R430-90-19: PLAY EQUIPMENT

Although active play is critical for children's health, the active play areas of a child care facility are associated with frequent and severe injuries. The rules in this section are intended to prevent injuries related to indoor and outdoor play equipment. They are based on standards set by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the American Public Health Association (APHA).

These rules apply to indoor and outdoor stationary play equipment rather than moveable equipment (e.g. balls, riding toys, sensory table, sand/water toys, push/pull toys, hoops). Stationary play equipment has a base that is meant to keep the equipment fixed in one location when a child uses it. Examples of stationary play equipment include:

- Climbers (including plastic climbers and indoor vinyl-covered foam climbers)
- Slides
- Swings (except porch and patio swings)
- Spring rockers
- Inflatable bounce houses
- Raised tunnels and tunnels with handles that children use for climbing
- Inner tube jumpers (they are not assessed as trampolines)
- Teeter-totters
- Roller coasters
- Climbing walls
- A merry-go-round (a revolving piece of equipment for children to ride on)
- A playhouse or treehouse that has an attached component such as a slide, swing, or climber unless the component is not used by children
- A tree, if a component such as a rope or swing, is attached to the tree for the children to play on
- Multiple stumps, disks, boulders, or pillars that are installed in the ground and are intended for children to step on from one to the other

If a facility has stationary play equipment, the provider must ensure compliance with licensing rules or ensure children in care do not use the play equipment. All play equipment and associated use zones that are used by children will be inspected.

As stated in "Section 2: Definitions," a use zone is the area beneath and surrounding a play structure or piece of equipment that is designated for unrestricted movement around the equipment, and onto which a child falling from or exiting the equipment could be expected to land.

When measuring play equipment for compliance with rule, licensors will use a wood or metal measuring device and other measuring tools designed for assessing playground equipment. A ½ inch allowance will be given when measuring the size of a use zone to account for uneven ground surfaces.

The following items are not assessed as stationary play equipment:

- Slides that exit into swimming pools
- Carpeted ramps
- A tunnel that sits on the ground or floor and is used only as a tunnel and has no handles for climbing
- A tunnel with a height of 18 inches or lower even if it has handles or holes for climbing
- A natural structure unless it has attached play equipment such as a slide or climber

- Stumps or similar objects that are used only for seating
- Portable stumps that children can move around

Refer to "Section 9: Facility" to review the rules and guidelines about play equipment maintenance.

(1) The provider shall ensure that children using play equipment use it safely and in the manner intended by the manufacturer.

Rationale / Explanation

Children like to test their skills and abilities. This is particularly true around play equipment. Constant active supervision is needed in order to ensure that even well-maintained equipment is not used in unsafe ways. Serious injuries can happen if children are left unsupervised and use play equipment inappropriately. *CFOC 3rd ed. Standard 2.2.0.1. pp. 64-66.*

Caregivers should ensure that children are using equipment that is appropriate for their age. *CPSC. Public Playground Safety Handbook. Standard 2.2.6. p. 6.*

The intent of this rule is not to prevent children from healthy risk-taking activities. Reasonable risk-taking allows children to explore their limits, improve strength and skills, develop safety awareness, and gain confidence in their abilities. Caregivers should help children learn the difference between safe and healthy risk-taking, and activities that may cause serious injury to themselves and others.

Compliance Guidelines

Caregivers must prevent children from engaging in activities such as:

- Going down a slide head first
- Playing or being on parts of the equipment not intended for use, such as:
  - Climbing on or walking across the top of a swing set
  - Climbing up the outside of covered slides or other equipment
  - Playing on the roof of a composite structure
  - Climbing or playing on a tunnel not meant for climbing
  - Climbing or walking on top of protective barriers
- Using equipment that is inappropriate for their age

Additional guidelines:

- If a caregiver is actively preventing or immediately stopping children from using equipment in an inappropriate or unsafe manner, this rule is <u>not</u> out of compliance.
- It is a rule violation if children are allowed to use equipment unsafely or if a caregiver does not quickly stop an unsafe practice.

Moderate Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance

Citation Warning

(2) There shall be no entrapment hazards on or within the use zone of any piece of stationary play equipment.

Rationale / Explanation

According to CPSC, an opening that is greater than 3½ by 6¼ inches and smaller than 9¼ inches is considered an entrapment hazard because it would allow a child's body to fit through, but not the child's head. Children often attempt to slide through openings feet first. In order to prevent

entrapment and strangulation, openings in pieces of play equipment should be designed so they are too large for a child's head to get stuck in or too small for a child's body to fit into.
CFOC 3rd ed. Standard 6.2.1.9. p. 272.

