MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department is to mitigate threats to the health and property of our community through emergency response, quality education and prevention programs.

VISION STATEMENT
Working together to make Cedar Rapids a safer community.

VALUES
Respect: Through demonstration by recognizing honesty, fairness, loyalty, and dignity of others.
Leadership: Leadership is everyone’s responsibility.
Teamwork: A cooperative effort through communication and vision to achieve our common goal.
Service: An excellent, specialized, and progressive benefit.

Cedar Rapids Fire Department
Fire Marshal’s Office
Central Fire Station
713 First Avenue SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 USA

Phone: 319-286-5166
Fax: 319-286-5250
www.cedar-rapids.org/fire

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It is the intention of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department (CRFD) to help ensure the safety of all children while attending a pre-school or a day care center. The following guidelines have been adopted by the City of Cedar Rapids ordinance to protect the safety and well being of children and their caregivers while in these facilities.

BUILDING REQUIREMENTS

- Buildings or rooms with more than 10 children must have two (2) exits at all times.
- Sprinklers & fire alarm systems must be checked annually.
- No interior locking devices are permitted.
- Annual fire inspections are required.

EXITS

Adequate exits must be provided for occupants to escape in case of a fire or other emergency.

OTHER SAFETY TIPS

- Matches/lighters should always be out of reach of all children
- Never leave cooking unattended, including microwave cooking.
- Practice fire drills including the meeting place.
- Know that all smoke detectors last only 10 years from the manufacturer’s date (indicated on the back).
- Show children how to dial 9-1-1 and/or access emergency button on your phone.

FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

- Are the exits clear of stored materials and unlocked?
- Is each exit from the building clearly marked?
- Are all exit signs illuminated and visible?
- Is there proper emergency lighting?
- Are all extinguishers mounted at the required height?
- Have all extinguishers been serviced within the last year?
- Is a fire extinguisher located on every level that is occupied at the daycare facility & you understand that the maximum travel distance for the spray is 75 feet?
- Are dual sensor smoke detectors installed on every level and in all sleeping areas?
- Have the batteries in a battery operated detector or wired-in smoke detectors been changed at least once a year?

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department, Fire Marshal’s Office, prepared this brochure to help you understand building requirements for pre-school and daycare facilities.