

**Impact Analysis – Proposed Rule Change
July 2017**

Agency: DHHS/Division of Child Development & Early Education
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Rule Title: 10A NCAC 09 Child Care Rules
(Two through Five Star Rated Licenses)

Statutory Authority: G.S. 110-85;110-88; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 110-91; 143B-168.3; S.L. 2011-145, s.10.7(b)

State Impact: Minimal
Local Impact: Yes
Substantial Economic Impact: No
Private Sector Impact: Yes

I. Necessity, Purpose, and Background:

The NC Child Care Commission proposes to readopt rules in 10A NCAC 09 .2800 in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.3A as part of the periodic review of rules process. The proposed rules promote the quality of child care for children enrolled in child care facilities that choose to participate in the two through five star rated license process. The most important substantive changes involved applying rules previously required only of 2-5 star facilities to minimum requirements required of all child care centers as was requested by the North Carolina Child Care Commission. All family child care homes will now be required to develop and implement written operational policies and procedures and complete a self-study and self-assessment of the Family Child Care Rating Scale. All child care centers will now be required to develop administrative policies, operational/personnel policies, and parent participation policies currently required for centers that hold a 2-5 star rated license.

Policy

Adoptions:

- .0513 Administrative Policies
- .0514 Operation and Personnel Policies
- .0515 Parent Participation
- .0516 Night Care
- .1705 Operational Policies

Readoptions:

- .1101 New Staff Orientation Requirements
- .1729 Additional Caregiver and Substitute Provider Qualifications
- .2801 Scope
- .2802 Application for a Voluntary Rated License
- .2806 Caregiving Activities for Preschool-Aged Children
- .2809 Space Requirements
- .2817 Program Standards for Child Care Centers
- .2818 Staff/Child Ratios for a Two-Component Rated License for Child Care Centers
- .2819 Education Standards for On-Site Administrators for a Rated License for Child Care Centers
- .2820 Education Standards for Lead Teachers for a Rated License for Child Care Centers
- .2821 Education Standards for Teachers for a Rated License for Child Care Centers
- .2822 Education Standards for Program Coordinators for a Rated License for Child Care Centers
- .2823 Education Standards for Group Leaders and Assistant Group Leaders

- for a Rated License for Child Care Centers and for Centers that provide care only to School-Aged Children
- .2824 Education Standards for a Rated License for Administrators for Centers that provide care only to School-Aged Children
- .2825 Education Standards for Program Coordinators for a Rated License for Centers that provide care only to School-Aged Children
- .2827 Education Standards for Operators for a Rated License for Family Child Care Homes
- .2828 Program Standards for a Rated License for Family Child Care Homes
- .2829 Quality Point Options
- .2830 Maintaining the Star Rating
- .2831 How an Operator May Request or Appeal a Change in Rating

Repeals:

- .2804 Administrative Policies
- .2805 Operational and Personnel Policies
- .2807 Parent Participation
- .2808 Night Care
- .2826 Education Standards for Group Leaders and Assistant Group Leaders for a Rated License for Centers that Provide Care Only to School-Aged Children

II. Summary of Proposed Rule Changes:

Two through Five Star Rated License Rules with No Fiscal Impact

Rule	Changes	Rationale
.2801 Scope	Language added to clarify the process and more clearly state requirements	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2802 Application for a Voluntary Rated License	Change to the title of the section, added clarifying language and chart, addition of language previously located in another rule within the section for easier reading	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2806 Caregiving Activities for Preschool-Aged Children	Change in ages of children noted, revised to match recommended changes to minimum requirements that will be effective in September 2017 (.0500).	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2817 Program Standards for a Two-Component Rated License for Child Care Centers	Change to title of the section, previous rated license rules referred to two and three component systems. Only two component system available so the “component” language was removed to lessen confusion for operators, added “enhanced” to title Revised the 1 point level requirement to reference some previously enhanced requirements being moved to minimum requirements. The impact of	No fiscal impact for this rule. Fiscal impact noted in chart below with other, appropriate rule references.

	<p>changing the minimum requirements is captured in the following sections of this analysis</p> <p>All requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator. No substantive changes to the requirements for 2-7 points.</p>	
.2818 Staff/Child Ratios for a Two Component Rated License for Child Care Centers	<p>Change to title of the section, previous rated license rules referred to two and three component systems. Only two component system available so the “component” language was removed to lessen confusion for operators, added “enhanced” to title</p> <p>All requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.</p>	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2819 Education Standards for On-Site Administrators for a Rated License for Child Care Centers	<p>Added “enhanced” to title</p> <p>Most requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.</p>	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2820 Education Standards for Lead Teachers for a Rated License for Child Care Centers	<p>Added “enhanced” to title</p> <p>Most requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.</p>	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2821 Education Standards for Teachers for a Rated License for Child Care Centers	<p>Added “enhanced” to title</p> <p>Most requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.</p>	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2822 Education Standards for Program Coordinators for a Rated License for Child Care Centers	<p>Added “enhanced” to title</p> <p>Most requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.</p>	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2823 Education Standards for Group Leaders and Assistant Group Leaders for Child Care Centers	<p>Added “enhanced” to title</p> <p>Added all requirements from .2826 to this rule. Rule .2826 addressed education standards for group leaders and assistant group leaders for a rated license <u>in centers that provide care only to school-aged children</u>. Since the requirements are identical, the rules are combined by title change, incorporating both categories of licensure.</p>	No substantive change or fiscal impact

	All requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.	
.2824 Education Standards for a Rated License for Administrators for Centers that provide care to School-Aged Children Only	Added “enhanced” to title Most requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2825 Education Standards for Program Coordinators for a Rated License for Centers that Provide Care only to School-Aged Children	Added “enhanced” to title Most requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2827 Education Standards for Operators for a Rated License for Family Child Care Homes	Added “enhanced” to title Most requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.	No substantive change or fiscal impact
.2829 Quality Point Options	Requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator. Removal of .2829(2)(d)(i) since the policies are being moved to minimum requirements. The impact of changing the minimum requirements is captured in the following sections of this analysis.	No fiscal impact
.2831 How an Operator May Request or Appeal a Change in Rating	Readopt as written	No fiscal impact

Child Care Center and Family Child Care Home Rules with No Fiscal Impact

Rule	Changes	Rationale
.1101 New Staff Orientation (Centers)	Review of Section .2800 being added as a minimum requirement for new staff orientation rather than a requirement only when the facility has a 2-5 star rated license	An additional topic for orientation, does not increase overall time required for orientation, no materials needed except for child care rules, those are required for other topics in orientation as well. No fiscal impact
.1719 Additional Caregiver and Substitute Provider Qualifications (FCCH)	Review of Section .2800 being added as a minimum requirement for new staff orientation rather than a requirement only when the facility has a 2-5 star rated license	An additional topic for orientation, does not increase overall time required for orientation, no materials needed except for child care rules, those are required for other topics in orientation as well. No fiscal impact
.0516 Night Care (Centers)	Night care requirements in Section .2800 being added as a minimum requirement for all centers, Child Care Commission recognizes these as best practices for children regardless of type of license	Requirements can be met with existing materials and policies. No fiscal impact

Two through Five Star Rated License Rules with Fiscal Impact

Rule	Changes	Rationale
.2809 Space Requirements	Change to title of the section, added “enhanced” to differentiate from space requirements noted in minimum requirements, change to number of square feet required in the outdoor area, based on a public comment to the Child Care Commission	Results in less outdoor space needed, a benefit for operators, not a negative fiscal impact
.2828 Program Standards for a Rated License for Family Child Care Homes	<p>2-point level in Program standards currently requires development and implementation of written operational policies and procedures. This is being moved to a minimum requirement for all Family Child Care Homes.</p> <p>A new 2-point level requirement is being added to promote quality. FCCH operators will need to complete a self-study and self-assessment of the Family Child Care Rating Scale in order to earn 2 or more points in program standards.</p> <p>Added “enhanced” to title</p> <p>Removed “component” language</p> <p>Most requirements were formatted into chart form for ease of use by the operator.</p>	<p>1,159 FCCH programs would be affected by this change at the next scheduled rated license reassessment for their program following adoption of the rules.</p> <p>Requires purchase of Environment Rating Scale book from Teachers College Press for \$24.95. This would be a one-time cost for the operator. \$28,917.05</p> <p>Estimate 5 hours of operator’s time over a 3-month period in order to complete the requirement. This would be a cost to the operator every 3 years in order to earn 2 or more points in program standards.</p> <p>May require adjustments to the FCCH program depending upon the ERS score the operator would like to achieve. This is an undetermined cost since it would vary based on the operator’s preferences and choices.</p>
.2830 Maintaining the Star Rating	Added “employment related changes” exemption for complying with rated license requirements.	No negative fiscal impact. This is a benefit for operators, allowing more time to comply when staff turnover occurs.

Child Care Center and Family Child Care Home Rules with Fiscal Impact

Rule	Changes	Rationale
.2804 Administrative Policies (Centers)	Administrative policies are currently a requirement for centers that hold a 2-5 star rated license, this is being moved to a minimum requirement for all licensed centers.	<p>83 1-Star Centers were licensed as of March 2017</p> <p>Estimate 3 hours of administrative time to develop and implement policies.</p> <p>One time cost for policy development, operator would need</p>

		to update their policies if they determine changes are needed.
.2805 Operational/Personnel Policies (Centers)	Operational/personnel policies are currently a requirement for centers that hold a 2-5 star rated license, this is being moved to a minimum requirement for all licensed centers.	83 1-Star Centers were licensed as of March 2017 Estimate 3 hours of administrative time to develop and implement policies. One time cost for policy development, operator would need to update their policies if they determine changes are needed.
.2807 Parent Participation (Centers)	Parent participation policies are currently a requirement for centers that hold a 2-5 star rated license, this is being moved to a minimum requirement for all licensed centers.	83 1-Star Centers were licensed as of March 2017 Estimate 2 hours of administrative time to develop and implement policies Time needed from staff to conduct meeting with parents “on a regular basis” to discuss child’s needs and progress. This will be time that they are not responsible for a group of children. Estimate 3 hours per month per age group on the license. This will vary depending on the number of children enrolled and is an on-going cost. DCDEE estimates that most programs would meet at least some of these requirements already. One time cost for policy development, operator would need to update their policies if they determine changes are needed.
.0513 Operational Policies (FCCH)	2-point level in Program standards currently requires development and implementation of written operational policies and procedures. This is being moved to a minimum requirement for all Family Child Care Homes.	243 1-Star FCCH programs were licensed as of March 2017 Estimate 2 hours of operator/administrative time to develop and implement these policies One time cost for policy development, operator would need to update their policies if they determine changes are needed. 1,159 FCCH programs are already licensed at the 2-point level and would meet this requirement upon adoption.

III. Impact

- A. **Costs:** The fiscal impact of this rules package is estimated to be approximately \$350,000, primarily due to costs of child care center and family child care home operators and child care staff time to implement administrative, operational and personnel policies.

Costs are categorized below by private sector, local, and state. All estimated costs to family child care homes were included in the private sector. Because 26% of centers report that they are operated by public schools and less than 1% report they are operated by universities and community colleges (assumed to be state funded), 73.9% of center costs were estimated to be in the private sector, 26% were estimated to be local, and less than 1% were estimated to be state operated.

We investigated the question as to whether increasing the minimum standards for one-star facilities and the subsequent predicted increase in quality child care would increase the price of child care for parents. Analysis of market rate data revealed that there would not be a significant increase in the cost of these facilities. While the difference in market rates between 2star and 3 star centers is more substantial averaging a difference of \$216 for infant-toddlers, \$224 for 2-year old, \$189 for 3-5 year old and \$143 for school-age children, the difference in the market rates between 1 and 2 star centers is minimal with an average difference of \$17 for infant-toddlers, \$17, for 2-year old \$16, for 3-5 year old, and \$15 for school age children.

The analysis may over-estimate one-star facilities' compliance costs. The estimates below reflect a conservative assumption that all one-star facilities will be affected by the rules. There is no way for the Division to know how many of the non-participating one-star facilities already meet or exceed these standards.

