Center License


## Best Practices:

Recommend that mixed age groups, especially ones that include children under 3 years of age, should only be for the opening and closing hour of care.

The following example is with two providers:
List the children in order by age to get decimal point values and total ratio.

| Name | DOB | Age | Decimal | Ratio | Group Max |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Heather | $3 / 5 / 2012$ | 22 months | .20 | $1: 5$ | 15 |
| Melissa | $3 / 22 / 2012$ | 20 months | .20 | $1: 5$ | 15 |
| Troy | $5 / 23 / 2013$ | 7 months | .25 | $1: 4$ | 10 |
| Jeremy | $6 / 7 / 2013$ | 6 months | .25 | $1: 4$ | 10 |
| Mike | $6 / 18 / 2013$ | 6 months | .25 | $1: 4$ | 10 |
| Tabatha | $7 / 19 / 2013$ | 5 months | .25 | $1: 4$ | 10 |
| Donna | $9 / 22 / 2013$ | 2 months | .25 | $1: 4$ | 10 |
| Sara | $9 / 30 / 2013$ | 2 months | .25 | $1: 4$ | 10 |
| Sidney | $10 / 1 / 2013$ | 2 months | .25 | $1: 4$ | 10 |

Does the total exceed 1.34 for one provider or 2.34 for two providers? No $\uparrow$ Total for children = $\mathbf{2 . 1 5}$ If YES $\uparrow$ you are out of compliance

Does the number of children exceed the GROUP MAX limit for the age of majority? No $\uparrow$ Group of 9
$\square$
If all of the children are in the same age group, does the number of the children exceed the provider ratio?
No $\uparrow$ All children are not from the same age group. 7 are from 1:4 ratio and 2 are from 1:5 ratio.
$\square$
If the maximum number of children per provider for any age group, has been reached; are there any children younger than that age group? No $\uparrow$

With two providers, this group can be calculated as:

## Provider 1

Meets the ratio of 1:4 but only has a decimal point of 1.00, therefore they could add another child of a ratio of 1:5 that has a decimal point of 0.20 to equal 1.20. This does not exceed the allowable 1.34.

## Provider 2

Meets the ratio of 1:4 but has a decimal point of 0.95 due to having 3 children of a decimal value of 0.25 at a ratio of $1: 4$ and has one child with a decimal value of 0.20 at a ratio of $1: 5$. This does not exceed the allowable 1.00 for a second provider.

Together the providers equal a decimal value of 2.15 (allowed 2.34), and the group max of the youngest child is 10 (group has 9 children). Although the ratio is $1: 4$ for 7 of the 9 children, because the group maximum has not been exceeded, this is still in compliance according to ND Rules and Regulations 75-03-10-08

## If YES $\uparrow$ you are out of compliance

## PLEASE NOTE:

Best Practices recommend that mixed age groups ,especially ones that include children under 3 years of age, should only be for the opening and closing hour of care.

Best Practices support a ratio of less children per staff in each age group.

