

FOCUS Ratios and Group Size

09/26/2014

<u>2+ STAR (Year 1)</u> <u>Criteria</u>	<u>2+ STAR (Year 2) or</u> <u>3 STAR Criteria</u>	<u>4 STAR</u> <u>Criteria</u>	<u>5 STAR</u> <u>Criteria</u>
<p>2+.1 Maintain ratios in the <i>NM Child Care Licensing Regulations</i>,</p>	<p>Meet 2+ Year 1 requirements <i>plus</i>:</p> <p>3.1 Maintain ratios*</p> <p>3.1.a. Centers in which children are grouped by age:</p> <p>6 weeks through 24 months.....1:6 2 years.....1:10 3 years.....1:12 4 years.....1:12 5+ years.....1:15</p> <p>3.1.b Centers in which age groups are combined:</p> <p>6 weeks through 24 months1:6 18 months through 35 months1:6 2 through 4 years1:12 3 through 5 years1:14</p>	<p>Meet 2+ Year 1 & 3 STAR requirements, <i>plus</i>:</p> <p>4.1. Implement ratios*</p> <p>4.1.a. Centers in which children are grouped by age:</p> <p>6 weeks through 24 months.....1:5 2 years.....1:8 3 years.....1:10 4 years.....1:10 5 years.....1:12</p> <p>4.1.b. Centers in which age groups are combined :</p> <p>The adult:child ratio is determined by the age of the majority of children in the group. For example, the adult:child ratio for a group of 2's and 3's when most of the children are 2 would be 1:8.</p>	<p>Meet 2+ Year 1, 3, & 4 Star requirements <i>plus</i>:</p> <p>5.1. Implement ratios*</p> <p>5.1.a. Centers in which children are grouped by age:</p> <p>6 weeks through 24 months.....1:4 2 years.....1:6 3 years.....1:9 4 years.....1:10 5 years.....1:10</p> <p>5.1.b. Centers in which age groups are combined :</p> <p>The adult:child ratio is determined by the age of the majority of children in the group. For example, the adult:child ratio for a group of 2's and 3's when most of the children are 2 would be 1:6.</p>

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	<p>3.2. Implement Maximum Group Size**</p> <p>3.2.a Centers in which children are grouped by age:</p> <p>6 weeks through 24 months.....12 2 Years.....20 3 years.....24 4 years24 5 years.....25</p> <p>3.2.b. Centers in which age groups are combined:</p> <p>6 weeks through 24 months 12 18 months through 35 months18 2 through 4 years20 3 through 5 years24</p>	<p>4.2. Implement Maximum Group Size**</p> <p>4.2.a Centers in which children are grouped by age:</p> <p>6 weeks through 24 months.....10 2 Years.....16 3 years.....20 4 years20 5 years.....24</p> <p>4.2.b. Centers in which age groups are combined:</p> <p>Maximum Group Size is determined by the age of the majority of children in the group. For example, the maximum size of a group of 2's and 3's when most of the children are 2 would be 16.</p>	<p>5.2 Implement Maximum Group Size**</p> <p>5.2.a Centers in which children are grouped by age:</p> <p>6 weeks through 15 months.....8 12 months through 24 months.....12 2 Years.....12 3 years.....18 4 years20 5 years.....20</p> <p>5.2.b. Centers in which age groups are combined:</p> <p>Maximum Group Size is determined by the age of the majority of children in the group. For example, the maximum size of a group of 2's and 3's when most of the children are 2 would be 12.</p>
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* **REQUIRED** - Ratios in 3.1, 4.1, 5.1 are required criteria.

** **RECOMMENDED** – Maximum Group Size in 3.2, 4.2, and 5.2 are recommended and are not required criteria.

Group Sizes are recommended in order for the program to meet all other required criteria. The more these numbers are exceeded, the more difficult it will be to meet other criteria. In fact, it may be necessary to reduce numbers, at least temporarily, in order to meet other criteria.

It is recommended that both ratios and group size be lowered when one or more children in the group need additional adult attention to fully participate in the program because of ability, language fluency, developmental age or stage, or other factors. It is expected that this will be reflected in the program's continuous quality improvement process and documented in the Program Improvement Plan