Capacity Charts for Center and School-Age Providers

Center Providers

The following two tables are guides to help you meet the required capacities, staff-to-child ratios, and group sizes.

No Mixed-Age Groups: Early learning setting where children of the same age learn together.
Per WAC 110-300-0356 (**https://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=110-300-0356**)

Age Group	Maximum Group Size	Staff-to-Child Ratio	Limitations
Birth to 11 months	8	1 staff for every 4 children	No limitations
Birth to 11 months	9	1 staff for every 3 children	No limitations
12 to 29 months	14	1 staff for every 7 children	No limitations
12 to 29 months	15	1 staff for every 5 children	No limitations
30 months to 6 years	20	1 staff for every 10 children	Not enrolled in school
5 to 13 years	30	1 staff for every 15 children	Enrolled in school

Mixed-Age Groups: Early learning setting where children of different ages learn together.
Per WAC 110-300-0357 (**https://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=110-300-0357**)

Age Group	Maximum Group Size	Staff-to-Child Ratio	Limitations
Birth to 36 months	8	1 staff for every 4 children	No limitations
Birth to 36 months	9	1 staff for every 3 children	No limitations
12 to 36 months	14	1 staff for every 7 children	No limitations
12 to 36 months	15	1 staff for every 5 children	No limitations
36 months to 6 years	20	1 staff for every 10 children	Must not be enrolled in first grade
36 months to 6 years	26	1 staff for every 10 children	Must not be enrolled in first grade
4.5 to 9 years	20	1 staff for every 10 children	No limitations
4.5 to 9 years	26	1 staff for every 10 children	No limitations

School-Age Providers

For School-Age providers, the following table is a guide to help you meet the required capacities, staff-to-child ratios, and group sizes.

Per WAC 110-301-0356 (**https://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=110-301-0356**)

Age Group	Maximum Group Size	Staff-to-Child Ratio	Limitations
5 to 13 years and attending public or private school, or receiving home-based education	30	1 staff for every 15 children	Group sizes may exceed 30 children only for special events such as assemblies or performances

If you would like free copies of this publication in an alternative format or language, please contact DCYF Constituent Relations at 1-800-723-4831 or email ***communications@dcyf.wa.gov***.

DCYF PUBLICATION LIC_0169 (10-2025)