

17.44.060 - Child Day Care Facilities

- A. Applicability.** Where allowed by Article 2 (Zones, Allowable Land Uses, and Zone Standards) Child day care facilities shall comply with the standards of this Section. These standards apply in addition to the other provisions of this Development Code and requirements imposed by the California Department of Social Services (DSS). DSS Licensing is required for all facilities.
- B. Definitions.** Definitions of the child day care facilities regulated by this Section are in Article 10 (Glossary) under "Day Care."
- C. Standards for large family day care homes.** As required by State law, a Minor Use Permit for a large family day care home shall be approved if it complies with the following standards.
- 1. Location requirements.** In order to avoid the concentration of intensive, non-residential land uses in residential neighborhoods, maintain residential character, and compatibility with adjacent residential uses, no large family day care home shall be located within 300 feet of an existing large family day care home, or child day care center. In no case shall a residential property be directly abutted by a large family day care center on two or more sides.
 - 2. Parking, drop-off area.**
 - a. At least two off-street parking spaces shall be provided exclusively for dropping off and picking up children. The driveway may be used to provide the off-street parking required by Section 17.36.040 (Number of Parking Spaces Required) for a single-family dwelling, if the parking will not obstruct any required drop-off and pick up areas nor block any sidewalks or other public access. Alternative parking and drop-off arrangements may be required by the review authority based on traffic and pedestrian safety considerations.
 - b. A home located on a street with a speed limit of 30 miles per hour or greater shall provide a drop-off/pick-up area designed to prevent vehicles from backing onto the street (e.g., circular driveway).
 - 3. Outdoor activity areas.**
 - a. Any side or rear setback areas intended for day care use shall be enclosed with a fence or wall to separate the children from neighboring properties.
 - b. Outdoor recreation equipment over eight feet in height shall not be located within a required side setback, and shall be set back a minimum of five feet from a rear property line.
 - 4. Noise.** Noise generated from the large family day care home shall not exceed the limitations in the City's Noise Ordinance.
 - 5. Additional standards.** Each large family day care home shall comply with applicable building and fire codes, and standards adopted by the State, and Social Services Department licensing requirements (California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 2).

D. Standards for child day care centers.**1. Parking and loading.**

- a. Off-street parking shall be provided as required through the Minor Use Permit process, but shall be a minimum of one space per employee on the largest shift, plus one space for each 10 children authorized by the State license. An exception to these off-street parking requirements may be granted if the facility complies with the following criteria:
 - (1) The exception shall be granted only for uses in an existing building, and shall not be granted for any expansion of gross floor area or new construction;
 - (2) Off-street parking shall be provided on the site in the maximum amount feasible;
 - (3) The exception shall only be granted in a situation where the City Engineer has determined that the exception will not result in potentially unsafe conditions for vehicles or pedestrians;
 - (4) Each Minor Use Permit that grants an off-street parking exception shall be reviewed annually, and if it is found that the use of on-street parking spaces by the facility is creating a nuisance, the City may initiate proceedings to revoke the Minor Use Permit.
 - b. Picking up and dropping off of children shall not create unsafe conditions. Loading and unloading of children from vehicles shall only be allowed in the driveway or in an approved parking area.
- 2. Noise.** Potential noise sources shall be identified during the Minor Use Permit process, and noise attenuation and sound dampening shall be addressed by the review authority.