1. Center Rules with Fiscal Impact					
FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	TOTAL (NPV 2017)
\$ 24,900	\$ 9,700	\$ 9,850	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,200	\$ 58,600

2. Family Child Care Home Rules with Fiscal Impact					
FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	TOTAL (NPV 2017)
\$ 174,800	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 142,150	\$ 0	\$ 290,800

3. Grand Totals					
FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	TOTAL (NPV 2017)
\$ 199,700	\$ 9,700	\$ 9,850	\$ 152,200	\$ 10,200	\$349,400

Cost Summary

Estimated Private Sector Costs:	\$ 334,100
Estimated Local Costs:	\$ 15,200
Estimated State Costs:	\$ 100
Total Cost in 2017 dollars	\$ 349,400

B. Benefits:

The proposed rule changes are expected to improve families’ care experiences in 1 and 2-star rated facilities by requiring the administrative, operational and personnel policies for all child care centers and family child care homes that were previously only required of those participating in the 2-5 Star rating system. The changes are expected to manifest in more professional settings, a more educated staff, and greater parent involvement.

However, the expected effect of the rules on child development outcomes is uncertain. Evidence of a causal relationship between quality ratings and improved child development outcomes is inconclusive. Recent evaluations of QRIS systems in North Carolina and other states found a lack of robust evidence that the specific quality elements embedded in the rating are predictive of children’s developmental progress.¹ However, DHHS implemented a tiered quality rating and improvement system (TQRIS) in two phases spanning 2013-2016 (<http://qa.earlylearningchallenge.nc.gov/activities/nc-star-rated-license-validation-study>). Phase I involved developing alternative TQRIS models based on surveys, focus groups and interviews to guide Phase II of the validation study. Phase II involved examining whether the test model developed in Phase I was related to program and classroom quality, as well as child outcomes. Findings will potentially inform revisions to NC’s TQRIS. A report of the findings has been completed but is still under review, so the results are not yet available.

C. Net Impact:

The cost of these rule changes is estimated to be \$199,684.01 in SFY 2017-18 and approximately \$10,000 thereafter. There is one exception at year four with an estimated amount of \$152,000 due to the cost to Family Child Care Homes to meet the new 2-point level requirement to promote quality. FCCH operators will need to complete a self-study and self-assessment of the Family Child Care Rating Scale every three years.

IV. Uncertainties in Estimates

Most of the fiscal cost estimated is due to the staff time for child care center employees and family child care home operators to develop new policies. This was estimated using average hourly rates of pay and adding benefits costs. ECW benefits were estimated using the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Employer Costs for Employee Compensation data from the National Compensation Survey, available through September of 2016. Child Care Workers are part of the health care and social assistance industry group, occupational group 39-9011. Benefits were 28% of total compensation or 40% of salary for this group of workers, according to BLS data, accessed on Table 28 of the Historical Supplemental Tables located here: <https://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/sp/ecsuphst.txt> It is assumed that all programs impacted will pay for staff time.

Although there has been a decrease in the numbers of centers and family child care homes since 2013, these fiscal estimates assume that the numbers of child care centers and family child care homes, the number of children enrolled in regulated care, and the proportion of facilities affected by each individual rule change, will remain stable in future years. It is possible the costs may be less in the future than estimated if the numbers of child care programs continue to decrease.

January	Centers	Homes	Total	Children
2017	4,632	1,966	6,598	247,729
2016	4,692	2,150	6,842	245,277
2015	4,761	2,291	7,052	250,842
2014	4,731	2,494	7,225	243,973
2013	4,809	2,763	7,572	251,526

¹ Karoly, Lynn (2014). Validation Studies for Early Learning and Care Quality Rating and Improvement Systems: A Review of the Literature. Accessed at: https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/working_papers/WR1000/WR1051/RAND_WR1051.pdf

The present analysis above (III. A) has attempted to estimate the additional cost businesses may incur if they try to achieve a higher status. Consequently, another uncertainty is the potential likelihood the new requirements would lead an operator to opt to lower their score to avoid increasing costs; we have no way of predicting the likelihood of such an occurrence.

The analysis may over-estimate one-star facilities' compliance costs. One-star is the default designation if a facility chooses not to be evaluated to meet enhanced standards to receive a higher star rating. However, a one-star rating includes situations where a facility has not requested to be evaluated for a higher number of stars and when they have requested to be evaluated but only received one star based on the program assessment. There is no way to determine if nonparticipating facilities are already compliant with the proposed standards since they haven't requested an assessment by the Division.

ATTACHMENT OF RULES

10A NCAC 09 ~~.2804~~ .0513 ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

Centers ~~seeking two or more points for program standards~~ shall have administrative policies and practices which provide for selection and training of staff; communication with and opportunities for participation by parents; operational and fiscal management; and objective evaluation of the program, management and staff in accordance with the rules of this Section.

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. April 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;
Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1601;
Amended Eff. May 1, ~~2006~~ 2016.
Prior to readoption of September 1, 2017 this language was located in Rule .2804;
Readopted Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 ~~.2805~~ .0514 OPERATIONAL AND PERSONNEL POLICIES

(a) Each center shall have written policies ~~which that~~ describe the operation of the center and the services which are available to parents and their children. The operational policies shall include at least the following information:

- (1) the days and hours the center operates;
- (2) age range of children served;
- (3) admission requirements and enrollment procedures;
- (4) parent fees and payment plan;
- (5) information about services provided by the center, i.e. number of meals served, before/after school care, transportation;
- (6) items, if any, to be provided by parents;
- (7) a schedule of daily, weekly, and monthly cleaning duties;
- (8) written procedures for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect;
- (9) the center's discipline policy for behavior management;
- (10) a description of opportunities for parent participation; and
- (11) nutrition policies.

(b) Operational policies shall be discussed with parents ~~at the time they inquire about enrolling their child~~ prior to enrollment in the center. A copy of the policies shall be given to the parents when their child is enrolled and they shall be notified in writing of any changes.

(c) Copies of operational policies and any subsequent changes to those policies shall be distributed to the staff.

(d) Each center in which more than two staff are required to meet the enhanced standards for staff/child ratios shall have written personnel policy ~~which that~~ includes at least the following information:

- (1) job descriptions for each position;
- (2) minimum qualifications for each position including reference checks;
- (3) health and medical requirements;

- (4) requirements and provisions for in-service training;
- (5) provisions for leave time and other absence;
- (6) procedures for on-going supervision and regular evaluation of work performance; and
- (7) resignation and termination procedures.

(e) Personnel policies shall be discussed with each employee at the time of employment and a copy of the policies shall be available to all staff. Staff shall be notified in writing of any changes in personnel policies.

(f) In addition to all records required in Rule .0302(d) of this Chapter, each employee's personnel file shall contain an annual staff evaluation and staff development plan.

(g) All personnel files of employees hired after April 1, 1999 shall also ~~contain~~ contain

- (1) a signed and dated statement verifying that the employee received a copy of ~~his/her~~ his or her job description(s) and has reviewed the personnel and operational ~~policies, policies, and~~
- (2) ~~documentation that information concerning the enhanced standards was included during the employee's orientation.~~

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. April 1, 1999;
Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1602;
Amended Eff. May 1, ~~2006~~, 2006;
Readopted Eff. _____ (Transferred from 10A NCAC 09 .2805).*

10A NCAC 09 .~~2807~~ .0515 PARENT PARTICIPATION

(a) Each center shall have a plan which will encourage parent participation and inform parents about the program and its services. The plan shall be discussed with parents ~~at the time the child is enrolled~~ prior to enrollment and shall be posted in the center or a copy shall be given to parents ~~at the time of~~ prior to enrollment.

(b) The plan shall include the following:

- (1) a procedure for registering a child for child care which involves both parents when possible and which encourages a visit to the center by the child and the child's parents before the child begins attending the center;
- (2) opportunities for caregiving staff to meet with parents on a regular basis to discuss their child's needs and progress and to exchange information about the program;
- (3) activities which provide parents opportunities to participate in the center's program on an individual basis and as a group;
- (4) a procedure for parents who need information or have complaints about the child care program.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. April 1, 1999;
Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1613;
Amended Eff. May 1, ~~2006~~, 2006;
Readopted Eff. _____ (Transferred from 10A NCAC 09 .2807).*

10A NCAC 09 ~~.2808~~ .0516 NIGHT CARE

- (a) A variety of activities and experiences shall be available for children during the evening hours. Quiet activities shall be planned just before bedtime. Children shall have opportunities to develop good personal care and health habits through routines.
- (b) Schedules for the children receiving nighttime care must be flexible and individually planned.
- (c) When possible, children shall be left for care and picked up before and after their normal sleeping period so that there is minimal disturbance of the child during sleep.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
 Eff. April 1, 1999;
 Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1615;
 Amended Eff. May 1, ~~2006~~. 2006;
 Readopted Eff. _____(Transferred from 10A NCAC 09 .2808).*

10A NCAC 09 .1101 NEW STAFF ORIENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- (a) Each center shall ensure that each new employee who is expected to have contact with children receives 16 clock hours of on-site orientation within the first six weeks of employment. As part of this orientation, each new employee shall complete six clock hours of orientation within the first two weeks of employment.
- (b) New staff orientation shall include an overview of the following topics, focusing on the operation of the center:

Within first two (2) weeks of employment	Within first six (6) weeks of employment
Information regarding recognizing, responding to, and reporting child abuse, neglect, or maltreatment pursuant to G.S. 110-105.4 and G.S. 7B-301	Firsthand observation of the center’s daily operations
Review of the center’s operational policies, including the center’s safe sleep policy for infants, the center's policy for transportation, the center's identification of building and premises safety issues, the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan, and the emergency medical care plan	Instruction in the employee’s assigned duties
Adequate supervision of children in accordance with 10A NCAC 09 .1801	Instruction in the maintenance of a safe and healthy environment
Information regarding prevention of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma and child maltreatment	Instruction in the administration of medication to children in accordance with 10A NCAC 09 .0803
Prevention and control of infectious diseases, including immunization	Review of the center’s purposes and goals
	Review of the child care licensing law and rules
	<u>Review of Section .2800 of this Chapter if the center has a two- through five- star license at the time of employment</u>

	An explanation of the role of State and local government agencies in the regulation of child care, their impact on the operation of the center, and their availability as a resource
	An explanation of the employee's obligation to cooperate with representatives of State and local government agencies during visits and investigations
	Prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions
	Review of the center's handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of biocontaminants

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-91(11); 143B-168.3;
Eff. October 1, 2017;
Amended Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 .1705 OPERATIONAL POLICIES

(a) Each operator shall have written operational policies that include at least the following information:

- (1) the days and hours of operation;
- (2) age range of children served;
- (3) admission requirements and enrollment procedures;
- (4) parent fees and payment plan;
- (5) information about services provided by the operator, i.e. number of meals served, before/after school care, transportation;
- (6) items, if any, to be provided by parents;
- (7) a schedule of daily, weekly, and monthly cleaning duties;
- (8) written procedures for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect;
- (9) the operator's discipline policy for behavior management;
- (10) a description of opportunities for parent participation; and
- (11) nutrition policies.

(b) Operational policies shall be discussed with parents prior to enrollment in the home. A copy of the policies shall be given to the parents when their child is enrolled and they shall be notified in writing of any changes.

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88; 110-91; 143B-168.3;
Eff. _____.

**10A NCAC 09 .1729 ADDITIONAL CAREGIVER AND SUBSTITUTE
PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS**

(a) An individual who provides care for five hours or more in a week during planned absences of the family child care home operator shall:

- (1) be 21 years old;
- (2) have a high school diploma or GED;
- (3) have completed a First Aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course as described in Rule .1708(b)(3) and (4) of this Section;
- (4) have completed a health questionnaire;
- (5) have proof of negative results of a tuberculosis test completed within 12 months prior to the first day of providing care;
- (6) have submitted criminal records check forms as required in Rule .2703 of this Chapter;
- (7) have documentation of annual on-going training as described in Rule .1703(d) of this Section after the first year of employment;
- (8) have completed ITS-SIDS training, if licensed to care for infants;
- (9) have completed Recognizing and Responding to Suspicions of Child Maltreatment training; and
- (10) have documentation that the operator reviewed requirements found in this Chapter, including the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan, and in G.S. Chapter 110, Article 7.