Compliance Guidelines

- This rule only applies to entrapment hazards where a child's feet cannot touch the floor, ground, or designated play surface (with the exception of ladders).
- On play equipment ladders, there shall be no entrapment hazards where a child's feet cannot touch the floor or ground.
- An opening directly under a platform and higher than 48 inches from any surface a child could climb on will not be considered an entrapment hazard.

To determine compliance with this rule:

- Measure from the floor or ground (or other play surface) to the bottom of the opening to determine whether a child's feet could touch the ground. A child's feet could not touch the ground if:
  - For infants or toddlers: the bottom of the opening is higher than 23¼ inches above the ground.
  - For preschoolers: the bottom of the opening is higher than 25¼ inches above the ground.
  - For school-age children: the bottom of the opening is higher than 33 inches above the ground.
- If the stationary play equipment is used by children of different age groups, refer to the measurement that applies to the youngest children who are allowed to use the equipment.
- If the opening is at a height where a child's feet could not touch the ground, measure the size of the opening to determine if it is an entrapment hazard.
- A licensor will use the torso and head probes to determine if an opening is an entrapment hazard. (When possible, the bottom, middle, and top of each opening will be assessed.)
  - When the torso probe passes freely and straight through an opening, then the licensor will use the head probe.
  - If the head probe also passes through the opening, it is not an entrapment hazard.
  - If the head probe cannot pass through the opening, it is an entrapment hazard.

High Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance

Citation and CMP Warning

(3) There shall be no strangulation hazards on or within the use zone of any piece of stationary play equipment.

Rationale / Explanation

A strangulation hazard is something on which a child's clothes or drawstrings could become caught, or something in which a child could become entangled.

Strangulation is the leading cause of playground fatalities. Some of these deaths occur when drawstrings on sweatshirts, coats, and other clothing get caught in gaps in the equipment. The area on top of a slide is one potential trouble spot. *CFOC 3rd ed. Appendix EE. p. 485.*

Compliance Guidelines

- Strangulation hazards are typically caused by 1) hardware or small equipment components that protrude out from a surface, 2) hardware that forms a hook or leaves a gap or space between components, and 3) hanging ropes, cords, wire, or chains that are long enough to

encircle a child's neck.

- Since the use zone surrounds the play equipment, including the area above the equipment, there cannot be tree branches or another object that creates a strangulation hazard in the use zone above the equipment.

Protrusions

Strangulation hazards caused by protrusions include:

- Bolt ends that extend more than two threads beyond the face of the nut unless the bolt end is facing straight down.
- A bolt, screw, or other protrusion which increases in size or diameter as it moves away from the surface (e.g. a bolt with a large bolt head that is not flush with the surface).
- A bolt, screw, or other protrusion angled upward from a horizontal plane that fails the protrusion gauge test.
- Loose handholds on climbing walls.

To assess protruding elements on pieces of playground equipment a licensor will use gauges designed for inspecting playground equipment.

Gaps or Openings

Strangulation hazards caused by hardware gaps or space between components include:

- A hardware connector, such as an S- or C-hook, that has a gap or opening greater than .04 of an inch (the edge of a dime) and the opening does not face downward.

Image from CPSC

To assess gaps on play equipment:

- All connectors such as S- and C-hooks must be checked, no matter where they are located on a piece of equipment, except those that are:
  - At the top of a free standing swing higher than 8 feet.
  - At the top of a swing with a crossbar that is higher than 8 feet.
- Use a dime or the wire hook tool to measure the width of the gap or space.
  - When the dime or tool does not fit in the gap, it is not a strangulation hazard.
  - When the dime or wire tool fits into the gap and the gap angles upward, it is a strangulation hazard.
- CCL does not assess gaps at the top of slide chutes.

Hanging Ropes, Cords, Chains

Strangulation hazards caused by ropes, cords, chains, etc. include:

- Hanging ropes, cords, wires, or chains that are 12 inches or longer and can make a loop 5 inches in diameter, except ropes, cords, wires, or chains with swings or tetherballs attached to the bottoms of them.
- Ropes, cords, twine, etc. that hang into the use zone of a piece of playground equipment and are attached to something solid.
- Ropes that are not anchored securely at both ends, and/or are capable of forming a loop or a noose.

