Breastfeeding Friendly Criteria for Child Care Providers

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Caregivers have a unique opportunity to support breastfeeding mothers, who are often daunted by the prospect of continuing to breastfeed as they return to work.*

Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care – Introduction

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) would like child care providers to successfully support breastfeeding families. Breastfeeding gives moms and babies many health benefits—yet many moms worry that going back to work will make it hard to breastfeed. Helping moms continue to breastfeed can be done with just a little time and resources. Becoming a Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care is a voluntary recognition program available to Missouri child care facilities. The following information will help child care providers meet the Missouri Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care award criteria and complete a successful application. For more information about the award, please visit www.health.mo.gov/breastfeedingfriendlychildcare.

Missouri Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care

Being recognized as a Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care facility can be a marketing tool that will attract mothers who have made a commitment to breastfeeding.

Sample Feeding Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Food</th>
<th>Feeding Time</th>
<th>Kinds of Food</th>
<th>Amount of Food</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breast Milk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formula</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant Food</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table Food</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Who is preparing (mixing) the formula? Check all that apply: □ Parent □ Caregiver

Does your child have any problems with feedings, such as choking or spitting up?
□ Yes □ No

Does your child use a pacifier? □ Yes □ No

Infant Feeding Preference (under 12 months)

Mark your preference (check all that apply):
□ I will provide breast milk for my infant.
□ I will nurse my infant at the center at these times:
□ The facility's formula may be used to supplement feedings if necessary: □ Yes □ No

If breast milk is unavailable for a feeding, the facility should:
□ I request that the formula provided by the child care facility be served to my infant.
□ I will provide infant formula for my infant. Name of formula:
□ I request that the child care facility provide solid foods for my infant as/she is ready for them, and after I have discussed it with child care facility staff.
□ I will provide solid foods for my infant.

For information on the Infant and Toddler Feeding and Care Plan, see the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) website at health.mo.gov/breastfeedingfriendlychildcare.
Sample Breastfeeding Policy for Child Care Settings

Breastfeeding is the natural way to feed a baby, and provides many health benefits to both infant and mother. Because breastfeeding employees need ongoing support from child care providers to provide their milk for their babies, <<Facility Name>> subscribes to the following policy.

1. Breastfeeding mothers shall be provided a place to breastfeed or express their milk. Breastfeeding mothers, including employees, shall be provided a private and sanitary place other than a bathroom, to breastfeed their babies or express milk should a mother choose to use it although breastfeeding is welcome throughout the facility. This area provides an electrical outlet, comfortable chair, table or stand and nearby access to running water.

2. A refrigerator will be made available for storage of expressed breast milk. Breastfeeding mothers and employees may store their expressed breast milk in the child care facility’s refrigerator. Mothers should provide their own containers, clearly labeled with name and date. Staff will follow guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in ensuring that breast milk is properly treated to avoid waste. Universal precautions (i.e. gloves) are not required in handling human milk.

3. Sensitivity will be shown to breastfeeding mothers and their babies. Staff is committed to providing ongoing support to breastfeeding mothers. This includes providing an opportunity to breastfeed their baby at any time, and will delay giving a bottle, if possible, when mom is due to arrive. Artificial baby milks (formula) and solid foods will not be provided unless the mother has requested. Babies will be held closely when feeding and bottles will never be propped.

4. Staff shall be trained in handling human milk. All child care staff will be trained every year in the proper storage and handling of human milk, as well as ways to support breastfeeding mothers.

5. Breastfeeding employees shall be provided flexible breaks to accommodate breastfeeding or milk expression. Breastfeeding employees shall be provided a flexible schedule for breastfeeding or pumping to provide breast milk for their children. The time allowed would not exceed the normal time allowed for lunch and breaks. For time above and beyond normal lunch and breaks, sick/annual leave may be used, or the employee can come in early or leave late to make up the time.

6. Breastfeeding promotion information will be displayed. Staff will provide information on breastfeeding, including the names of area resources, should questions or problems arise. In addition, positive promotion of breastfeeding will be on display in the facility. There will be no advertisements of formula in the facility.

Adapted from the Mississippi Breastfeeding Coalition’s “Building Breastfeeding Friendly Communities” project, by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services in collaboration with the Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition, Division of Public Health – Nutrition Section PPH 40070 (6/03) www.dhfs.state.wi.us/WIC


Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Criteria

Criteria #1 Written Policy

The child care provider has a written policy that reflects their support of breastfeeding.

Purpose

A written policy that supports breastfeeding clearly outlines the services offered to families and what is expected of employees.

Steps to Success

Train staff on your facility’s breastfeeding policy and make it available so they can refer to it as needed. At a minimum, have new staff read the policy when hired and review with all staff at least every two years. A sample policy has been included in the appendix on page 15.

Include the following in your policy:

- A private place will be provided for moms to breastfeed or express breast milk should a mother choose to use it although breastfeeding is welcome throughout the facility.
- Staff shall encourage and assist mothers to provide breast milk to their children.
- Breastfeeding promotion materials will be displayed and offered to families.
- Infants will be fed on demand and staff will communicate with moms about feeding preferences.
- Staff will be trained on how to support breastfeeding families and on proper storage of breast milk.
- The facility will support staff who are breastfeeding.