While the individual provides care at a family child care home, copies of required information in Subparagraphs (1) through (10) of this Paragraph shall be on file in the home available for review by the Division.

(b) An individual who provides care for less than five hours in a week during planned absences of the operator shall be literate and meet all requirements listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, except the requirements for annual training and a high school diploma or GED.

(c) The operator shall conduct 16 hours of orientation with any caregivers, including substitute providers, and volunteers who are providing care prior to the individual caring for children. The orientation shall include an overview of the following topics, specifically focusing on the operation of the facility:

- (1) recognizing, responding to, and reporting child abuse, neglect, or maltreatment pursuant to G.S. 110-105.4 and G.S. 7B-301;
- (2) review of the home's operational policies, including the written plan of care, safe sleep policy, the transportation policy, identification of building and premises safety issues, the emergency medical care plan and the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan;
- (3) adequate supervision of children in accordance with Rule .1711(a) of this Section;
- (4) information regarding prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma, and child maltreatment;
- (5) prevention and control of infectious diseases, including immunization;
- (6) firsthand observation of the home's daily operations;
- (7) instruction regarding assigned duties;

- (8) instruction in the maintenance of a safe and healthy environment;
- (9) instruction in the administration of medication to children in accordance with Rule .1720(b) of this Section;
- (10) review of the home's purposes and goals;
- (11) review of G.S. 110, Article 7 and 10A NCAC 09;
- (12) review of Section .2800 of this Chapter if the operator has a two- through five- star license at the time of employment;
- ~~(12)~~(13) an explanation of the role of State and local government agencies in the regulation of child care, their impact on the operation of the center, and their availability as a resource;
- ~~(13)~~(14) an explanation of the individual's obligation to cooperate with representatives of State and local government agencies during visits and investigations; and
- ~~(14)~~(15) prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions.

The operator and individual providing care shall sign and date a statement that attests that this review was completed. This statement shall be kept on file in the home available for review by the Division.

(d) An individual who provides care during unplanned absences of the operator, such as medical emergencies, shall be 18 years old and submit criminal records check forms as required in Rule .2703(j) of this Chapter. The children of an emergency caregiver shall not be counted in the licensed capacity for the first day of the emergency caregiver's service.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88; 110-91; 143B-168.3;
Eff. October 1, 2017;
Amended Eff.*

SECTION .2800 - ~~VOLUNTARY~~ TWO THROUGH FIVE STAR RATED LICENSES

10A NCAC 09 .2801 SCOPE

(a) This Section applies to all child care facilities that have achieved or wish to achieve a voluntary rated license of two stars or higher. ~~higher or that apply to be assessed for a voluntary rated license of two stars or higher.~~

(b) A child care facility is eligible for a voluntary rated license of two through five ~~stars.~~ stars upon application and assessment of compliance with the requirements of this Section.

(c) A one-star rated license shall be issued to a child care facility when compliance with G.S. 110-91 and this Chapter is determined.

~~(d)~~(d) No requirement in any component of a two-star or higher rating shall be less than the requirements for a one-star rating described in G.S. 110-91 and this Chapter. Prior to issuance of an initial two through five-star rating, all requirements in G.S. 110-91 and this Chapter must be in compliance at the time the program is assessed. The requirements for a ~~voluntary~~ rated license of two stars or higher are in addition to the standards found in G.S. 110-91 and this Chapter.

~~(d)~~ (e) Nothing in this Section precludes or interferes with issuance of an administrative action as allowed by G.S. 110 and this Chapter.

~~(e) As used in this Section a two-component license refers to a license issued based on an evaluation of program standards and education standards.~~

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. April 1, 1999;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2010; May 1, 2006;
Readopted Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2802 APPLICATION FOR A ~~VOLUNTARY~~ TWO THROUGH FIVE STAR RATED LICENSE

(a) After a licensed child care center or home has been in operation for a minimum of six consecutive months, the procedures in this Rule apply to request an initial two- through five-star rated license or to request that a rating be changed to a two- through five-star rated license.

(b) The operator shall submit a completed application to the Division for a ~~voluntary~~ two- through five-star rated license on the form provided by the Division.

(c) An operator may apply for a star rating based on the total number of points achieved for each component of the ~~voluntary two- through five-star~~ two- through five-star rated license. In order to achieve a two- through five-star rating, ~~for a two-component license~~ the minimum score achieved must be a least four points as follows:

<u>Total Number of Points</u>	<u>Star Rating</u>
<u>4 through 6</u>	<u>Two Stars</u>
<u>7 through 9</u>	<u>Three Stars</u>
<u>10 through 12</u>	<u>Four Stars</u>
<u>13 through 15</u>	<u>Five Stars</u>

TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS	RATING
4 through 6	Two Stars
7 through 9	Three Stars
10 through 12	Four Stars
13 through 15	Five Stars

(d) Facilities with a four or five-star rated license that are licensed to serve four-year-old children must implement a curriculum as defined in 10A NCAC 09 .0102 with their four year olds. ~~This requirement must be met in any licensed child care facility.~~

(e) A Division representative shall assess the facility requesting a ~~voluntary~~ two- through five-star rated license to determine if all applicable requirements have been met to achieve the score for the requested star rating. The assessment may include a review of Division records and site visits.

(f) The Division shall provide for Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale Revised Edition, Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale - Revised Edition, School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale, or Family Child Care

Environment Rating Scale - Revised Edition assessments to be completed, as appropriate for the program, free of charge to operators requesting an initial three or more points for program standards. For centers with a licensed capacity of 3 to 12 children located in a residence, a Family Child Care Rating Scale- Revised Edition assessment shall be completed.

(g) Upon completion of the Division's assessment:

- (1) If the assessment indicates all the applicable requirements to achieve the score for the requested rating have been met, the Division shall issue the rating.
- (2) If the assessment indicates all the applicable requirements to achieve the score for the requested rating are not met, the Division shall notify the operator of the requirements that were not met and the requested ~~voluntary~~ two- through five-star rating shall not be issued. The operator may:
 - (A) Accept the rating for which the Division has found the operator to be eligible;
 - (B) Withdraw the request and reapply when the identified requirements to achieve the score for the requested rating have been met; or
 - (C) Appeal the denial of the requested rating as provided in G.S. 110-94.

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3; S.L. 2011-145, s.10.7(b); Eff. April 1, 1999; Amended Eff. September 1, 2012; July 1, 2010; May 1, 2006; Readopted Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 .2804 ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

~~Centers seeking two or more points for program standards shall have administrative policies and practices which provide for selection and training of staff; communication with and opportunities for participation by parents; operational and fiscal management; and objective evaluation of the program, management and staff in accordance with the rules of this Section.~~

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3; Eff. April 1, 1999; Amended Eff. July 1, 2000; Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1601; Amended Eff. May 1, 2006; Repealed Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 .2805 OPERATIONAL AND PERSONNEL POLICIES

~~(a) Each center shall have written policies which describe the operation of the center and the services which are available to parents and their children. The operational policies shall include at least the following information:~~

- ~~(1) the days and hours the center operates;~~
- ~~(2) age range of children served;~~
- ~~(3) admission requirements and enrollment procedures;~~
- ~~(4) parent fees and payment plan;~~

- (5) ~~information about services provided by the center, i.e. number of meals served, before/after school care, transportation;~~
- (6) ~~items, if any, to be provided by parents;~~
- (7) ~~a schedule of daily, weekly, and monthly cleaning duties;~~
- (8) ~~written procedures for reporting suspected child abuse and neglect;~~
- (9) ~~the center's discipline policy for behavior management;~~
- (10) ~~a description of opportunities for parent participation; and~~
- (11) ~~nutrition policies.~~

~~(b) Operational policies shall be discussed with parents at the time they inquire about enrolling their child in the center. A copy of the policies shall be given to the parents when their child is enrolled and they shall be notified in writing of any changes.~~

~~(c) Copies of operational policies and any subsequent changes to those policies shall be distributed to the staff.~~

~~(d) Each center in which more than two staff are required to meet the enhanced standards for staff/child ratios shall have written personnel policy which includes at least the following information:~~

- ~~(1) job descriptions for each position;~~
- ~~(2) minimum qualifications for each position including reference checks;~~
- ~~(3) health and medical requirements;~~
- ~~(4) requirements and provisions for in-service training;~~
- ~~(5) provisions for leave time and other absence;~~
- ~~(6) procedures for on-going supervision and regular evaluation of work performance; and~~
- ~~(7) resignation and termination procedures.~~

~~(e) Personnel policies shall be discussed with each employee at the time of employment and a copy of the policies shall be available to all staff. Staff shall be notified in writing of any changes in personnel policies.~~

~~(f) In addition to all records required in Rule .0302(d) of this Chapter, each employee's personnel file shall contain an annual staff evaluation and staff development plan.~~

~~(g) All personnel files of employees hired after April 1, 1999 shall also contain:~~

- ~~(1) a signed and dated statement verifying that the employee received a copy of his/her job description(s) and has reviewed the personnel and operational policies; and~~
- ~~(2) documentation that information concerning the enhanced standards was included during the employee's orientation.~~

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
 Eff. April 1, 1999;
 Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1602;
 Amended Eff. May 1, 2006;
 Repealed Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2806 CAREGIVING ACTIVITIES FOR PRESCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

- (a) Each center shall comply with the requirements in Rule .0508 of this Chapter for written activity schedules and plans, and in Rule .0509 of this Chapter for general activity requirements.
- (b) Each center providing care to preschool-age children aged ~~two~~ three years old or older shall comply with the requirements for activity areas for preschool-age children in Rule .0510 of this Chapter, except that all five of the activity areas listed in G.S. 110-91(12) shall be available each day and the activities listed in Rule .0510(6) of this Chapter shall be offered for each group of children at least once per week.
- (c) The requirements for activities for infants and toddlers set forth in Rule .0511 of this Chapter shall apply for children under ~~two~~ three years of age.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. April 1, 1999;
Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1612;
Amended Eff. May 1, 2013; May 1, 2006;
Readopted Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2807 PARENT PARTICIPATION

- ~~(a) Each center shall have a plan which will encourage parent participation and inform parents about the program and its services. The plan shall be discussed with parents at the time the child is enrolled and shall be posted in the center or a copy shall be given to parents at the time of enrollment.~~
- (b) ~~The plan shall include the following:~~
 - ~~(1) a procedure for registering a child for child care which involves both parents when possible and which encourages a visit to the center by the child and the child's parents before the child begins attending the center;~~
 - ~~(2) opportunities for caregiving staff to meet with parents on a regular basis to discuss their child's needs and progress and to exchange information about the program;~~
 - ~~(3) activities which provide parents opportunities to participate in the center's program on an individual basis and as a group;~~
 - ~~(4) a procedure for parents who need information or have complaints about the child care program.~~

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. April 1, 1999;
Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1613;
Amended Eff. May 1, 2006;
Repealed Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2808 NIGHT CARE

- ~~(a) A variety of activities and experiences shall be available for children during the evening hours. Quiet activities shall be planned just before bedtime. Children shall have opportunities to develop good personal care and health habits through routines.~~
- (b) Schedules for the children receiving nighttime care must be flexible and individually planned.

(e) ~~When possible, children shall be left for care and picked up before and after their normal sleeping period so that there is minimal disturbance of the child during sleep.~~

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
 Eff. April 1, 1999;
 Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1615;
 Amended Eff. May 1, 2006;
 Repealed Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 .2809 ENHANCED SPACE REQUIREMENTS

- (a) There shall be at least 30 square feet inside space per child per the total licensed capacity and ~~100~~ 75 square feet outside space ~~per the total licensed capacity.~~ for each child using the outdoor learning environment at any one time.
 Or, there shall be at least 35 square feet inside space per child per the total licensed capacity and ~~100~~ 75 square feet outside space per child for at least 50 percent of the total licensed capacity.
- (b) There must be an area which can be arranged for administrative and private conference activities.