To assess ropes, cords, chains, twine, etc. for possible strangulation hazards:

- Measure the rope, cord, or chain to determine if it is 12 inches or longer.
- Determine if it can make a loop that is 5 inches in diameter.
  - When the rope is not 12 inches or longer and cannot make a 5-inch loop, it is <u>not</u> a strangulation hazard.

- When the rope is 12 inches or longer and can make a 5-inch loop, it is a strangulation hazard if attached to a solid structure or other object.

The following equipment components are not out of compliance:

- Protrusion or strangulation hazards on the underside of platforms that are 48 inches or higher.
- Protrusions on the top crossbar of free standing swings when the top of the swing is higher than 8 feet tall and there is not a horizontal bar between the support poles, nor is the swing attached to any other component or platform.
- Protruding parts that are molded as a part of the design for dramatic play, such as the eyepiece of a telescope or the ear of an animal (as long as the part is in good repair and no parts are missing).
- Handholds and foot bars that are designed for that purpose, such as those found on spring rockers.
- A bolt end or other protruding hardware in recessed areas unless it extends past the recessed area.
- Ropes or cords suspending a tetherball or swing.

High Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Citation and CMP Warning

(4) There shall be no crush, shearing, or sharp edge hazards on or within the use zone of any piece of stationary play equipment.

Rationale / Explanation
A crush hazard is created when parts of play equipment move together in such a way that they could crush a child's fingers, toes, or other body parts. A crush hazard could result in contusion, laceration, abrasion, amputation, or fracture. All pieces of play equipment should be designed so moving parts are shielded or enclosed. *CFOC 3rd ed. Standard 6.2.1.7. p. 271.*

A shearing hazard is created when parts of play equipment move against each other in such a way that they could sever a child's fingers or other body parts. Anything that could crush or shear limbs should not be accessible to children on a playground. *CPSC Standard 3.1. p. 14.*

A sharp edge hazard is created when there is a sharp point or edge on a piece of play equipment that could cut or puncture a child's skin. *CFOC 3rd ed. Standard 6.2.1.8. p. 271.*

Compliance Guidelines
For crush hazards, it is a rule violation if:

- A disc swing hanging from a tree or frame touches the trunk of the tree or the frame when the swing is stretched to its full length.
- Two moving parts on a piece of equipment come together is such a way that they could crush a child's fingers, toes, or other body part.

For shearing hazards, it is a rule violation if:

- There are two pieces of equipment or two parts of a piece of equipment that move against each other in such a way that they could sever a child's fingers, toes, or other body parts.

For sharp edge hazards, it is a rule violation if:

- There is a sharp point or edge that could cut or puncture a child's skin on a piece of equipment's play surface or in a use zone. This includes any play surface that the children

usually come in contact with, for example, a platform, an equipment part commonly touched by the children, the hand rail on a slide, the slide surface, etc.

Additional guidelines:

- The 3-foot use zone surrounds the play equipment including 3 feet above the equipment. This means there cannot be hard or inflexible tree branches or any other object that creates a crush, shearing, or sharp edge hazard in the use zone above the equipment.
- A molded plastic steering wheel that is part of a piece of play equipment will not be assessed as a crush hazard.
- It is not out of compliance when the movement between two pieces of equipment or two parts of a piece of equipment is minimal and would be unlikely to cause contusions, lacerations, abrasions, amputations, or fractures during use.

High Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Citation and CMP Warning

(5) There shall be no tripping hazards such as concrete footings, tree stumps, tree roots, or rocks within the use zone of any piece of stationary play equipment.

Rationale / Explanation
Tripping is one of the hazards listed by CPSC to be most commonly associated with injury.
CFOC 3rd ed. Standard 5.3.1.1. pp. 237-238.

Compliance Guidelines
In addition to those listed in rule, other tripping hazards include:

- Weed barrier that is pulled up.
- An object such as a tire used to cushion an equipment footing unless the object is flush to the ground.
- The leash or rope of a tethered animal if it can reach into the use zone of a piece of play equipment.
- Metal rods in horse shoe pits that are in the use zone of outdoor play equipment.
- Equipment frames or supports that are not part of the original equipment or are not directly under a platform

The following are not considered tripping hazards:

- Mats that are placed under equipment as cushioning.
- Poles on a tent-type sandbox or canopy unless the poles are in the use zone of another piece of equipment.
- Equipment frames or supports that are part of the original equipment or are directly under a platform
- Moveable objects (e.g. tricycles, toys, and other hard objects) that are left in the use zone of stationary play equipment when the equipment is not being used.
- Moveable objects that are left in a use zone by children, but are immediately removed from the area.

