

# **FACT SHEET**

## **Child Care Licensing Regulation**

### ***Community Care and Assisted Living Act***

## **RESPONSIBLE ADULT**

The Child Care Licensing Regulation defines a responsible adult as a person who is qualified to act as a responsible adult under section 29 which requires a responsible adult to:

- be at least 19 years of age,
  - be able to provide care and mature guidance to children,
  - have completed a course, or a combination of courses, of at least 20 hours duration in child development, guidance, health and safety, or nutrition, and
  - have relevant work experience.
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### **Who is a responsible adult?**

A responsible adult is a person who is 19 years of age, has completed at least 20 hours of training, has experience working with children, and can provide care and mature guidance to children.

### **Why does a responsible adult need training?**

It is important that people who work with children have current training so that children who attend a licensed child care facility receive the best possible care and have a healthy start in life.



### **What sort of training is needed?**

Section 29 of the Child Care Licensing Regulation requires at least 20 hours of training in the subject areas of child development, guidance, health and safety, or nutrition.

**Does the training have to be a college or university course?**

No; individuals may be trained in a variety of ways -- online, in workshops, conferences, seminars, or classes offered through local recreation centres, courses such as Good Beginnings made available by the BC Family Child Care Association and offered through distance education, or through working with an experienced child care provider who can share knowledge and skills.

**Is training an ongoing requirement?**

No; the 20 hours is a one-time requirement. However, continuing to update skills and knowledge enhances an individual's ability to provide quality care for children.

**Can a person work as a responsible adult before he/she has completed the 20 hours of training?**

Yes, it may be possible; however, licensees must discuss this with a licensing officer to ensure understanding and compliance with the *Act* and regulation. A licensee should develop a training schedule and help staff plan to meet this requirement.

**For more information**

Contact the local health authority community care licensing program and speak with a licensing officer.