

Statement of Deficiencies

1711.A.&B.&D.&G.: Child to Staff Ratio

Not Met

1711.A.&B.&D.&G.: A. Child to staff ratios are established to ensure the safety of all children.

B. Minimum child to staff ratios shall be met at all times.

1. There shall be a minimum of two staff members present at an early learning center when more than one child is present.
 2. Only those staff members directly providing care, supervision or guidance to children shall be counted in the child to staff ratios.
- D. Minimum Child to Staff Ratios for Type II and Type III centers:

Ages of Children		Ratio
Infants under 1 year		5:1
1 year	7:1	
2 years		11:1
3 years	13:1	
4 years	15:1	
5 years	19:1	
6 years and up	23:1	

G. Mixed Age Groups - Minimum Child to Staff Ratios

1. An average of the child to staff ratios may be applied to mixed age groups of children ages 2, 3, 4 and 5
2. Child to staff ratios for children under age two are excluded from averaging.
3. When a mixed age group includes children younger than age two, the age of the youngest child determines the child to staff ratio for the group.
4. An average may be applied to a mixed age group consisting only of children ages 5 and older.

Finding:

1711 A.&B.&D Based on observations/interview: S1 failed to meet the required child to staff ratio. Upon completing the census of the center at 12:47pm, Specialists and S2 walked into S4's room and observed S4 caring for six children ages eight months to three years of age. Specialists then walked into S5's room and observed S5 caring for eight children ages two months to three years of age. At 12:49pm, Specialists walked into S7's room and observed S7 caring for six children ages six months to two years of age. The ratio for infants is five infants per one staff. S3, S5 and S7's classrooms needed an additional staff in order to meet ratio. S2 stated four teachers were out on leave and they were short staffed because other teachers were gone on their lunch break. S2 also stated because of LSU's requirement of having all age groups in one class, they could not group the three infants into one class in order for one staff to care for them. Specialists walked around the center at 1:39pm and observed S4, S5 and S7's classroom having two staff and were meeting ratio in each classroom.

Corrective Action Plan: S2 stated, effective 01/14/2021, only one staff will be allowed to take off per day and if a class that includes an infant does not have two teachers, she will "pull a co-teacher from a class that does not have infant(s) and put the co-teacher in the classroom that does have infant(s)" in order to ensure ratio is being met at all times and this deficiency is not re-cited.