

Streamlining Licensure for Summer After-School Programs

Relating to an exception from automatic license revocation for school-aged programs when there's a location change



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Sen. Nathan Johnson • Senate Bill 2164 | Rep. Candy Noble • House Bill 4090

Problem

- A school-age program (SAP) is a child care operation licensed by HHSC to provide care and recreation and skills training for children in pre-K through sixth grade. SAP runs two hours a day, three days a week, usually during the summer or other times when school isn't in session.
- Most SAPs operate for three months in the summer and close before school starts. School districts often change the locations of these summer programs based on the district's needs.
- Current law mandates an automatic license revocation if a child care operation, including SAPs, changes location because many of the health and safety standards required for licensure are directly related to the location.
- Even when an operation's license is revoked only because of a location change, it must undergo a thorough, rigorous process to apply for a new license. Child Care Licensing (CCL) staff must review the applications, accept them and conduct initial inspections.

- CCL also must conduct multiple inspections during the initial license period. Since SAPs operate only three months a year, they often don't complete the process to acquire a full license. Once they change locations, they must start the application process over again, requiring CCL to complete its own processes every summer.

Solution

- Exempt SAPs in good regulatory standing from automatic license revocation if they only change location, allowing them to retain their license.
- SAPs would be required to notify CCL of their new location.
- CCL inspectors would conduct an initial inspection at the new location before it begins operating to assess health and safety risks and ensure background checks are current.

What happens if we don't change the statute?

SAPs would have to continue applying annually for an initial license even if they only change locations. This requires them to undergo a lengthy license application process resulting in unnecessary work for both SAPs and CCL inspectors.

Questions, comments or concerns?

Contact Kirsten Nuckols • Kirsten.Nuckols@hhsc.state.tx.us

Streamlining Licensure for Summer After-School Programs

Senate Bill 2164 | House Bill 4090

Q&A

What types of programs fall under the category of SAP?

Examples of SAPs include school districts' summer camps and some Head Start programs.

Is there concern about the health and safety of the locations being selected by the school districts for these SAPs?

No. SAPs are located on school campuses, so they must already meet higher health and safety standards than other licensed child care operations.

Questions, comments or concerns?

Contact Kirsten Nuckols • Kirsten.Nuckols@hhsc.state.tx.us



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services