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
 Eff. April 1, 1999;
 Prior to amendment of May 1, 2006 this language was located in Rule .1604;
 Amended Eff. May 1, 2006;
 Readopted Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 .2817 ENHANCED PROGRAM STANDARDS FOR A TWO-COMPONENT RATED LICENSE FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS

- (a) ~~This Rule applies to evaluating the program standards for a two component rated license for child care centers. To achieve one point for program standards, the center shall be in compliance with all applicable requirements in Rules .0513-.0516.~~
- (b) To achieve two through seven points for program standards, the center shall meet all the applicable requirements in Rule .2806 of this Section and the criteria listed in the following chart:

<u>Point Level</u>	<u>Meets Enhanced Staff/Child Ratio in Rule .2818(b)</u>	<u>Meets Enhanced Staff/Child Ratio in Rule .2818(c)</u>	<u>Meets Enhanced Space in Rule .2809</u>	<u>Environment Rating Scale (ERS) Requirements (as referenced in Rule .2802(f) of this Section)</u>
<u>2 Points</u>	✓ <u>OR</u>		✓	
<u>3 Points</u>	✓ <u>OR</u>		✓ <u>AND</u>	<u>Each classroom has at least a score of 4.0 or higher</u>
<u>4 Points</u>	✓ <u>AND</u>		<u>Center may choose to meet this requirement, AND</u>	<u>Have an average combined score of 4.5, with no one classroom score lower than 4.0 in each classroom evaluated</u>

<u>5 Points</u>	✓ <u>AND</u>		<u>Center may choose to meet this requirement, AND</u>	<u>Have an average combined score of 4.75, with no one classroom score lower than 4.0 in each classroom evaluated</u>
<u>6 Points</u>	✓ <u>AND</u>		✓ <u>AND</u>	<u>Have an average combined score of 5.0, with no one classroom score lower than 4.0 in each classroom evaluated</u>
<u>7 Points</u>	✓ <u>AND</u>	✓ <u>AND</u>	✓ <u>AND</u>	<u>Have a score of 5.0 in each classroom evaluated</u>

~~(b) To achieve two points for program standards, the center shall meet all the applicable requirements in Rules .2804 –.2808 of this Section, and either the staff/child ratio requirements in Rule .2818(b) or the space requirements in Rule .2809 of this Section shall be met.~~

~~(c) To achieve three points for program standards, the center shall meet all the applicable requirements in Rules .2804 –.2808 and either the staff/child ratio requirements in Rule .2818(b) or the space requirements in Rule .2809 of this Section shall be met, and have an average score of 4.0 on the appropriate environment rating scale referenced in Rule .2802(e) of this Section in each classroom evaluated.~~

~~(d) To achieve four points for program standards, the center shall meet all the applicable requirements in Rules .2804 –.2808 and .2818(b) of this Section, and have an average combined score of 4.5, with no one classroom score lower than 4.0 on the appropriate environment rating scale referenced in Rule .2802(e) of this Section for all classrooms evaluated.~~

~~(e) To achieve five points for program standards, the center shall meet all the applicable requirements in Rules .2804 –.2808 and .2818(b) of this Section, and have an average combined score of 4.75, with no one classroom score lower than 4.0, on the appropriate environment rating scale referenced in Rule .2802(e) of this Section for all classrooms evaluated.~~

~~(f) To achieve six points for program standards, the center shall meet all the applicable requirements in Rules .2804 –.2809 and .2818(b) of this Section, and have an average combined score of 5.0, with no one classroom score lower than 4.0 on the appropriate environment rating scale referenced in Rule .2802(e) of this Section for all classrooms evaluated.~~

~~(g) To achieve seven points for program standards, the center shall meet all the applicable requirements in Rules .2804 –.2809 and .2818(c) of this Section, and have an average score of 5.0 on the appropriate environment rating scale referenced in Rule .2802(e) of this Section in each classroom evaluated.~~

~~(h) For centers with a licensed capacity of 3 to 12 children located in a residence, a Family Day Care Rating Scale shall be the rating scale used in Paragraphs (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) of this Rule.~~

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3; Eff. May 1, 2006;

Readopted Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 .2818 ENHANCED STAFF/CHILD RATIOS FOR A ~~TWO COMPONENT~~ RATED LICENSE FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS

(a) This Rule applies to evaluating the staff/child ratios and maximum group sizes for a ~~two component~~ rated license for child care centers.

(b) The center shall comply with the following staff-child ratios and maximum group sizes.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Ratio Staff/Children</u>	<u>Maximum Group Size</u>
<u>0 to 12 Months</u>	<u>1/5</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>1 to 2 Years</u>	<u>1/6</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>2 to 3 Years</u>	<u>1/9</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>3 to 4 Years</u>	<u>1/10</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>4 to 5 Years</u>	<u>1/13</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>5 to 6 Years</u>	<u>1/15</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>6 Years and Older</u>	<u>1/20</u>	<u>25</u>

MAXIMUM

<u>AGE</u>	<u>RATIO STAFF/CHILDREN</u>	<u>GROUP SIZE</u>
<u>0 to 12 Months</u>	<u>1/5</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>1 to 2 Years</u>	<u>1/6</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>2 to 3 Years</u>	<u>1/9</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>3 to 4 Years</u>	<u>1/10</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>4 to 5 Years</u>	<u>1/13</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>5 to 6 Years</u>	<u>1/15</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>6 Years and Older</u>	<u>1/20</u>	<u>25</u>

(c) To earn seven points for program standards, the center shall comply with the following staff-child ratios and maximum group sizes.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Ratio Staff/Children</u>	<u>Maximum Group Size</u>
<u>0 to 12 Months</u>	<u>1/4</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>1 to 2 Years</u>	<u>1/5</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>2 to 3 Years</u>	<u>1/8</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>3 to 4 Years</u>	<u>1/9</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>4 to 5 Years</u>	<u>1/12</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>5 to 6 Years</u>	<u>1/14</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>6 Years and Older</u>	<u>1/19</u>	<u>25</u>

AGE	RATIO STAFF/CHILDREN	MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE
0 to 12 Months	1/4	8
1 to 2 Years	1/5	10
2 to 3 Years	1/8	16
3 to 4 Years	1/9	18
4 to 5 Years	1/12	24
5 to 6 Years	1/14	25
6 Years and Older	1/19	25

(d) The provisions of rules 10A NCAC 09 .0712(a)(1), (2) and .0713(b) through (j) shall apply in evaluating the staff/child ratios and maximum group sizes within this Rule.

(e) The staff/child ratio applicable to a classroom shall be posted in that classroom in an area that parents are able to view at all times.

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 143B-168.3;
 Eff. May 1, 2006;
 Readopted Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 .2819 ENHANCED EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR ON-SITE ADMINISTRATORS FOR A RATED LICENSE FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS

(a) This Rule applies to evaluating the education standards for an on-site administrator for child care centers. The points for education standards are determined by applying this Rule along with Rules .2820, .2821, .2822 and .2823 of this Section. To determine the points attained for meeting the education standards, the lowest number of points attained under each Rule shall be the point used to meet Rule .2802 of this Section.

(b) To achieve two through seven points for education standards, the on-site administrator shall meet the applicable requirements in the following chart. (moved from (b) through (g) below)

<u>Point Level</u>	<u>NC Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent</u>	<u>Semester Hours and Type of Work Experience</u>	<u>If providing school-age care,</u>
<u>2 Points</u>	<u>Level I; and</u>	<u>2 years of full-time, verifiable early childhood experience; or</u> <u>1 year of child care administration experience; and</u>	<u>150 hours of verifiable time in a licensed child care program; or</u> <u>300 hours of verifiable time in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting; or</u>

			<u>BSAC training.</u>
<u>3 Points</u>	<u>Level I; and</u>	<u>6 hours in early childhood education or child development; and either</u> <u>2 years of full-time, verifiable early childhood experience; or</u> <u>±</u> <u>1 year of child care administration experience; and</u>	<u>300 hours of verifiable time in a licensed child care program; or</u> <u>450 hours of verifiable time in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting; or</u> <u>BSAC training.</u>
<u>4 Points</u>	<u>Level I; and</u>	<u>18 hours in early childhood education or child development; and 1 year of child care administration experience; or</u> <u>6 hours in early childhood education or child development and 10 years of child care administration experience; and</u>	<u>450 hours of verifiable time in a licensed child care program; or</u> <u>600 hours of verifiable time in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting; or</u> <u>BSAC training.</u>
<u>5 Points</u>	<u>Level II; and</u>	<u>2 years of full-time, verifiable early childhood experience; and</u>	<u>600 hours of verifiable time in a licensed child care program; or</u> <u>900 hours of verifiable time in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting; or</u> <u>BSAC training or its equivalent.</u>
<u>6 Points</u>	<u>Level II; and</u>	<u>18 hours in early childhood education or child development; and either</u> <u>3 years of full-time verifiable early childhood experience in an early childhood center teaching young children; or</u> <u>3 years of child care administration experience; or</u>	<u>750 hours of verifiable time in a licensed child care program; or</u> <u>1150 hours of verifiable time in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting; or</u> <u>BSAC training.</u>

		<u>3 years of a combination of both types of experience; and</u>	
<u>7 Points</u>	<u>Level III; and either</u>	<u>4 years of full-time verifiable early childhood experience in an early childhood center teaching young children; or</u> <u>4 years of child care administration experience; or</u> <u>4 years of a combination of both types of experience; and</u>	<u>900 hours of verifiable time in a licensed child care program; or</u> <u>1350 hours of verifiable time in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting; or</u> <u>BSAC training.</u>

(c) Semester hours in early childhood education or child development shall not include the coursework necessary for the North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential (NCECAC).

(d) Completion of school-age experience requirements shall count toward meeting work experience requirements.

(b) To achieve two points, the on-site administrator shall have:

- (1) A Level I North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and
- (2) Two years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience, or one year experience in child care administration; and
- (3) If providing school-age care, 150 hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in a licensed child care program; or 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting; or shall complete the BSAC Training or its equivalent. Completion of these requirements shall count toward meeting experience requirements in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph.

(e) To achieve three points, the on-site administrator shall have:

- (1) A Level I North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and
- (2) Six semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential coursework); and either
 - (A) Two years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or
 - (B) One year of experience in child care administration; and
- (3) If providing school-age care, 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in a licensed child care program; or 450 hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting; or shall have completed the BSAC Training or its equivalent. Completion of these requirements may count toward meeting experience requirements in Subparagraphs (2)(A) and (B) of this Paragraph.

(d) To achieve four points, the on-site administrator shall have:

- (1) ~~A Level I North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and either~~
 - (A) ~~18 semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential coursework) and one year of experience in child care administration; or~~
 - (B) ~~Six semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential coursework), and 10 years of experience in child care administration; and~~
- (2) ~~If providing school age care, 450 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in licensed child care program; or 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or shall have completed the BSAC Training or its equivalent. Completion of these requirements may count toward meeting experience requirements in Subparagraphs (1)(A) and (B) of this Paragraph.~~
- (e) ~~To achieve five points, the on site administrator shall have:~~
 - (1) ~~A Level II North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and~~
 - (2) ~~Two years of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; and~~
 - (3) ~~If providing school age care, 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or 900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent. Completion of these requirements may count toward meeting experience requirements in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph.~~
- (f) ~~To achieve six points, the on site administrator shall have:~~
 - (1) ~~A Level II North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and~~
 - (2) ~~18 semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including the North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential coursework or hours earned during the completion of the A.A.S degree); and either~~
 - (A) ~~Three years of full time verifiable work experience in an early childhood center teaching young children; or~~
 - (B) ~~Three years of administrative experience; or~~
 - (C) ~~Three years of a combination of both; and~~
 - (3) ~~If providing school age care, 750 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or 1150 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent. Completion of these requirements may count toward meeting experience requirements in Subparagraphs (2)(A) and (B) of this Paragraph.~~
- (g) ~~To achieve seven points, the on site administrator shall:~~
 - (1) ~~Have a Level III North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and~~
 - (2) ~~Either:~~

- (A) ~~Four years of full time verifiable work experience in an early childhood center teaching young children; or~~
- (B) ~~Four years of administrative experience; or~~
- (C) ~~Four years of a combination of both; and~~

(3) ~~If providing school age care, 900 hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in a licensed child care program serving school aged children; or 1350 hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or shall have completed the BSAC Training or its equivalent. Completion of these requirements may count toward meeting experience requirements in Subparagraphs (2)(A), (B) and (C) of this Paragraph.~~

~~(h)~~ (e) For centers with a licensed capacity of 3 to 12 children located in a residence, when an individual has responsibility both for administering the child care program and for planning and implementing the daily activities of a group of children, the educational requirements for lead teacher in Rule .2820 of this Section shall apply. All other teachers shall follow the educational requirements for teachers in this Section.

