



# Local Standards of Care

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Austin Parks and Recreation | March 23, 2026



State of Texas Human Resource Code Ch. 42 **exempts municipalities of Child Care Licensure** through annual adoption of standards of care by ordinance after a public hearing.



The programs operated by the City are **recreational in nature** and are not licensed by the state of Texas as certified day care programs or facilities.



The Standards of Care are intended to be **minimum standards** by which the City of Austin will operate the City's Youth Programs.



# Facility, Health and Safety



## Texas HHS – Chapter 746 (Licensed Child-Care Centers)

## City of Austin – Ordinance (Youth Recreational Programs)

Physical Environment

30 sq ft per child, annual safety inspections, food preparation requirements, emergency preparedness, fire prevention, first-aid and AED, and restroom supervision

Annual safety inspections, food preparation requirements, emergency preparedness, fire prevention, first-aid and AED, and restroom supervision

Health Standards

Guidelines for participation when illness or injury exists, above 101 temperature or communicable disease

Guidelines for participation when illness or injury exists, above 100.4 temperature accompanied by signs of illness

Medical Standards

Authorization to administer medication expires after one year, must be secured

Medication authorization form, secured 1-week supply

# Staff Qualifications



**Texas HHS – Chapter 746**  
**(Licensed Child-Care Centers)**

**City of Austin – Ordinance**  
**(Youth Recreational Programs)**

Age

18 years or older with HS diploma or equivalent (16-18 if supervised)

18 years or older (15-17 if supervised)

Required Certifications

CPR, AED, First Aid and basic water rescue or equivalent for aquatic supervision

CPR, AED, First Aid and basic water rescue or equivalent for aquatic supervision

Training Requirements

Orientation to child-care center, pre-service and annual training, transportation safety, and water safety

Meet established annual youth programs training requirements in addition to COA and APR required trainings.

# Supervision Ratios



## Texas HHS – Chapter 746 (Licensed Child-Care Centers)

## City of Austin – Ordinance (Youth Recreational Programs)

Age Range	Infants through 13 years	5 – 13 years
Staff to Child Ratios	1 per 22 (ages 5) 1 per 26 (ages 6-13)	1 per 12 (ages 5-9) 1 per 15 (ages 10-13)
Swimming & Wading Pool Ratios	1 per 10 (ages 5) 1 per 12 (ages 6-13)	1 per 8 (ages 5-7) 1 per 12 (ages 8-13)
Programs Designed for Participants with a Disability	Inclusive programs with reasonable modifications per ADA, no reduced ratio requirements	1 per 4 (ages 5–12) 1 per 8 (ages 12–13) Includes swimming & wading pool ratios



Recreational programs operate in **compliance** with appropriate **State law**, this **ordinance**, and the program **rules** adopted by ordinance.



Rules may be **more restrictive than the minimum standards** adopted by this ordinance.



Ordinance is **posted and made available** for parents or guardians of participants.

# Board Action



Make a recommendation to City Council for renewal of the Local Standards of Care for Austin Parks and Recreation and Austin Arts, Culture, Music, and Entertainment's Youth Recreation Programs (20250327-073)

- Not later than April 1 of each year, the director shall recommend to Council the adoption of the local standards.
- Public Hearing as required for State of Texas, Child Care Licensing exemption for youth programs operated by a municipality.
- Austin City Council – **March 26, 2026**