



CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal Child Care Center Work Group - Charter

PURPOSE

The Child Care Center Work Group is being formed pursuant to Assembly Bill 176 to advise the State Fire Marshal on research and recommendations for code change proposals and regulation promulgation for the California Building Standards.

AB 176 required the Office of the State Fire Marshal, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services, to promulgate regulations pertaining to occupancy standards for daycare centers no later than January 1, 2027.

GOALS

To provide recommendations to enable the State Fire Marshal to understand and promulgate regulations pertaining to the occupancy and fire and life safety requirements for Child Care Centers.

OBJECTIVES

- Provide solutions to enable the State Fire Marshal to determine and clarify occupancy classification for Child Care Centers.
- Provide a discussion on the impact of the 2019 vs 2022 various "E" Childcare occupancy classifications. The initial intent of the five-infant max. in the 2022 California Building Code (CBC).
- Provide an evaluation of the cost impacts of the Childcare occupancy classification requirements.
- Align with Department of Social Services – Community Care Licensing requirements.
- Align occupancy classification age group categories with Title 22 age descriptions. Identify conflict between Title 22 and Title 24.
- Review and provide recommended updates for Std. 850 forms.

WORK GROUP PARTICIPATION

The Work Group shall be open to participation from interested parties and will operate under the following leadership structure:

- **Chair:** Chief of Code Development, serving as the designee of the State Fire Marshal.



CHILD CARE CENTER WORK GROUP (AB 176 2023-24)

- **Co-Chair:** designated representative from the Department of Social Services (DSS) - Community Care and Licensing (CCL).
Interpretation and discussion are the purview of the Chair or Co-Chair.
The Chair/Co-Chair has the authority to set time limits on any agenda item.

The State Fire Marshal retains the discretion to appoint additional stakeholders as necessary to support the work group objectives and goals.

MEETINGS

- Schedule
 - The Chair and Co-chair shall determine the meeting times and frequency.
- Location
 - Meetings shall be regularly scheduled virtually.
 - Meetings will not be canceled without cause.

To ensure consistency and transparency, the following shall be adhered to:

- An approved, published agenda
- Meeting minutes

Any interested party may submit items for discussion during the round table portion listed on the agenda.

WORK GROUP PROTOCOL & PROCESS

- The Code Development and Analysis Division will provide administrative support to the Work Group.
- Agenda items should be submitted to the Work Group coordinator a minimum of 10 days before the scheduled meeting date.
- Minutes will be taken at each meeting that captures the essence and actions of the meeting.
 - Minutes will be posted on the Office of the State Fire Marshal website.

To the maximum extent possible, even though not required by law, the work group shall follow the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. This includes, but is not limited to, published notices and agendas, meetings open to the public, and voting on the agenda items that require it.