

General Guidelines for Fire Safety, CPR & First Aid Training

Child care providers in Georgia are required by Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care & Learning to receive annual training. Training must be approved or accepted by the Georgia Child Care Training Approval System. The only exception is Fire Safety and CPR & First Aid. The following guidelines are supported by the MCG CCR&R for training sessions provided by community trainers.

Fire Safety

- Fire Safety training is required for all staff in a child care center by the Georgia Fire Marshall. The training is required within the first 90 days of employment or receipt of license. The training must be offered by a certified trainer. This certification is by the Georgia Fire Marshall office.
- Initial fire safety training is recommended at 5 hours and refresher course training is 2 ½ hours. While some certified trainers may offer the initial course in less than 5 hours, it is critical to ensure that the training will be thorough and that all participants be able to independently pass a written test at the conclusion of the session.
- The CCR&R recommends that the trainer follow standard adult learning principles and offer adequate break time during the course.

CPR Training & First Aid

- The center director and at least 50% of the caregiver staff must complete CPR and First Aid training offered by a certified (through American Heart Association of American Red Cross) or licensed health care professional and must deal with the emergency care of infants and children.
- When children are present, there must always be an employee on the center premises who is trained in CPR and First Aid. The CCR&R recommends that all staff, or a minimum of each lead teacher and all administrative staff, be trained in CPR and First Aid. In an emergency situation, time is critical and you do not want to search the center for a trained staff member.
- CPR training typically is conducted in 2-4 hours. First Aid training is typically conducted in 1 ½ - 3 hours.
- It is recommended that instructors offer ample time for hands-on learning.

As stated in the Georgia Child Care Training Approval System Guiding Principles, training provides for the acquisition and maintenance of knowledge, skills and competencies. Training should be designed so that knowledge and competencies can be realistically used in the participant's work. Therefore, the CCR&R does not recommend caregiver staff receives Fire Safety, CPR & First Aid training in one day.



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