

## DRIVER REQUIREMENTS

**POLICY:** All transportation of children by childcare center personnel will be done as safely as possible.

**PURPOSE:** To assure the children are safe when being transported.

**PROCEDURE:** Driver requirements:

1. Drivers will hold a valid California driver's license and will be 18 years of age or older.
2. "Anyone transporting children in your care must have a current driver's license and be covered by the vehicle's insurance. Some vehicles require a specific type of license. The vehicle driver must have the appropriate license for the type of vehicle being used.
3. According to state law, all adults, whether driver or passenger, must refrain from smoking when children are in the vehicle. And, even if someone is transporting one or more children off-site, the appropriate adult-child ratios must be maintained at the facility".
4. Drivers will be certified in Infant/Child First Aid (including choking and rescue breathing) as required of other staff.
5. Drivers will be instructed in child passenger safety precautions (including use of safety restraints, handling of emergency situations, and supervision).
6. Drivers transporting children with special needs will receive specialized training annually on the transportation of children with special needs.
7. Drivers will not be responsible for monitoring children's behavior while operating the vehicle. Drivers will pull over to the side of the road to give children attention if necessary.
8. Drivers will be instructed in the completion of the weekly safety checklists, injury report forms and trip sheets.
9. Drivers will obey the signs posted in the vehicle.
10. Drivers will not use earphones while driving, as per state law.

11. Drivers will not have used alcohol or recreational drugs for at least 12 hours prior to transporting children or operating the program's vehicles.
  - a. Drivers will not take any medications that will impair their ability to drive.
  - b. The program will require drug testing when non-compliance is suspected.
12. Drivers will know, and keep in the vehicle, the quickest route to the nearest hospital from any point on their route.