STORAGE OF SOAP PROVIDED FOR HAND WASHING, DISINFECTANT SOLUTION AND DIAPERING SUPPLIES

I. POLICY EXCEPTION
K.A.R. 28-4-423(a)(23) requires certain items and substances to be kept in locked storage. An exception is granted to K.A.R. 28-4-423(a)(23) to permit the following items to be stored unlocked and out of the reach of children in order to encourage sanitary practices and reduce the spread of communicable disease in licensed preschools and child care centers.

1. Disinfectant solution used daily to sanitize surfaces may be stored unlocked on a shelf, cabinet or by other means at least 5 feet above the floor and out of reach of children. Bottles containing disinfectant solution shall be clearly labeled.

2. Diapering supplies with warning labels including diapers, diaper wipes, ointments, lotions and disposable gloves may be stored unlocked near the diaper changing table on a shelf, cabinet or by other means at least 5 feet above the floor and out of reach of children.

II. POLICY CLARIFICATION
K.A.R. 28-4-423(c)(7) requires that soap be provided for use by adults and children. Ready access to soap used for hand washing reduces the spread of communicable disease, encourages the use of soap in hand washing and encourages the teaching of proper hand washing techniques and self care skills to young children. Soap used for hand washing may be stored at the hand washing sink to encourage use by children and adults and does not need to be kept in locked storage.

III. PROCEDURES
This policy exception is effective as of the date stated above and remains in effect unless the Department determines the exception is no longer in the best interest of children and families. If a licensee is found in noncompliance with this exception on more than one occasion, the department may expire the exception, in writing, for that licensee.

IV. PURPOSE
The purpose of this policy exception and clarification is to encourage sanitary practices and to reduce the spread of communicable disease by providing ready access to soap, disinfectant solutions and to diapering supplies used routinely in licensed preschools and child care centers.

V. AUTHORITY
The Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment has the authority to interpret the Department’s regulations and the authority to grant exceptions to regulations when it is in the best interest of children and families pursuant to K.A.R. 28-4-422(f)(1).

[Signatures]
Program Director
Bureau Director