



ARAPAHOE COUNTY
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Arapahoe County building code updated to increase number of children allowed in home daycares

Effective immediately, County regulations will match state licensing allowances

LITTLETON, CO – Changes to the Arapahoe County Residential Building Code were adopted by the Board of County Commissioners to better align with state standards and improve access to in-home child care providers.

The newly adopted code allows providers to accept up to 12 children, which is currently the limit permitted by state licensure. Previously, County rules only allowed in-home providers five or less children before fire suppression modifications to the home were required.

“There’s such a great need in our community for quality daycare options,” said Commissioner Jeff Baker, chair of the Board. “This change in our building code will allow for more families to take advantage of affordable and safe child care and ensure the success of small businesses.”

Under the new regulations, in-home childcare providers must have specific means of egress, including two exits, fenced yards, specific locks and latches for exits. Providers are required to maintain third-party monitoring of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, a technology advancement that alerts emergency services so daycare staff can focus on life-safety in the event of an emergency.

“Staff collaborated with multiple agencies and providers to find safe solutions for the gap that existed between state and county regulations,” said Bryan Weimer, director of public works and development. “The code amendment is a win for our agencies and residents to find more child care options from providers who offer the highest standards in safety.”

The County’s new regulations can be found at <http://www.arapahoegov.com/540/Building>. Residents can view licensed day care providers at <https://www.coloradoshines.com/search> or <https://gis.arapahoegov.com/arapasource/>.

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