~~(i)~~ (f) For centers with a licensed capacity of 200 or more, there shall be a second administrator on-site for a minimum of 20 hours per week who shall have the Level I North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
 Eff. May 1, 2006;
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2012;
 Readopted Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2820 ENHANCED EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR LEAD TEACHERS FOR A RATED LICENSE FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS

(a) This Rule applies to evaluating child care centers with regards to all lead teachers. The points for education standards are determined by applying this Rule along with Rules .2819, .2821, .2822 and .2823 of this Section. To determine the points attained for meeting the education standards, the lowest number of points attained under each Rule shall be the point used to meet Rule .2802 of this Section.

(b) To achieve two through seven points for education standards, the lead teachers shall meet the applicable requirements in the following chart.

<u>Point Level</u>	<u>NC Early Childhood Credential or its equivalent</u>	<u>Certification on the NC Early Care and Education Professional Scale</u>	<u>Other Education and Experience Requirements</u>
<u>2 Points</u>	<u>75 percent of lead teachers; or</u>	<u>75 percent of lead teachers at Level I or higher; and</u>	<u>75 percent of lead teachers have completed or are enrolled in 3 semester hours in early childhood education or child development.</u>
<u>3 Points</u>	<u>All lead teachers; or</u>	<u>All lead teachers at a Level I or higher; and either</u>	<u>75 percent of the lead teachers shall have:</u>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) <u>completed 3 semester hours in early childhood education and have completed or are enrolled in 3 additional semester hours in early childhood education or child development; or</u> (2) <u>completed 1 year full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u> (3) <u>have a Level II or higher certification on the ECE scale; or</u> (4) <u>Any combination of (1), (2), and (3) of this requirement.</u>
		<u>OR 50 percent of the lead teachers at a Level II or higher.</u>	
<u>4 Points</u>	<u>All lead teachers; or</u>	<u>All lead teachers at a Level I or higher; and either</u>	<u>75 percent of the lead teachers shall have:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) <u>completed 6 semester hours in early childhood education or childhood development and have completed or are enrolled in 3 additional semester hours in early childhood education; or</u> (2) <u>completed 3 semester hours of early childhood education and have 3 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u> (3) <u>completed 5 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u> (4) <u>Any combination of (1), (2), and (3) of this requirement.</u>
		<u>OR 50 percent of the lead teachers shall have a Level III or higher certification on the ECE scale.</u>	
<u>5 Points</u>	<u>All lead teachers; or</u>	<u>All lead teachers at a Level I or higher; and</u>	<u>75 percent of the lead teachers shall have:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) <u>completed 9 semester hours in early childhood education or childhood development and have completed or are enrolled in 3 additional semester hours in</u>

			<p><u>early childhood education; and have 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u></p> <p>(2) <u>have a Level IV or higher certification on the ECE scale and have 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u></p> <p>(3) <u>Any combination of (1) and (2) of this requirement.</u></p>
<u>6 Points</u>	<u>All lead teachers; or</u>	<u>All lead teachers at a Level I or higher; and</u>	<p>50 percent of the lead teachers shall have either:</p> <p>(1) <u>An A.A.S. degree in early childhood education or child development or an A.A.S. degree in any major with 12 semester hours in early childhood education or child development and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u></p> <p>(2) <u>Completed 60 semester hours towards a BA/BS degree program with 12 semester hours in early childhood education and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u></p> <p>(3) <u>A Level VI certification on the ECE scale and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u></p> <p>(4) <u>Any combination of (1), (2) and (3) of this requirement.</u></p>
<u>7 Points</u>	<u>All lead teachers; or</u>	<u>All lead teachers at a Level I or higher; and</u>	<p>75 percent of the lead teachers shall have either:</p> <p>(1) <u>An A.A.S. degree in early childhood education or child development or an A.A.S. degree in any major with 12 semester hours in early childhood education or child development and 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u></p>

			<p>(2) <u>A Level VI certification on the ECE scale and 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u></p> <p>(3) <u>Any combination of (1) and (2) of this requirement.</u></p>
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(c) Semester hours in early childhood education or child development shall not include the coursework necessary for the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential.

(b) ~~To achieve two points, 75 percent of the lead teachers shall:~~

- (1) ~~Have the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent or a Level I or higher Early Educator Certification on the Early Care and Education Professional Scale (ECE scale); and~~
- (2) ~~Have completed or enrolled in three semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including North Carolina Early Childhood Credential coursework).~~

(c) ~~To achieve three points, all lead teachers shall have the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent or a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale; and either~~

- (1) ~~75 percent of the lead teachers shall have:~~
 - (A) ~~Completed three semester hours in early childhood education and completed or are enrolled in three additional semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including North Carolina Early Childhood Credential coursework); or~~
 - (B) ~~Completed one year full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (C) ~~A level II or higher certification on the ECE scale; or~~
 - (D) ~~Any combination of Parts (A) through (C) of this Subparagraph; or~~
- (2) ~~50 percent of the lead teachers shall have a Level II or higher certification on the ECE scale.~~

(d) ~~To achieve four points, all lead teachers shall have the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent, or Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale; and~~

- (1) ~~Either 75 percent of the lead teachers shall have:~~
 - (A) ~~Completed six semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential coursework), and have completed or are enrolled in three additional semester hours in early childhood education; or~~
 - (B) ~~Completed three semester hours of early childhood education and have three years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (C) ~~Five years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (D) ~~Any combination of Parts (A) through (C) of this Subparagraph; or~~
- (2) ~~50 percent of the lead teachers shall have a Level III or higher certification on the ECE scale.~~

(e) ~~To achieve five points, all lead teachers shall have the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent, or have a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale and 75 percent of the lead teachers shall have:~~

- (1) ~~Completed nine semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential coursework), and have completed or are enrolled in three additional semester hours in early childhood education, and have one year of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (2) ~~A Level IV or higher certification on the ECE scale and have one year of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (3) ~~Any combination of Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph.~~
- (f) ~~To achieve six points, all lead teachers shall have the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent, or a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale and 50 percent of the lead teachers shall have either:~~
- (1) ~~An A.A.S degree in early childhood education or child development or an A.A.S degree in any major with 12 semester hours in early childhood education or child development and one year of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (2) ~~Completed 60 semester hours towards a BA/BS degree program with 12 semester hours in early childhood education and one year of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (3) ~~A Level VI certification on the ECE scale and one year of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (4) ~~Any combination of Subparagraphs (1) through (3) of this Paragraph.~~
- (g) ~~To achieve seven points, all lead teachers shall have the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent, or a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale and 75 percent of the lead teachers shall have either:~~
- (1) ~~An A.A.S. degree in early childhood education or child development or an A.A.S. degree in any major with 12 semester hours in early childhood education or child development and two years of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (2) ~~A Level VI certification on the ECE scale and two years of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
 - (3) ~~Any combination of Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph.~~

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
 Eff. August 1, 2012;
 Readopted Eff. _____.

**10A NCAC 09 .2821 ENHANCED EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR TEACHERS FOR A RATED
 LICENSE FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS**

(a) This Rule applies to evaluating child care centers with regards to all teachers. The points for education standards are determined by applying this Rule along with Rules .2819, .2820, .2822, and .2823 of this Section. To determine the points attained for meeting the education standards, the lowest number of points attained under each Rule shall be the point used to meet Rule .2802 of this Section.

(b) To achieve two through seven points for education standards, teachers counted in staff/child ratios shall meet the applicable requirements in the following chart.

<u>Point Level</u>	<u>NC Early Childhood Credential or its equivalent</u>	<u>Certification on the NC Early Care and Education Professional Scale</u>	<u>Other Education and Experience Requirements</u>
<u>2 Points</u>			<u>50 percent of the teachers shall:</u> (1) <u>Have 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u> (2) <u>Be enrolled in 3 semester hours in early childhood education or child development; or</u> (3) <u>Have any combination of (1) and (2) of this requirement.</u>
<u>3 Points</u>			<u>50 percent of the teachers shall have:</u> (1) <u>3 semester hours in early childhood education or child development; or</u> (2) <u>2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u> (3) <u>Any combination of (1) and (2) of this requirement.</u>
<u>4 Points</u>	<u>50 percent of teachers; or</u>	<u>50 percent of teachers at a Level I or higher.</u>	
<u>5 Points</u>	<u>50 percent of teachers; or</u>	<u>50 percent of teachers at a Level I or higher; and</u>	<u>3 semester hours in early childhood education or child development; or</u>
		<u>50 percent of teachers at a Level II or higher; or</u>	
		<u>Any combination of the two options.</u>	
<u>6 Points</u>	<u>50 percent of teachers; or</u>	<u>50 percent of teachers at a Level I or higher; and either</u>	(1) <u>3 semester hours in early childhood education or child development and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u> (2) <u>A Level II or higher certification on the ECE scale and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u> (3) <u>Any combination of (1) and (2) of this requirement.</u>

<u>7 Points</u>	<u>50 percent of teachers; or</u>	<u>50 percent of teachers at a Level I or higher; and either</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) <u>6 semester hours in early childhood education or child development and 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u> (2) <u>A Level III or higher certification on the ECE scale and 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or</u> (3) <u>Any combination of (1) and (2) of this requirement.</u>
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(c) Semester hours in early childhood education or child development shall not include the coursework necessary for the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential.

(b) ~~To achieve two points, 50 percent of the teachers counted in staff/child ratios shall:~~

- ~~(1) Have one year of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
- ~~(2) Be enrolled in three semester hours in early childhood education, or child development; or~~
- ~~(3) Have any combination of Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph.~~

(e) ~~To achieve three points, 50 percent of the teachers counted in staff/child ratios shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Three semester hours in early childhood education or child development; or~~
- ~~(2) Two years of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
- ~~(3) Any combination of Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph.~~

(d) ~~To achieve four points, 50 percent of the teachers counted in staff/child ratios shall have the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent or have a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale.~~

(e) ~~To achieve five points, 50 percent of the teachers counted in staff/child ratios shall have either:~~

- ~~(1) The North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent or have a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale and three semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including North Carolina Early Childhood Credential coursework); or~~
- ~~(2) A Level II or higher certification on the ECE scale; or~~
- ~~(3) Any combination of Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph.~~

(f) ~~To achieve six points, 50 percent of the teachers counted in staff/child ratios shall have the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent or a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale and either:~~

- ~~(1) Three semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including North Carolina Early Childhood Credential); and one year of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
- ~~(2) A Level II or higher certification on the ECE scale and one year of full time early childhood work experience; or~~
- ~~(3) Any combination of Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph.~~

~~(g) To achieve seven points, 50 percent of the teachers counted in staff/child ratios shall have the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential, its equivalent or have a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale and either:~~

- ~~(1) Six semester hours in early childhood education or child development (not including North Carolina Early Childhood Credential coursework); and two years of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
- ~~(2) A Level III or higher certification on the ECE scale and two years of full time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
- ~~(3) Any combination of Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph.~~

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3; Eff. August 1, 2012.