Moderate Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Citation Warning

Cushioning

(6) Cushioning for stationary play equipment shall cover the entire surface of each required use zone.

Rationale / Explanation

Cushioning is material that is placed under and in the use zones of stationary play equipment in order to cushion a child's fall from the equipment. There are two main types of cushioning for playgrounds: unitary and loose-fill materials. Unitary materials are generally rubber mats and tiles or a combination of energy-absorbing materials held or poured in place. Loose-fill materials include such products as shredded rubber or wood mulch.

Head-impact and other injuries present a significant danger to children. Falls onto a shock-absorbing surface are less likely to cause serious injury because the surface is yielding, so the force of impact is reduced. Cushioning under and surrounding play equipment should receive careful attention. *CFOC 3rd ed. Standard 6.2.3.1. pp.273-274.*

Compliance Guidelines

Acceptable cushioning materials include the following:

- Any material tested to ASTM F1292 standards
- Sand (as long as it is not packed)
- Gravel
- Shredded rubber mulch such as recycled shredded tires
- Shredded wood products, such as wood mulch or chips
- Unitary cushioning material such as mats or playground tiles
- Natural and artificial grass
- Carpeting

Additional guidelines:

- Cushioning must not have worn spots that are 5 by 5 inches or greater.
- Loose-fill cushioning in a use zone that is no longer soft enough to displace is considered a hard surface and is out of compliance.
- Compaction of shredded wood products is desirable, as it actually improves the cushioning ability of the material.
- An embankment slide does not require cushioning except at the bottom of the slide chute where the cushioning must extend at least as wide as the slide chute.
- Equipment frames or supports that are part of the original equipment are not required to be cushioned.
- If landscape borders extend into a use zone, they have to be adequately cushioned.
- Tetherball poles do not need cushioning.
- Mats that are a component of foam climbers are considered cushioning and part of the use zone.

Moderate Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance

Citation Warning

(7) If ASTM cushioning is used, the provider shall keep on-site for review by the Department the documentation from the manufacturer that the material meets ASTM Specification F1292.

Rationale / Explanation

A review of documentation helps CCL determine compliance to licensing rule.

Compliance Guidelines

- There are several different types of ASTM-compliant cushioning that can be used under indoor and outdoor play equipment. These include certain mats, carpeting, playground tiles, rubber matting, and other unitary cushioning materials. For examples of ASTM-compliant cushioning materials, see:
  - www.safelandings.com
  - www.surfaceplay.com
  - www.daycaremall.com/softplay_3.html
- CCL will review ASTM documentation 1) at the first inspection of the cushioning, 2) if the cushioning has been changed or replaced, and 3) for verification during a complaint investigation.

Low Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance

Warning

(8) Stationary play equipment with a designated play surface that measures 6 inches or higher shall not be placed on a hard surface such as concrete, asphalt, dirt, or the bare floor, but may be placed on grass or other cushioning.

Rationale / Explanation

Improper cushioning material under playground equipment is the leading cause of playground-related injuries. Over 70% of all accidents on playgrounds are from children falling. Hard surfaces such as concrete, blacktop, or packed dirt or sand are not acceptable under most play equipment. A fall onto one of these hard surfaces could be life-threatening. *CFOC 3rd ed. Standard 6.2.3.1. pp. 273-274.*

Cushioning that is compacted means that it is packed and hard causing it to lose its shock-absorbing properties. Loose-fill materials will compress at least 25% over time due to use and weathering. Loose-fill cushioning requires frequent maintenance to ensure that cushioning is not hard or displaced. Areas under swings and at slide exits are more likely to displace so special attention must be paid to the cushioning in these areas. *CPSC. Public Playground Safety Handbook. Standard 2.4. p. 8.*

Compliance Guidelines

- Packed sand and/or dirt (it does not displace when walking on it) is considered a hard surface.
- Mats used for cushioning must be in place under and around play equipment when children use the equipment. If cushioning mats are removed when there are no children in the area, CCL staff may ask to see how the mats are placed before children use the play equipment.
- Cushioning material that is frozen is considered a hard surface. If the cushioning cannot be loosened due to weather conditions, children may not use the play equipment until the material can be loosened. Although the equipment does not need to be inaccessible, it is a rule violation if children use the equipment while the cushioning is frozen.