Progress Notes / To Do List

Use this space to make notes about what you are doing to meet this criterion. When you have met it, write the date here:

Criterion met (date) _________________
Criteria #2 Welcoming Environment

The child care facility provides an atmosphere that welcomes breastfeeding families.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Providing an atmosphere that welcomes breastfeeding families sends a clear message that your facility sees breastfeeding as the normal and accepted way to feed babies. Efforts are made to provide a comfortable and welcoming environment.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Steps to Success | • Provide information on breastfeeding policies to potential families, which may include information about staff training requirements, breast milk storage guidelines and resources available.  
• Post “breastfeeding welcome here” signs.  
• Provide a private and clean place other than a bathroom for moms (including staff members) to breastfeed or express breast milk should a mother choose to use it although breastfeeding is welcome throughout the facility. This area should have an electrical outlet, comfortable chair, table or stand and a sink and refrigerator nearby. The space used doesn’t have to be a lactation room, but it should be available whenever needed. Consider using an office (if personal files can be locked), store room or portable partitions to create a space.  
• Allow breastfeeding employees to have a flexible schedule for breastfeeding or pumping. Employees can use their regular breaks and meal times or may flex their time by coming in early or staying late.  
• Encourage mothers to visit and breastfeed during the day, if they can.  
• Store expressed milk properly. Each bottle needs to be labeled with the child’s name and date pumped.*  
• Maintain enough refrigerator and freezer space for storage.  
• Limit the visibility of formula and related materials.  
• Display pictures of racially and ethnically diverse breastfeeding families.  

*The minimum guidelines for breastmilk storage can be found through CDC if the child care facility does not use the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).  
USDA guidelines must be used if the child care uses CACFP.  

Progress Notes / To Do List | Use this space to make notes about what you are doing to meet this criterion. When you have met it, write the date here:  
Criterion met (date) _________________ |
• Breastfeeding moms, including employees are provided a private and clean place other than a bathroom to breastfeed their babies or express milk. This area should have an electrical outlet, comfortable chair, a table or stand, and nearby access to running water. A refrigerator to store expressed milk should be available.

• The facility encourages mothers to visit and breastfeed during the day if they can.

Criteria #3: The child care facility provides support and accurate breastfeeding information to parents.

Yes________ Enclosed is a copy of materials.

Description of materials:
• The information packet for new families includes information on breastfeeding policies, staff training requirements and breastfeeding related resources.
• Staff is familiar with written materials and available community resources (support groups, lactation consultants, etc.) and refers moms as needed.

Criteria #4: The child care facility feeds infants on demand and communicates with mothers about feeding preferences.

Yes________ Our policy addresses this.

Description of communications:
• Breastfed babies do not receive food or drink (other than breast milk) unless prior approval by parent/guardian is given.
• Plans are in place if mom will be late and her baby is hungry or the supply of breast milk is gone.

Criteria #5: The child care facility trains all staff so they are able to support breastfeeding families.

Yes________ Enclosed is a copy of our training records.

Description of training:
• Staff is trained every year about the benefits of breastfeeding, preparation, storage and feeding of breast milk, and resources available for staff and parents.

Send this completed application and MO Breastfeeding Friendly Worksite application to:
Karla Voss, Bureau of Community Health and Wellness
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
P O Box 570
920 Wildwood Dr
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: (573) 751-6197
Fax: 573-522-2856
karla.voss@health.mo.gov

Adapted from the New York State Department of Health: http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/nutrition/cacp/breastfeedingspon.htm
### Criteria #4  Feeding on Demand

The child care provider feeds infants on demand and communicates with mothers about feeding preferences.

#### Purpose

Feeding babies when they show signs of hunger and stopping the feed when babies show satiety insures the babies' feeding needs are being met and prevents overfeeding. Communication with the mother is key in meeting the needs of the baby while assisting the mother with maintaining her milk supply. Maintaining milk supply is a delicate balance of supply and demand. It can be frustrating to mothers if their infant is given a feeding just before they arrive expecting to nurse.

#### Steps to Success

- Ensure staff are communicating with parents on how they would like staff to handle certain feeding situations. For example, what should be done if the baby is hungry and there is no more breast milk or it is close to pick-up time? Breastfed babies should not receive food or drink (other than breast milk) unless prior approval is given by the parents/guardian.
- Train staff to recognize infant hunger cues and how to properly feed a breastfed baby a bottle. Early hunger cues include mouth movements, rooting, sucking on hands and restlessness. Crying is a late hunger cue. Breastfed babies usually eat more frequently than formula fed babies, because breast milk is digested quickly and easily. Breastfed babies may feed every 1½ to 3 hours. Feed breastfed babies when their cues indicate hunger, not on a time schedule.
- See “Hints to Bottle-Feeding the Breastfed Baby” on page 10.
- Asking parents to fill out a feeding plan will help staff know how to react in these cases. Make sure feeding plans are kept up to date and easily accessible by staff.

