

Rural Area Flexibility Analysis

1) Types and Estimated Numbers of Rural Areas:

This rule will apply to all licensed/registered and enrolled legally-exempt group child care programs in all areas of the state, including the 44 rural areas.

2) Reporting, Recordkeeping and Other Compliance, and Professional Services:

There is no new paperwork.

3) Costs:

As part of ongoing efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic, regulated parties have been a partner in implementing measures to limit the spread and/or mitigate the impact of COVID-19 within the state since March of 2020. Since 2020, OCFS has made funding available to child care programs to purchase personal protective equipment, including face coverings. Accordingly, this regulation will not have a significant cost impact on programs.

4) Minimizing Adverse Impact

As part of ongoing efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic, regulated parties have been a partner in implementing measures to limit the spread and/or mitigate the impact of COVID-19 within the state since March of 2020. Therefore, OCFS does not anticipate an adverse impact.

5) Rural Area Participation

Due to the emergent nature of COVID-19, rural areas were not consulted. OCFS will provide guidance, technical assistance, and outreach to those that are impacted by this rule. OCFS will send notice of this rule via email to impacted child care programs and post this information on the OCFS child care website. This will include the contact information of someone in OCFS to answer questions on this rule.