10A NCAC 09 .2822 ENHANCED EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR PROGRAM COORDINATORS FOR A RATED LICENSE FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS

(a) This Rule applies to evaluating child care centers with regards to program coordinators. The points for education standards are determined by applying this Rule along with Rules .2819, .2820, .2821, and .2823 of this Section. To determine the points attained for meeting the education standards, the lowest number of points attained under each Rule shall be the point used to meet Rule .2802 of this Section.

(b) To achieve two through seven points for education standards, the program coordinator shall meet the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and the following chart.

<u>Point Level</u>	<u>Type of Degree</u>	<u>Certification on the NC School Age Professional Scale</u>	<u>Semester Hours of school-age care related coursework</u>	<u>Hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in a licensed child care program</u>	<u>Hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting</u>
<u>2 Points</u>			<u>Enrolled in 3 additional hours; or</u>	<u>200; or</u>	<u>300.</u>
<u>3 Points</u>		<u>Level I or higher; or</u>	<u>Completed 3 additional hours; or</u>	<u>300; or</u>	<u>450.</u>
<u>4 Points</u>			<u>Completed 3 additional hours; and</u>	<u>200; or</u>	<u>300; or</u>
		<u>Level I or higher; and</u>		<u>200; or</u>	<u>300; or</u>
				<u>450; or</u>	<u>600.</u>
<u>5 Points</u>		<u>Level II or higher; or</u>	<u>Completed 3 additional semester hours and be</u>	<u>600; or</u>	<u>750.</u>

			<u>enrolled in 3 additional semester hours; or</u>		
<u>6 points</u>	<u>BA/BS; and</u>		<u>Completed 3 additional hours; or</u>		
		<u>Level IV or higher; or</u>			
			<u>Completed 6 additional hours and</u>	<u>750; or</u>	<u>900.</u>
<u>7 Points</u>	<u>BA/BS; and</u>		<u>Completed 6 additional hours; and</u>	<u>300; or</u>	<u>450; or</u>
		<u>Level IV or higher; and</u>		<u>300; or</u>	<u>450; or</u>
			<u>Completed 9 additional hours; and</u>	<u>600; or</u>	<u>900; or</u>
			<u>Completed 6 additional hours; and</u>	<u>900; or</u>	<u>1350.</u>

(b) ~~To achieve two points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall:~~

- ~~(1) Be enrolled in three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework; or~~
- ~~(2) Have 200 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(3) Have 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting.~~

(c) ~~To achieve three points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Completed three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework; or~~
- ~~(2) 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(3) 450 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(4) At least a Level I or higher certification on the SA scale.~~

(d) ~~To achieve four points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Completed three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework and have either 200 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care~~

~~program, or 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~

- ~~(2) A Level I or higher certification on the SA scale and have either 200 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program, or 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(3) 450 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(4) 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting.~~

~~(e) To achieve five points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Completed three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework; and be enrolled in three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework; or~~
- ~~(2) 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school age children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(3) 750 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(4) A Level II or higher certification on the SA scale.~~

~~(f) To achieve six points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Completed six additional semester hours of school age care related coursework and either 750 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program or 900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(2) A BA/BS degree with three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework; or~~
- ~~(3) A Level IV or higher certification on the SA scale.~~

~~(g) To achieve seven points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Completed six additional semester hours of school age care related coursework and either 900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program or 1350 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(2) Nine additional semester hours of school age related coursework and either 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program or 900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~

- (3) ~~A BA/BS degree or higher with six additional semester hours of school-age related coursework and either 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in a licensed school-age care program; or 450 hours of working with school-aged children in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting; or~~
- (4) ~~A Level IV or higher certification on the SA scale and either 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in a licensed school-age care program or 450 hours of working with school-aged children in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting.~~

~~(b)(c)~~ For centers providing school-age care with 200 or more school-aged children enrolled, there shall be two program coordinators on site, one of whom shall not have concurrent group leader responsibilities. The additional program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable staff requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter.

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3; Eff. August 1, 2012; Readopted Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 .2823 ENHANCED EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR GROUP LEADERS AND ASSISTANT GROUP LEADERS FOR A RATED LICENSE FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS AND FOR CENTERS THAT PROVIDE CARE ONLY TO SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

(a) This Rule applies to evaluating child care centers with regards to group leaders and assistant group leaders. The points for education standards are determined by applying this Rule along with Rules .2819, .2820, 2821, ~~and .2822~~ .2822, .2824, and .2825 of this Section. To determine the points attained for meeting the education standards, the lowest number of points attained under each Rule shall be the point used to meet Rule .2802 of this Section.

(b) To achieve two through seven points for education standards, all group leaders and assistant group leaders shall meet the applicable requirements in the following chart.

<u>Point Level</u>	<u>Age of Assistant Group Leaders</u>	<u>BSAC</u>	<u>Semester hours of school-age care related coursework</u>	<u>Hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in a licensed child care program</u>	<u>Hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting</u>
<u>2 Points</u>		<u>All group leaders.</u>			
<u>3 Points</u>		<u>All group leaders; and</u>	<u>25 percent of group leaders enrolled in or completed 2 additional hours.</u>		

<u>4</u> Points	<u>All at least</u> <u>16 years</u> <u>of age;</u> <u>and</u>	<u>All group</u> <u>leaders;</u> <u>and</u>	<u>25 percent of</u> <u>group leaders</u> <u>completed 2</u> <u>additional hours;</u> <u>or</u>	<u>100; or</u>	<u>150.</u>
<u>5</u> Points		<u>All group</u> <u>leaders;</u> <u>and</u>	<u>50 percent of</u> <u>group leaders</u> <u>completed 2</u> <u>additional hours;</u> <u>or</u>	<u>300; or</u>	<u>450; and</u>
	<u>All at least</u> <u>16 years</u> <u>of age;</u> <u>and</u>	<u>All</u> <u>assistant</u> <u>group</u> <u>leaders; or</u>		<u>250; or</u>	<u>400.</u>
<u>6</u> points		<u>All group</u> <u>leaders;</u> <u>and</u>	<u>50 percent of</u> <u>group leaders</u> <u>completed 2</u> <u>hours and</u> <u>completed or be</u> <u>enrolled in 2</u> <u>additional hours;</u> <u>or</u>	<u>600; or</u>	<u>900; and</u>
	<u>All at least</u> <u>17 years</u> <u>of age;</u> <u>and</u>	<u>All</u> <u>assistant</u> <u>group</u> <u>leaders; or</u>		<u>250; or</u>	<u>400.</u>
<u>7</u> Points	<u>All at least</u> <u>18 years</u> <u>of age;</u> <u>and</u>	<u>All group</u> <u>leaders</u> <u>and</u> <u>assistant</u> <u>group</u> <u>leaders;</u> <u>and</u>	<u>75 percent of</u> <u>group leaders</u> <u>completed 2</u> <u>hours and</u> <u>completed or be</u> <u>enrolled in 2</u> <u>additional hours;</u> <u>or</u>	<u>600; or</u>	<u>900.</u>

(b) To achieve two points, all group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent.

~~(c) To achieve three points, all group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent, and 25 percent of the group leaders shall be enrolled in or have completed two semester hours of school age care related coursework.~~

~~(d) To achieve four points, all assistant group leaders shall be at least 16 years of age and all group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent, and 25 percent of the group leaders shall have either:~~

- ~~(1) Completed two semester hours of school age care related coursework; or~~
- ~~(2) 100 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(3) 150 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(4) Any combination of Subparagraphs (1) through (3) of this Paragraph.~~

~~(e) To achieve five points, all group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent, and~~

- ~~(1) 50 percent of the group leaders shall have either:~~
 - ~~(A) Completed two semester hours of school age care related coursework; or~~
 - ~~(B) 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
 - ~~(C) 450 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
 - ~~(D) Any combination of Subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this Paragraph; and~~
- ~~(2) All assistant group leaders shall be at least 16 years of age and shall have either:~~
 - ~~(A) Completed the BSAC training or its equivalent; or~~
 - ~~(B) 250 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
 - ~~(C) 400 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
 - ~~(D) Any combination of Subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this Paragraph.~~

~~(f) To achieve six points, all group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent, and~~

- ~~(1) 50 percent of group leaders shall have:~~
 - ~~(A) Completed two semester hours of school age care related coursework and have completed or be enrolled in two additional semester hours of school age related coursework; or~~
 - ~~(B) 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
 - ~~(C) 900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
 - ~~(D) Any combination of Subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this Paragraph; and~~
- ~~(2) All assistant group leaders shall be 17 years of age and shall have either:~~
 - ~~(A) Completed the BSAC training or its equivalent; or~~

- (B) ~~250 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- (C) ~~400 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- (D) ~~Any combination of Subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this Paragraph.~~

~~(g) To achieve seven points, all assistant group leaders shall be 18 years of age and shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent and all group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent, and 75 percent of the group leaders shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Completed two semester hours of school age care related coursework and have completed, or are enrolled in two additional semester hours of school age related coursework; or~~
- ~~(2) 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(3) 900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(4) Any combination of Subparagraphs (1) through (3) of this Paragraph.~~

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. August 1, 2012
Readopted Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2824 ENHANCED EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR A RATED LICENSE FOR ADMINISTRATORS FOR CENTERS THAT PROVIDE CARE ONLY TO SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

(a) This Rule applies to evaluating the education standards for administrators for centers that provide care only to school-aged children. The points for education standards are determined by applying this Rule along with Rules .2825 and .2826 of this Section. To determine the points attained for meeting the education standards, the lowest number of points attained under each rule shall be the point used to meet Rule .2802 of this Section.

(b) To achieve two through seven points for education standards, the administrator of a school-age only program shall meet the applicable requirements in the following chart.

<u>Point Level</u>	<u>NC Early Childhood Administration Credential, its equivalent,</u>	<u>Hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in a licensed child care program</u>	<u>Hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting</u>
<u>2 Points</u>	<u>Level I or have enrolled in coursework as required in G.S. 110-91(8); and</u>	<u>1600.</u>	

<u>3 Points</u>	<u>Level I; and either</u>	<u>300; or</u>	<u>450.</u>
<u>4 Points</u>	<u>Level I; and either</u>	<u>450; or</u>	<u>600.</u>
<u>5 Points</u>	<u>Level II; and either</u>	<u>600; or</u>	<u>750.</u>
<u>6 Points</u>	<u>Level II; and either</u>	<u>750; or</u>	<u>1150.</u>
<u>7 Points</u>	<u>Level III; and either</u>	<u>900; or</u>	<u>1350.</u>

(b) ~~To achieve two points, the administrator shall have:~~

- ~~(1) A Level I North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent or have enrolled in coursework as required in G.S. 110-91(8); and~~
- ~~(2) 1600 hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in a licensed school aged program.~~

(c) ~~To achieve three points, the administrator shall have:~~

- ~~(1) A Level I North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and~~
- ~~(2) Either:~~
 - ~~(A) 300 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in a licensed child care program; or~~
 - ~~(B) 450 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting.~~

(d) ~~To achieve four points, the administrator shall have:~~

- ~~(1) A Level I North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and~~
- ~~(2) Either:~~
 - ~~(A) 450 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in a licensed child care program; or~~
 - ~~(B) 600 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting.~~

(e) ~~To achieve five points, the administrator shall have:~~

- ~~(1) A Level II North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and~~
- ~~(2) Either:~~
 - ~~(A) 600 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in a licensed child care program serving school aged children; or~~
 - ~~(B) 750 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting.~~

~~(f) To achieve six points, the administrator shall have:~~

- ~~(1) A Level II North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and~~
- ~~(2) Either:~~
 - ~~(A) 750 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in a licensed child care program serving school-aged children; or~~
 - ~~(B) 1150 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in an unlicensed school-aged care or camp setting.~~

~~(g) To achieve seven points, the administrator shall have:~~

- ~~(1) A Level III North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent; and~~
- ~~(2) Either:~~
 - ~~(A) 900 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in a licensed child care program serving school-aged children; or~~
 - ~~(B) 1350 additional hours of verifiable experience performing administrative duties in an unlicensed school-aged care or camp setting.~~

~~(h) (c)~~ As used in this Rule, the definition of the term "experience working with school-aged children" in Rule .2510(h) of this Chapter shall apply.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. August 1, 2012;
Readopted Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2825 ENHANCED EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR PROGRAM COORDINATORS FOR A RATED LICENSE FOR CENTERS THAT PROVIDE CARE ONLY TO SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

(a) This Rule applies to evaluating the education standards for program coordinators for centers that provide care only to school-aged children. The points for education standards are determined by applying this Rule along with Rules .2824 and .2826 of this Section. To determine the points attained for meeting the education standards, the lowest number of points attained under each Rule shall be the point used to meet Rule .2802 of this Section.