Moderate Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance

Citation Warning

Use Zones

(9) Except for trampolines, stationary play equipment that is 18 inches or higher shall:
(a) have a 3-foot use zone that is free of hard objects or surfaces and that extends from the outermost edge of the equipment; and
(b) be stable and securely anchored.

Rationale / Explanation

Use zones allow for unrestricted movement around the equipment. Prevention of accidents is highly increased when use zones are free of any hard surfaces or objects since children using the equipment may inadvertently fall or jump from the equipment.

All pieces of stationary play equipment should be installed as directed by the manufacturer's instructions and meet ASTM and CPSC standards. The equipment should be able to withstand maximum active use that might cause it to overturn, tip, slide, or move in any way. If active play equipment is installed indoors, the same requirements for installation and use apply as in the outdoor setting. *CFOC 3rd ed. Standard 6.2.1.4. p. 270.*

Compliance Guidelines

- When the use zone for play equipment is measured:
  - Each piece of play equipment must be placed where it is normally used by the children.
  - Measurements will be taken from the play equipment's outermost edge extending in all directions around and above the equipment.
  - A ½ inch allowance will be given to account for any uneven ground surfaces.
- Mats that are a component of foam climbers are considered cushioning and part of the use zone.
- A third supporting leg that is used to help stabilize the play equipment and extends beyond the equipment frame is not considered when determining the required use zone.
- The use zones of play equipment (except trampolines and the front of slides) may overlap as long as there is at least 3 feet between the pieces of equipment.
- Teeter-totters — To measure the height of a teeter-totter, push one end of the teeter-totter to the ground and then measure from the ground to the top of the teeter-totter seat that is raised to its highest position.
- Roller coasters – The height of a roller coaster is determined by moving the wheeled toy to the highest point on the track and then measuring from the ground to the top of the wheeled toy's seat.
- Tunnels — If a tunnel is used to climb on, then the tunnel must be in compliance with this rule. If the tunnel is used only as a tunnel to crawl through or if the tunnel is less than 18 inches high, then a use zone and cushioning are not required.
- Stumps, disks, or pillars — If they are meant for stepping from one to the other, they are considered one piece of equipment even though they are installed individually. A use zone is required around the group of stumps, disks, or pillars, and not around each individual component.
- Other equipment — Examples of other stationary play equipment that may require a use zone are listed in the introduction of this section.

A use zone is <u>not</u> required for:

- Stumps, boulders, disks, or pillars that are only used as seating.
- Portable stumps that children can move around.
- Sand diggers.
- Spring rockers and rocking horses that are less than 18 inches high.
- A playhouse with an attached slide that is blocked so that children cannot use the slide.

- Areas above the roof of a piece of play equipment.
- The back or side of a piece of equipment that is flush against a wall.
- An embankment slide except at the bottom of the slide chute. This use zone must be at least as wide as the slide chute.
- Tetherball poles.

To determine play equipment stability:

- If a child is not using the play equipment (such as a swing set or climbing wall), shake the equipment to determine if it is stable and securely anchored. If a post (such as a swing set pole) or side of the equipment comes off or out of the ground, the equipment is not secure and it is a rule violation.
- If a child is using the equipment and the equipment post or side tips off the ground, it is a rule violation.

Moderate Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Citation Warning

Trampolines

(10) A trampoline shall be considered accessible to children in care unless the trampoline:
(a) is enclosed behind at least a 3-foot high, locked fence or barrier;
(b) has no jumping mat;
(c) is placed upside down, or
(d) is enclosed within at least a 6-foot-high safety net that is locked.

Rationale / Explanation
Trampolines pose serious safety hazards. CPSC estimates that each year there are almost 100,000 hospital emergency room visits for trampoline-related injuries. Most of these injuries happen on home trampolines; and children younger than 6 years old are at greatest risk of injury. Both the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons recommend the prohibition of trampolines for children younger than six years of age. CPSC also supports this position. *CFOC 3rd ed. Standard 6.2.4.4. p.276.*

Compliance Guidelines
Licensing rules are based on AAP-recommended safety precautions and apply to any accessible trampoline on the premises, including mini, exercise, and in-the-ground trampolines. The hazards that may result in injuries and deaths are from:

- Falling or jumping off the trampoline.
- Falling on the trampoline springs or frame
- Colliding with another person on the trampoline.
- Landing improperly while jumping or doing stunts on the trampoline.

