



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Board of Early Education and Care (EEC) is proposing amendments to its regulations found at 606 CMR 3.00, pursuant to its authority under M. G.L. c. 15D, § 3. The proposed amendments are to the Standards for the Licensure or Approval of Residential Programs Serving Children and Teen Parents.

The primary goals of these revised regulations are to: center the experience of the youth and families that are served by these programs; streamline processes to ensure better efficiency and less duplication; minimize the financial impact and added costs to programs; foster the development of a stable and skilled workforce; eliminate provisions, practices, and language that are outdated or no longer applicable; utilize research and evidence-based best practices to inform the revisions and recommended policy changes; and enhance compliance, accountability, and transparency.

At the November 12, 2025, EEC Board meeting, Board Members voted to adopt these regulations in draft form and to provide for a public comment period. EEC is holding a virtual public hearing on December 17, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. to provide more details about the revisions and receive feedback on the proposed regulations. You can sign up for the virtual public meeting at: <http://www.mass.gov/event/public-comment-hearing-on-proposed-amendments-to-standards-for-the-licensure-of-residential-programs-12-17-2025>. EEC will accept comments on the proposed regulations at <https://edit.mass.gov/news/public-comment-period-on-proposed-amendments-to-standards-for-the-licensure-or-approval-of-residential-programs> or in writing to the Department of Early Education and Care, 50 Milk Street, 14th Floor, Boston, MA 02109. The public comment period will remain open until 5:00 PM on January 12, 2025.

Initial Small Business Impact Statement

(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

CMR No.: 606 CMR 3.00

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: 0

Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? No, small businesses will not have to create, file, or issue additional reports beyond the current obligations.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? No, small businesses will not have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? No, small businesses will not have to provide additional administrative oversight.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? No, small businesses will not need to hire additional staff to comply with the proposed regulations.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer)? No, small businesses will not be required to hire other professionals.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? No, small businesses will not be required to purchase a product or make any other capital investment in order to comply with the regulation beyond what is already required.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.) No, there are no performance standards that are more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation? No, there are no other regulations that duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulations.
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities? Yes, the regulation requires small business to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? No, the regulation does not require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements.

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? No, the regulations will not deter the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? No, the regulations are not likely to encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No, regulation has no impact on compliance and reporting requirements for small businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No, the regulation has no impact on schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? No.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? No.
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? No.