

Ministry of Education

Ministère de l'Éducation

Early Years and Child Care Division

315 Front Street West
Toronto ON M7A 0B8

**Division de la petite enfance et de la
garde d'enfants**

315, rue Front Ouest
Toronto ON M7A 0B8

Date: June 23, 2026

Memorandum to: Child care licensees

From: Holly Moran
Assistant Deputy Minister
Early Years and Child Care Division

Subject: Amendments to O. Reg. 137/15 under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* (CCEYA) - Enhancing Health and Safety

The health and safety of children is a top priority for the Ministry of Education and we remain strong in our commitment to safe, high-quality child care across Ontario.

Aligned with this commitment, amendments have been made to [O. Reg. 137/15](#) under the [Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014](#) (CCEYA). Amendments respond to recent critical incidents, including child fatalities in licensed child care, and address other safety risks in child care programs. Collectively, these amendments will strengthen health and safety measures within Ontario's child care system and have been informed by advice and input from numerous partners and stakeholders. This includes the Chief Coroner of Ontario, technical experts, the child care sector, parents and the public. The changes enhance health and safety requirements in the following areas:

- vehicle impact protection
- enhanced safety for septic systems
- hazard mitigation
- administration of medication
- supervision and procedures for missing children
- criminal convictions that prevent individuals from providing child care
- prohibited practices within licensed child care settings

The regulatory amendments also require that staff and providers be trained on policies and procedures and that licensees identify an individual to fulfill the role of the supervisor in emergency situations where the supervisor is not on site.

The attached *Overview of Regulatory Changes* provides important details on the new and updated requirements, including what the change is, who it applies to and when it goes into effect. Please review this summary and visit [O. Reg. 197/26 GENERAL | ontario.ca](https://e-laws.gov.on.ca/197/26/GENERAL/197_26_GENERAL.htm) the e-Laws website to view the amending regulation. The amendments may not yet be shown as incorporated into [O. Reg. 137/15](https://e-laws.gov.on.ca/137/15/137_15.htm) on e-Laws, but once consolidated, they will be visible in the regulation.

The ministry is updating resources to support you in learning about and implementing the new requirements, including updates to the child care licensing manuals and the Planning and Design Guidelines. Additionally, sample policies and/or procedures that meet the new regulatory requirements will be developed and made available in the Tools and Resources module of CCLS. Licensees are encouraged to adopt these resources.

If you have any questions about how the new requirements apply to your program, please contact your assigned Ministry of Education Inspector.

We appreciate your ongoing commitment to the children and families of Ontario and value your continued partnership as we continuously work towards improving the quality and safety of child care across the province.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Holly Moran
Assistant Deputy Minister
Early Years and Child Care Division

- c. Consolidated Municipal Service Managers and District Social Services
Administration Boards (CMSMs and DSSABs)
Early Years and Child Care Division Directors