Additional guidelines:

- Trampolines that are made inaccessible and not in use by children are not assessed.
- For a net to be considered locked, it must be locked with an approved locking device as described in “Section 2: Definitions.”
- Even though a trampoline may be inaccessible, it may not be in the use zone of another piece of play equipment.

(11) An accessible trampoline without a safety net enclosure shall be placed at least 6 feet away from any structure or object onto which a child could fall, including play equipment, trees, and fences.

Compliance Guidelines

- 6-feet are measured from the outermost part of the trampoline.
- A caregiver must actively prevent children from leaving moveable objects (e.g. tricycles, toys, and other hard objects) in a use zone, or quickly remove the objects from the use zone.

High Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Citation and CMP Warning

(12) An accessible trampoline with a safety net enclosure shall be placed at least 3 feet away from any structure or object onto which a child could fall, including play equipment, trees, and fences if the net:
(a) is properly installed and used as specified by the manufacturer,
(b) is in good repair, and
(c) is at least 6 feet tall.

Compliance Guidelines

- If the trampoline safety net is not properly installed and/or is not in good repair, the trampoline will be considered as not having a safety net.
- If the net is less than 6 feet tall but was made by the manufacturer for that specific trampoline model and size, the 6-foot height requirement does not apply. However, the net must be in good repair and installed according to manufacturer instructions.

High Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Citation and CMP Warning

(13) An accessible trampoline shall be placed over grass, 6-inch-deep cushioning, or ASTM-approved cushioning. Cushioning shall extend at least 6 feet from the outermost edge of the trampoline frame, or at least 3 feet from the outermost edge of the trampoline frame if a net is used as specified in R430-90-19(12).

Moderate Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Citation Warning

(14) There shall be no ladders or other objects within the use zone of an accessible trampoline that a child could use to climb on the trampoline.

Compliance Guidelines

- This rule not only refers to trampoline ladders, but also applies to Little Tykes or similar ladders, chairs, stepstools, etc.
- Children may use a ladder or other object to climb on the trampoline as long as 1) an adult is supervising at the trampoline, and 2) the ladder or object is moved out of the use zone while the child is jumping.

High Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Citation and CMP Warning

(15) An accessible trampoline shall have shock-absorbing pads that completely cover its springs, hooks, and frame.

Rationale / Explanation
A trampoline pad is one of the most important parts of a trampoline because it is made of high-density, shock-absorbent materials. However, over time this material wears out becoming less shock absorbent and needs to be replaced on regular basis.

Examples of vendors who sell shock-absorbing trampoline pads include:
- www.funspot.com/rectangular_trampoline_pad.php
- www.trampolineusa.com/recframpad.html
- www.trampoline-1.com/rectangular_pad.php

High Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Citation and CMP Warning

(16) Before a child in care uses a trampoline, the child's parent shall sign a Department-approved permission form that the provider keeps on-site for review by the Department.

Rationale / Explanation
It is important that parents understand the risks associated with children jumping on trampolines and acknowledge the safety rules that their children must follow if allowed to use the trampoline.

Low Risk Rule Violation
Corrective Action for 1st Instance
Warning

(17) When a trampoline is being used by a child in care:
(a) a caregiver shall be at the trampoline supervising,
(b) only one person at a time shall use a trampoline,
(c) no child in care shall be allowed to do somersaults or flips on the trampoline,
(d) no one shall be allowed to play under the trampoline when it is in use, and
(e) only school-age children in care shall be allowed to use the trampoline.

Rationale / Explanation
The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) has issued the following warnings for trampoline use:
- Use a trampoline only with mature, knowledgeable supervision. *ASTM F381. 7.5.1.3.*
- Do not allow more than one person on the trampoline. Use by more than one person at the same time can result in serious injury. *ASTM F381. 7.5.1.2.*
- Do not attempt or allow somersaults. Landing on the head or neck can cause serious injury, paralysis, or death, even when landing in the middle of the mat. *ASTM F381. 7.5.1.1.*
- Inspect the trampoline before each use. Make sure the frame padding is correctly and securely positioned. Replace any worn, defective, or missing parts. *ASTM F381. 7.5.1.5.*

Compliance Guidelines

- Supervision at a trampoline means a caregiver is standing close enough to be able to touch the trampoline.
- It is a rule violation if school-age children are outside by themselves and there is an accessible trampoline.

High Risk Rule Violation

Corrective Action for 1st Instance

Citation and CMP Warning