

Child Day Care Centers & Group Day Care Homes

CPR AND LIFEGUARD REQUIREMENTS DURING SWIMMING OR WADING ACTIVITIES

Section 19a-79-4a(d)(6) requires that when children are participating in swimming or wading as part of the program, whether at the facility or on a field trip, there shall be a qualified program staff member present and directly supervising the children who shall be at least twenty (20) years of age and who is certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in accordance with section 19a-79 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS). The operator shall verify that there is a person directly supervising the children who holds a current lifeguard certification accepted by the department.

In order to satisfy this requirement, programs shall have a staff member who is directly supervising the children who is certified in CPR by the American Red Cross (ARC), the American Heart Association (AHA), the National Safety Council, American Safety and Health Institute or Medic First Aid International, Inc. The program must also have a person (does not need to be program staff) present and directly supervising the children who has one of the following acceptable lifeguard certifications:

- Certified in American Red Cross Lifeguard Training with First Aid. ARC trained lifeguard must also have ARC "Waterfront Lifeguard Module" for oversight of ponds, lakes, streams, rivers and ocean.
- Certified in YMCA Lifeguard
- Certified Boy Scouts of America Lifeguard
- Royal Life Saving Society, (UK) Pool Lifeguard or (Canada) National Pool Standards (for pools)
- Ellis & Associates National Pool and Waterpark Lifeguard Training Program (for pools and waterparks)

Furthermore, Section 19a-113a of CGS as amended by Public 14-36, Section 1, requires that any person employed as a lifeguard must be certified in CPR by AHA, ARC, or the American Safety and Health Institute. Therefore, the person fulfilling the lifeguard requirement must either have CPR certification from AHA, ARC, or the American Safety and Health Institute. If the staff member with CPR is also serving as the lifeguard, that staff member's CPR must be from AHA, ARC, or the American Safety and Health Institute.

Only lifeguards who are also program staff may be counted in the staff/child ratio.