#### Progress Notes / To Do List

Use this space to make notes about what you are doing to meet this criterion. When you have met it, write the date here:

Criterion met (date) _________________
Application Information

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and the Missouri Breastfeeding Coalition would like to recognize child care providers in Missouri that provide support to their breastfeeding families and employees through the Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Award. To receive the award, child care providers must meet five criteria that aim to improve the support for breastfeeding women in the workforce. Successful applicants will receive a certificate, window cling and recognition on the DHSS website.

Requirements for a Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Facility

- Has a written breastfeeding policy that complies with the Federal Labor Standards Act (FLSA). A fact sheet on the FLSA can be found at: https://health.mo.gov/living/families/wic/breastfeeding/resourcesdata/laws/
- Provides a welcoming environment for breastfeeding families
- Offers breastfeeding resources to parents
- Feeds infants on demand and communicates with moms about feeding preferences
- Trains staff to support breastfeeding parents

Complete the application to be considered for Breastfeeding Friendly recognition.

Send this completed application and a copy of required records to the address below. Forms can also be emailed to karla.voss@health.mo.gov or faxed to 573-522-2856. Child care providers that answer “Yes” to all of the criteria questions will be designated as a Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care. For more information on becoming a Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care or sample materials, contact the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services at the contact below.

Where can I find more information on breastfeeding?

- The Missouri Breastfeeding Friendly Worksite Program educates worksites on the value of providing lactation support in the worksite and to recognize businesses that support their breastfeeding employees. https://health.mo.gov/living/families/wic/breastfeeding/worksiteinitiatives/
- Missouri Breastfeeding Coalition - www.mobreastfeeding.org
- Missouri Child and Adult Care Food Program provides online and in-person training on various nutrition topics including breastfeeding. https://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/nutrition/foodprograms/cacfp/index.php
- Materials may be ordered through the DHSS Warehouse: http://health.mo.gov/warehouse/e-literature.html (search for breastfeeding)

Send this completed application and MO Breastfeeding Friendly Worksite application to:
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Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
P O Box 570
920 Wildwood Dr
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Phone: (573) 751-6197
Fax: 573-522-2856
karla.voss@health.mo.gov

Criteria #5 Staff Training

The child care provider trains all staff so they are able to support breastfeeding.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Training will ensure staff understand their role in supporting breastfeeding families and have the information to do so.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Steps to Success | • Train staff on the benefits of breastfeeding, how to prepare, store and feed breast milk, and resources available for staff and parents.
• Train staff every year, which can be provided at staff meetings or through local training events. |
| Training Resources | • Child Care Health Consultants are available at most local public health departments. Training is offered on breastfeeding and a variety of other topics. Ask your local health department or visit http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/ for possible trainings.
• The Missouri Breastfeeding Friendly Worksite Program educates worksites on the value of providing lactation support in the worksite and recognizes businesses that support their breastfeeding employees. https://health.mo.gov/living/families/wic/breastfeeding/worksiteinitiatives/
• The Missouri Child and Adult Care Food Program provides online and in-person training on various nutrition topics including breastfeeding. https://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/nutrition/foodprograms/cacfp/index.php |
| Progress Notes / To Do List | Use this space to make notes about what you are doing to meet this criterion. When you have met it, write the date here: Criterion met (date) _________________ |
Hints for Bottle-Feeding the Breastfed Baby

- Breastfed babies usually eat more frequently than formula fed babies, because breast milk is digested quickly and easily. Feedings may range between 1½ to 3 hours. Feed breastfed babies when their cues indicate hunger, not on a time schedule. Early hunger cues include mouth movements, rooting, sucking on hands, and restlessness. Crying is a late hunger cue.

- Feed the baby in a way that mimics breastfeeding. Hold the baby in an upright position, and never put a baby to bed with a bottle. Avoid holding the bottle in a vertical position.

- Feed slowly. Since milk flows faster from bottles than from the breast, it is important to pace the feeding by pausing frequently to burp, switch sides, or talk to the baby. Rapid feedings can lead to overfeeding, which puts the mother’s milk supply at risk and can cause discomfort in the baby. Pacing the feeding gives infants time to recognize that they are full.

- Stop feeding when the baby is satisfied. Do not force a baby to finish “just the last bit” of a bottle. If the baby is dozing off and releasing the bottle nipple before the bottle is empty, the baby is done. Don’t reawaken the baby to take more. If bottles are often left unfinished, ask the mother to send milk in smaller amounts.

- Breastfed babies sometimes eat smaller amounts at each feeding than babies who are formula fed. The amount of milk consumed may or may not increase with the age of the baby.

Breastfeeding Friendly Resources

Where can I find more information on breastfeeding?

- The Missouri Breastfeeding Friendly Worksite Program educates worksites on the value of providing lactation support in the worksite and to recognize businesses that support their breastfeeding employees. https://health.mo.gov/living/families/wic/breastfeeding/worksiteinitiatives/

- Missouri Breastfeeding Coalition - www.mobreastfeeding.org

Did you know that a mother’s health insurance may provide a discounted breast pump?