated to incorporate the new pediatric first aid training requirement. Until the revised DCF 202 rules and Standards and Checklist is published, certification workers can find rule changes on the [Child Care Rulemaking Projects Webpage](#).

CONTACTS:

For questions regarding Certification contact [Jolene Ibeling \(jolene.ibeling@wisconsin.gov\)](mailto:jolene.ibeling@wisconsin.gov) or the DCF [Bureau of Area Administration \(dcfbaaccpolicyhelpdesk@wisconsin.gov\)](mailto:dcfbaaccpolicyhelpdesk@wisconsin.gov).