

## *Maintaining Sanitary Conditions*

### *Meeting Licensing Rules and Environment Rating Scales Indicators*

*January 2017*

Information in bold print is from DCF 251 Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Centers with Commentary. Information following the Licensing Rules are guidelines from the Environment Rating Scales and recommendations for meeting the indicators.

#### **Sink**

**251.09(4)(b) Each self-contained classroom or area serving infants or toddlers who are diapered shall have a sink with hot and cold running water which is not used for food preparation or dishwashing within the room or area.**

**251.09(4)(c) There shall be a solid barrier between the diapering area and any food preparation area.**

**The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that the height for a barrier be 8 inches or a distance barrier of at least 18 inches.**

If a program uses the diapering/toileting sink for food preparation during an observation, the program will score a 1 for neglect of basic sanitary procedures.

It is recommended that a separate sink be used for diapering/toileting and not for any other purpose. If the same sink is used by either children or adults for both diapering/toileting handwashing and any other handwashing (entry into the classroom, meals/snacks, water/messy play, after dealing with bodily fluids or touching contaminated surfaces/objects), it must be sanitized after diapering/toileting use by spraying the sink and faucet handles with a sanitizing solution that is left on the surface to work following the sanitizers instructions for use.

#### **Food Prep and Eating Surfaces**

**251.06(5)(d) Furnishings, toys, cots and other equipment shall be washed or cleaned when they become soiled. Eating surfaces shall be washed and sanitized before and after each use.**

**Eating surface includes tables and high chairs. “Washed and sanitized” involves a two-step process. Products including a cleaner and sanitizer must be used two times—the first to clean the surface and the second to sanitize the surface. See Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting in Child Care Settings on DCF’s website:**

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/ccregulation/cclicensing/commentary/sanitizing-disinfecting.pdf>

If highchair trays are used as eating surfaces, the trays should be washed and sanitized in the same way tables, plates and other food service utensils are sanitized.

All bottles should be clearly labeled and raters will need to see the label of the original container of any alternate EPA approved sanitizer. Be sure all instructions for use are followed such as time required to be on the surface or whether to rinse after use.

**Children should not be at the table when staff are sanitizing.**

Cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting products should not be used in close proximity to children, and adequate ventilation should be maintained during any cleaning, sanitizing or disinfecting procedure to prevent children and caregivers/teachers from inhaling potentially toxic fumes or coming in contact with sanitizing solutions.

### **Garbage Containers**

**251.06(5)(c) Garbage containers in the building shall be rigid, covered, watertight and emptied daily or more often as needed. Compactors need not be emptied daily. Garbage and refuse stored out of doors shall be kept in leak-proof containers equipped with tight-fitting covers and shall be disposed of as necessary to prevent decomposition or overflow.**

**Garbage refers to food waste. Containers for non-food waste do not require covers.**

It is recommended that classrooms set aside a garbage container for food waste (garbage) or send all food waste back to the kitchen if applicable.

Children's hands often become re-contaminated after touching the lid of the hands-free container when throwing away paper towels, a waste basket designated for paper products only (including art materials) would eliminate re-contamination of hands.

**251.09(4)(5) Place disposable soiled diapers and gloves, if used, in a plastic-lined, hands-free, covered container immediately.**

**A hands-free diaper disposal container will prevent the lid of the container from becoming contaminated with bacteria that may be found on the gloves used during diaper changing procedure and in urine and fecal material. Care should be taken to keep children away from the diaper disposal container.**

It is recommended that only diapers, wipes, and paper towels used to clean the changing area be disposed of in the hands-free diaper disposal container. Paper towels used in handwashing by adults and children can be placed in a waste basket designated for paper products only. Children should have no access to the diaper disposal container.