(b) To achieve two through seven points for education standards, the program coordinator shall meet the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and the following chart.

<u>Point Level</u>	<u>Type of Degree</u>	<u>Certification on the NC School Age Professional Certification Scale</u>	<u>Semester Hours of school-age care related coursework</u>	<u>Hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in a licensed child care program</u>	<u>Hours of verifiable experience working with school-aged children in an unlicensed school-age care or camp setting</u>

<u>2 Points</u>			<u>Enrolled in 3 additional hours; or</u>	<u>200; or</u>	<u>300.</u>
<u>3 Points</u>		<u>Level I or higher; or</u>	<u>Completed 3 additional hours; or</u>	<u>300; or</u>	<u>450.</u>
<u>4 Points</u>			<u>Completed 3 additional hours; and</u>	<u>200; or</u>	<u>300; or</u>
		<u>Level I or higher; and</u>		<u>200; or</u>	<u>300; or</u>
				<u>450; or</u>	<u>600.</u>
<u>5 Points</u>		<u>Level II or higher; or</u>	<u>Completed 3 additional semester hours and be enrolled in 3 additional semester hours; or</u>	<u>600; or</u>	<u>750.</u>
<u>6 points</u>				<u>750; or</u>	<u>900; and</u>
			<u>Completed 6 additional hours; or</u>		
	<u>BA/BS; and</u>		<u>Completed 3 additional hours; or</u>		
		<u>Level III or higher.</u>			
<u>7 Points</u>			<u>Completed 6 additional hours; and</u>	<u>900; or</u>	<u>1350; or</u>
			<u>Completed 9 additional hours; and</u>	<u>600; or</u>	<u>900; or</u>
	<u>BA/BS; and</u>		<u>Completed 6 additional hours; and</u>	<u>300; or</u>	<u>450; or</u>
		<u>Level IV or higher; and</u>		<u>300; or</u>	<u>450; or</u>

(b) ~~To achieve two points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall:~~

- ~~(1) Be enrolled in three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework; or~~
- ~~(2) Have 200 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(3) Have 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting.~~

~~(c) To achieve three points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Completed three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework; or~~
- ~~(2) 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(3) 450 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(4) A Level I certification or higher on the SA scale.~~

~~(d) To achieve four points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Completed three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework and 200 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(2) 450 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(3) 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(4) A Level I certification or higher on the SA scale, and either:
 - ~~(A) 200 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
 - ~~(B) 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting.~~~~

~~(e) To achieve five points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

- ~~(1) Completed three additional semester hours of school age care related coursework and is enrolled in three additional semester hours of school aged care related coursework; or~~
- ~~(2) 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
- ~~(3) 750 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting; or~~
- ~~(4) A Level II certification or higher on the SA scale.~~

~~(f) To achieve six points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

- ~~(1) 750 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or 900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting; and~~
- ~~(2) Either:
 - ~~(A) Completed six additional semester hours of school aged care related coursework; or~~~~

~~(B) Shall have a BA/BS degree with three additional semester hours of school aged care related coursework; or~~

~~(C) Level III certification or higher on the SA scale.~~

~~(g) To achieve seven points, the program coordinator shall have completed all the applicable requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter and shall have:~~

~~(1) Completed six additional semester hours of school aged care related coursework and either:~~

~~(A) 900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~

~~(B) 1350 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting; or~~

~~(2) Completed nine additional semester hours of school aged care related coursework and either:~~

~~(A) 600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~

~~(B) 900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting; or~~

~~(3) A BA/BS degree or higher with six additional semester hours of school aged related coursework and either:~~

~~(A) 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed school aged care program; or~~

~~(B) 450 hours of working with school aged children in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting; or~~

~~(4) A Level IV certification or higher on the SA scale and either:~~

~~(A) 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed school aged care program; or~~

~~(B) 450 hours of working with school aged children in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting.~~

~~(h) (c) As used in this Rule, the definition of the term "experience working with school-aged children" in Rule .2510(h) of this Chapter shall apply.~~

~~(i) (d) For programs with a licensed capacity of 200 or more school-aged children, there shall be two program coordinators on site, one of whom shall not have concurrent group leader responsibilities. The additional program coordinator shall have completed the applicable staff requirements in Rule .2510(b) of this Chapter.~~

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. August 1, 2012;
Readopted Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2826 EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR GROUP LEADERS AND ASSISTANT GROUP LEADERS FOR A RATED LICENSE FOR CENTERS THAT PROVIDE CARE ONLY TO SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

~~(a) This Rule applies to evaluating the education standards for group leaders and assistant group leaders that work in programs that provide care only to school aged children. The points for education standards are determined by applying this Rule along with Rules .2824, and .2825 of this Section. To determine the points attained for meeting the education standards, the lowest number of points attained under each Rule shall be the point used to meet Rule .2802 of this Section.~~

~~(b) To achieve two points, all group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent.~~

~~(c) To achieve three points, all group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent, and 25 percent of the individuals designated as group leaders as set out in Rule .2510 of this Chapter shall be enrolled in two semester hours of school age care related coursework.~~

~~(d) To achieve four points:~~

~~(1) All group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent, and 25 percent of the individuals designated as group leaders as set out in Rule .2510 of this Chapter shall have:~~

~~(A) Completed two semester hours of school age care related coursework; or~~

~~(B) 100 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~

~~(C) 150 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; and~~

~~(2) All assistant group leaders shall be at least 16 years of age.~~

~~(e) To achieve five points:~~

~~(1) All group leaders shall complete the BSAC training or its equivalent, and 50 percent of the individuals designated as group leaders as set out in Rule .2510 of this Chapter shall have:~~

~~(A) 300 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~

~~(B) 450 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~

~~(C) Completed two semester hours of school age care related coursework; and~~

~~(2) All assistant group leaders shall be at least 16 years of age and shall have;~~

~~(A) 400 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; or~~

~~(B) Completed the BSAC training or its equivalent; or~~

~~(C) 250 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program.~~

~~(f) To achieve six points:~~

- (1) ~~All group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent, and 50 percent of the individuals designated as group leaders as set out in Rule .2510 of this Chapter shall have:~~
 - (A) ~~Completed two semester hours of school aged care related coursework and have completed or are enrolled in two additional semester hours of school aged related coursework; or~~
 - (B) ~~600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
 - (C) ~~900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school age care or camp setting; and~~
 - (2) ~~All assistant group leaders shall be at least 17 years of age and shall have:~~
 - (A) ~~Completed the BSAC training or its equivalent; or~~
 - (B) ~~250 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
 - (C) ~~400 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting.~~
- (h) ~~To achieve seven points:~~
- (1) ~~All group leaders shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent, and 75 percent of the individuals designated as group leaders as set out in Rule .2510 of this Chapter shall have:~~
 - (A) ~~Completed two semester hours of school aged care related coursework and have completed or are enrolled in two additional semester hours of school aged related coursework; or~~
 - (B) ~~600 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in a licensed child care program; or~~
 - (C) ~~900 hours of verifiable experience working with school aged children in an unlicensed school aged care or camp setting; and~~
 - (2) ~~All assistant group leaders shall be at least 18 years of and shall have completed the BSAC training or its equivalent.~~
- (j) ~~As used in this Rule, the definition of the term "experience working with school aged children" in Rule .2510(h) of this Chapter shall apply.~~

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
 Eff. August 1, 2012
 Repealed Eff. _____.*

**10A NCAC 09 .2827 ENHANCED EDUCATION STANDARDS FOR OPERATORS FOR A RATED
 LICENSE FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES**

- (a) This Rule applies to evaluating family child care homes with regards to the operator.
- (b) To achieve two through seven points for education standards, the operator shall meet the applicable requirements in the following chart.

<u>Point Level</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>NC Family Child Care Credential or its equivalent</u>	<u>Certification on the NC Early Care and Education Professional Scale</u>	<u>Semester Hours</u>	<u>Verifiable Early Childhood Work Experience</u>	<u>Additional Clock Hours of On-going Training</u>
<u>2 Points</u>				<u>4 hours in early childhood education or child development; or</u>	<u>5 years; and</u>	<u>8 annually.</u>
<u>3 Points</u>		<u>✓ ; or</u>	<u>Level I or higher.</u>			
<u>4 Points</u>			<u>Level II or higher; or</u>			
		<u>✓ ; or</u>	<u>Level I or higher; and</u>	<u>6 hours in early childhood education or child development.</u>		
<u>5 Points</u>			<u>Level IV or higher; and</u>		<u>1 year; or</u>	
		<u>✓ ; or</u>	<u>Level I or higher; and</u>	<u>12 hours in early childhood education or child development and either 2 of the 12 hours shall include child care administration; or</u>	<u>1 year.</u>	
<u>6 Points</u>			<u>Level VI or higher; and</u>		<u>1 year; or</u>	
		<u>✓ ; or</u>	<u>Level I or higher; and</u>	<u>18 hours in early childhood education or child development and either 5 of the 18 hours shall include child care administration; or</u>	<u>2 years.</u>	
<u>7 Points</u>	<u>A.A.S. in any major; and</u>			<u>A minimum of 12 hours in early childhood education</u>	<u>2 years; or</u>	

				<u>or child development;</u> <u>and</u>		
	<u>A.A.S. degree</u> <u>in early</u> <u>childhood</u> <u>education or</u> <u>child</u> <u>development;</u> <u>and</u>				<u>18 months; or</u>	
			<u>A Level VI; and</u>		<u>2 years.</u>	

(c) Semester hours in early childhood education or child development shall not include the coursework necessary for the North Carolina Family Child Care Credential.

(b) To achieve two points, the operator shall have completed:

- (1) Four semester credit hours in early childhood education or child development (not including the North Carolina Family Child Care Credential coursework); or
- (2) Five years of verifiable early childhood work experience and eight additional clock hours annually of in-service training.

(c) To achieve three points, the operator shall have completed the North Carolina Family Child Care Credential, its equivalent or a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale.

(d) To achieve four points, the operator shall have completed a Level II or higher certification on the ECE scale; or

- (1) Have six semester credit hours in early childhood education or child development (not including the North Carolina Family Child Care Credential coursework); and
- (2) Have the North Carolina Family Child Care Credential, its equivalent, or a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale.

(e) To achieve five points, the operator shall have completed a Level IV certification on the ECE scale and have one year verifiable early childhood work experience; or have

- (1) The North Carolina Family Child Care Credential, its equivalent, or a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale; and
- (2) 12 semester credit hours in early childhood education or child development (not including the North Carolina Family Child Care Credential coursework); and
- (3) Either:
 - (A) Two of 12 semester hours in early childhood education in child care administration; or
 - (B) One year of verifiable early childhood work experience.

