



National Safety Council

Position/Policy Statement

Training of Child Care Providers In Safety & Health

The National Safety Council believes that with the increase in use of child care services of all types, including both licensed and non-licensed care providers, there is a need to educate all care providers and facility administrators in the areas of children's safety and health.

The Council urges appropriate agencies to set training requirements in safety and health for child care providers. Those seeking accreditation in early childhood education and similar programs through educational institutions and other organizations should be assured that these programs will meet applicable safety and health training curricula. The Council also urges that safety and health training be made available to in-home child care providers. It will be beneficial to have federal guidelines to create a uniform safety and health training standard.

The Council encourages child care facility administrators to voluntarily establish training programs for their staff. And we encourage local agencies to offer safety and health training for in-home care providers as well as facility staff, wherever possible.

Currently, there is little accident/illness data available from child care environments. However, data is needed as the basis for decision making. We believe it is reasonable to use data specified by the victim's age and to forego environmentally specific information. We encourage funding to remedy this lack of reliable data on which to base safety and health interventions for children, especially in child care environments.

This position statement reflects the opinions of the National Safety Council but not necessarily those of each member organization.

Approved by Governmental Relations Committee, May 8, 1991

Approved by Board of Directors, May 10, 1991