



Recent Law Changes Impacting Child Care Providers

Thanks to legislation requested by the SC Department of Social Services (S.862), changes are coming to the requirements needed to be employed in a licensed or approved child care center in South Carolina beginning July 11, 2024. The changes are as follows:

New Hires in Child Care

A caregiver who begins employment in a licensed or approved child care center in South Carolina after June 30, 1994, must have at least a high school diploma, a high school equivalency credential recognized by the State Board of Education, Certificate of Completion, or a South Carolina High School Employability Credential.

Within thirty days of being employed, a caregiver must complete fifteen hours of health and safety service provider training. The caregiver shall be directly supervised for a period of at least thirty days by a staff person with at least one year of experience as a caregiver in a licensed or approved child care facility and until such time as the caregiver has completed the required health and safety service provider training, provided the caregiver is also in compliance with Section 63-13-40 relating to background checks (SC Code 63-13-30 (A)).

For Existing Child Care Professionals

A caregiver who has a high school diploma, a high school equivalency credential recognized by the State Board of Education, Certificate of Completion, or a South Carolina High School Employability Credential and at least six months' experience as a caregiver in a licensed or approved facility and is employed as of July 1, 1994, in a licensed or approved child care center in South Carolina is exempt from the service provider training within 30 days of beginning employment (SC Code 63-13-30 (B)).

Facility License Changes

Beginning in Calendar Year 2025, regular approval, regular license and renewal licenses for public child care centers, group child care homes, private child care centers, and licensed family child care homes will occur every three years instead of every two years (SC Code 63-13-20 (22) (23) (26)).