(f) To achieve six points, the operator shall have completed a Level VI certification on the ECE scale and have one year verifiable childhood work experience; or have

- (1) ~~The North Carolina Family Child Care Credential, its equivalent, or a Level I or higher certification on the ECE scale; and~~
- (2) ~~18 semester credit hours in early childhood education or child development (not including the North Carolina Family Child Care Credential coursework; and~~
- (3) ~~Either:~~
 - (A) ~~Five of the 18 semester hours in early childhood education are in child care administration;~~
 - ~~or~~
 - (B) ~~Two years of verifiable early childhood work experience.~~

~~(g) To achieve seven points, the operator shall have completed:~~

- (1) ~~An A.A.S. degree in any major with a minimum of 12 semester credit hours in early childhood education/child development coursework and two years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
- (2) ~~An A.A.S. in early childhood education/child development and 18 months of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; or~~
- (3) ~~A Level VI certification on the ECE scale and two years of experience.~~

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
 Eff. May 1, 2006;
 Amended Eff. August 1, 2012
 Readopted Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2828 ENHANCED PROGRAM STANDARDS FOR A RATED LICENSE FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES

- (a) This Rule applies to evaluating the program standards for a ~~two component~~ rated license for family child care homes.
- (b) ~~To achieve two points for program standards, the operator shall have written operational policies and procedures that include information about meal and snack practices, daily activities, parent involvement, health and safety practices, infection control/ill child exclusion/inclusion, and business practice.~~ To achieve two through seven points for program standards, the operator shall meet the criteria listed in the following chart:

Point Level	Criteria
2 points	<u>Operator provides documentation of self-study and self-assessment using the Family Child Care Rating Scale over a 3-month time period. Documentation such as an ERS book with score sheets, self-assessments and program adjustments shall be reviewed by the Division as part of the rated license assessment.</u>
3 points	Have a score of 4.0 or higher on the Family Child Care Rating Scale
4 points	Have a score of 4.25 or higher on the Family Child Care Rating Scale
5 points	Have a score of 4.5 or higher on the Family Child Care Rating Scale

6 points	Have a score of 4.75 or higher on the Family Child Care Rating Scale AND of the five preschoolers allowed to be enrolled, no more than four children shall be under one year of age
7 points	Have a score of 5.0 or higher on the Family Child Care Rating Scale AND of the five preschoolers allowed to be enrolled, no more than three children shall be under one year of age

~~(c) To achieve three points for program standards, the operator shall:~~

- ~~(1) Have written operational policies and procedures that include all information listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.~~
- ~~(2) Have an average score of 4.0 or higher on the Family Day Care Rating Scale.~~

~~(d) To achieve four points for program standards, the operator shall:~~

- ~~(1) Have written operational policies and procedures that include all information listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.~~
- ~~(2) Have an average score of 4.25 or higher on the Family Day Care Rating Scale.~~

~~(e) To achieve five points for program standards, the operator shall:~~

- ~~(1) Have written operational policies and procedures that include all information listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.~~
- ~~(2) Have an average score of 4.5 or higher on the Family Day Care Rating Scale.~~

~~(f) To achieve six points for program standards, the operator shall:~~

- ~~(1) Have written operational policies and procedures that include all information listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule;~~
- ~~(2) Have an average score of 4.75 or higher on the Family Day Care Rating Scale; and~~
- ~~(3) Of the five preschoolers allowed to be enrolled, no more than four children shall be under one year of age.~~

~~(g) To achieve seven points for program standards, the operator shall:~~

- ~~(1) Have written operational policies and procedures that include all information listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule;~~
- ~~(2) Have an average score of 5.0 or higher on the Family Day Care Rating Scale; and~~
- ~~(3) Of the five preschoolers allowed to be enrolled, no more than three children shall be under one year of age.~~

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. May 1, 2006;
Recodified from Rule .2821 Eff. August 1, 2012;
Readopted Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2829 QUALITY POINT OPTIONS

Operators may earn one additional quality point toward a voluntary rated license as described in Rule .2802 of this Section as follows:

- (1) Education options:
 - (a) ~~Completing additional education coursework as follows:~~
 - (i) ~~An Infant and Toddler Certificate, by 75 percent of infant and toddler teachers;~~
 - (ii) ~~An A.A.S. or higher in early childhood education or child development by 75 percent of teachers;~~
 - (iii) ~~A BA or BS or higher in early childhood education or child development by 75 percent of lead teachers;~~
 - (iv) ~~An A.A.S. or higher in early childhood education or child development by all lead teachers;~~
 - (v) ~~A North Carolina School Age Care Credential or have completed six semester hours in school age coursework by 75 percent of group leaders; or~~
 - (vi) ~~An Infant and Toddler Certificate or has a BA or BS or higher in early childhood education or child development by a family child care home provider;~~
 - (b) ~~Completing 20 additional annual in-service training hours for full-time lead teachers and teachers, and staff working part-time completing additional hours based on the chart in Rule .0707(e) of this Chapter;~~
 - (c) ~~Completing 20 annual in-service training hours for family child care home providers in addition to those required by Rule .1705(b)(5) of this Chapter;~~
 - (d) ~~75 percent of lead teachers and teachers having at least 10 years of documented and confirmed by the Division early childhood work experience;~~
 - (e) ~~All lead teachers and teachers having at least five years of documented and confirmed by the Division of early childhood work experience employed by no more than two different employers;~~
 - (f) ~~Having a combined turnover rate of 20 percent or less for the administrator, program coordinator, lead teachers, teachers and group leader positions over the last 12 months if the program has earned at least four points in education;~~
 - (g) ~~In a stand-alone school age program, 75 percent of group leaders having at least five years verifiable school age work experience employed in no more than two different school age settings; or~~

75 percent of infant/toddler teachers have obtained an Infant and Toddler Certificate;	<u>OR</u>
75 percent of teachers have an AAA or higher in early childhood education or child development;	<u>OR</u>
75 percent of lead teachers have a BA/BS or higher in early childhood education or child development;	<u>OR</u>
All lead teachers have an AAS or higher in early childhood education or child development;	<u>OR</u>

<u>75 percent of group leaders have a North Carolina School Age Care Credential or 6 semester hours in school-age coursework;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>A Family Child Care Home operator has an Infant and Toddler Certificate or a BA/BS or higher in early childhood education or child development;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>Completing 20 additional annual on-going training hours for full-time lead teachers and teachers, and staff working part-time;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>Completing 20 additional annual on-going training hours for family child care home operators;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>75 percent of lead teachers and teachers have at least 10 years of documented early childhood work experience that can be verified by the Division;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>All lead teachers and teachers have at least 5 years of documented early childhood work experience that can be verified by the Division and have been employed by no more than 2 different employers;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>When the program has earned at least 4 points in education and the program has a combined turnover rate of 20 percent or less for the administrator, program coordinator, lead teacher, teacher, and group leader positions over the last 12 months;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>In a stand-alone school age program, 75 percent of group leaders have at least 5 years of documented school-age work experience that can be verified by the Division and have been employed by no more than 2 different employers.</u>	

(2) Programmatic options:

- (a) ~~Using a curriculum as defined in Rule .0102(7) of this Chapter. This programmatic option is not available to facilities that are required to use an approved curriculum in accordance with Rule .2802(d) of this Section;~~
- (b) ~~Having group sizes decreased by at least one child per age group from the seven point level as described in Rule .2818(e) of this Section;~~
- (c) ~~Having staff/child ratios decreased by at least one child per age group from the seven point level as described in Rule .2818(e) of this Section;~~
- (d) ~~Meeting at least two of the following three programs standards:~~
 - (i) ~~Having enhanced policies which include the following topics: field trip policy, staff development plan, medication administration, enhanced discipline policy, and health rules for attendance;~~
 - (ii) ~~Having a staff benefits package that offers at least four of the following six benefits: paid leave for professional development, paid planning time, vacation, sick time, retirement or health insurance; or~~
 - (iii) ~~Having evidence of an infrastructure of parent involvement that includes at least two of the following: parent newsletters offered at least quarterly, parent advisory~~

~~board, periodic conferences for all children, or parent information meetings offered at least quarterly;~~

- ~~(e) Completing a 30 hour or longer business training course by a family child care home provider;~~
- ~~(f) Completing a business training course and a wage and hour training by the center administrator that is at least 30 hours total;~~
- ~~(g) Restricting enrollment to four preschool children in a family child care home; or~~
- ~~(h) Reducing infant capacity by at least one child from the seven point level for a family child care home as described in Rule .2828(g)(3) of this Section.~~

<u>Using a curriculum as defined in Rule .0102(10) of this Chapter. This programmatic option is not available to facilities that are required to use an approved curriculum in accordance with Rule .2802(d) of this Section;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>Having reduced group sizes decreased by at least one child per age group from the seven point level as described in Rule .2818(c) of this Section;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>Having staff/child ratios decreased by at least one child per age group from the seven point level as described in Rule .2818(c) of this Section;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>Meeting the following program standards:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) <u>Having a staff benefits package that offers at least four of the following benefits: paid leave for professional development, paid planning time, vacation, sick time, retirement, or health insurance; and</u> (2) <u>Having evidence of an infrastructure of parent involvement that includes at least two of the following: parent newsletters offered at least quarterly, parent advisory board, periodic conferences for all children, or parent information meetings offered at least quarterly</u> 	<u>OR</u>
<u>A Family Child Care Home operator has completed a 30 hour or longer business training course;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>A center administrator has completed a business training course and a wage and hour training course that is at least 30 hours of total training time;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>Restricting enrollment to four preschool children in a Family Child Care Home;</u>	<u>OR</u>
<u>Reducing infant capacity by at least one child from the seven point level for a Family Child Care Home as described in Rule .2828(g)(3) of this Section.</u>	

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3; S.L. 2011-145, s. 10.7(b); Eff. May 1, 2006; Amended Eff. December 1, 2006; Recodified from Rule .2823 Eff. August 1, 2012; Amended Eff. July 1, 2015; September 1, 2012; Readopted Eff. _____.

10A NCAC 09 .2830 MAINTAINING THE STAR RATING

(a) A representative of the Division may make announced or unannounced visits to facilities to assess on-going compliance with the requirements of a star rating after it has been issued. When the Division representative documents violations with the standards that determine a rating, the representative may take one or more of the following actions:

- (1) Advise the operator to submit written verification that the violation(s) have been corrected.
- (2) Return to the facility for an unannounced visit at a later date to determine if compliance has been achieved.
- (3) Recommend an Environmental Rating Scale assessment be conducted.
- (4) Recommend a complete reassessment of requirements of the star rating issued to the facility.
- (5) Recommend that the star rating be reduced.
- (6) Recommend administrative action in accordance with G.S. 110 and this Subchapter.

(b) If changes unrelated to employment occur at a facility which ~~result~~ results in the operator not complying with the standards in this Section for the star rating issued, the operator shall correct the noncompliance within 30 days. If the operator does not correct the noncompliance within 30 days, the operator shall notify the Division. Based upon the information obtained, the Division may take any of the actions described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) If employment related changes occur at a facility which results in the operator not complying with the standards in the Section for the star rating issued, the operator shall correct the noncompliance within 90 days. If the operator does not correct the noncompliance within 90 days, the operator shall notify the Division. Based upon the information obtained, the Division may take any of the actions described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

~~(d)~~ (d) A complete assessment of requirements for a voluntary rated license of two stars or higher shall be conducted at least once every three years. The Division shall provide for one evaluation of program standards using the environment rating scales referenced in Rule .2802(e) free of charge once every three years when reassessing the ratings of operators with three to five points for program standards.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Eff. April 1, 1999;
Recodified from Rule .2809 Eff. May 1, 2006;
Recodified from Rule .2824 Eff. August 1, 2012;
Readopted Eff. _____.*

10A NCAC 09 .2831 HOW AN OPERATOR MAY REQUEST OR APPEAL A CHANGE IN RATING

(a) An operator may request a change in the star rating by following the procedures in Rule .2802 of this Section.

(b) After an initial three- through five-star rating is issued, the Division shall provide for one evaluation of program standards using the environment rating scales referenced in Rule .2802(e) of this Section during each three year period thereafter at no cost to the operator. An operator may have extra rating scale assessments as referenced in Rule .2802(e) of this Section performed at his or her own expense in addition to the free one performed by the Division. The additional rating scale assessments shall be completed by individuals approved by the Division to perform them. Approval shall be based upon the individual's successful completion of training designated or authorized by the authors of the environment rating scales.

(c) An operator may appeal the reduction of a star rating as provided in G.S. 110-94.

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-88(7); 110-90(4); 143B-168.3;
Recodified from Rule .2810 Eff. May 1, 2006;
Amended Eff. May 1, 2006;
Recodified from Rule .2825 Eff. August 1, 2012;
Readopted Eff. _____.