



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT
OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

Manual:	NJAC	NJ Administrative Code Excerpts	Effective Date:
Title	10	Human Services	
Chapter	122	Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers	8/6/2009
Subchapter:	4	Staff Requirements	
Section	4	Grouping of children (N.J.A.C. 10:122-4.4)	

§10:122-4.4 Grouping of children

(a) For early childhood programs, the following shall apply for infants (under 18 months of age) and toddlers (18 months to 2 1/2 years of age):

1. A particular staff member shall be assigned as the primary caregiver to each specific group of children, in accordance with applicable staff/child ratios, as specified in N.J.A.C. 10:122-4.3;

2. A group shall consist of four infants or six toddlers to whom a primary caregiver has been assigned;

3. The primary caregiver shall ensure that the needs of each child in the group are met, including:

i. Feeding the child and following each infant's individual feeding schedule, as specified in N.J.A.C. 10:122-6.3(b);

ii. Diapering the child, if applicable, as specified in N.J.A.C. 10:122-7.8(d);

iii. Assisting the child in toilet training, if applicable, in keeping with the center's toilet training policy, as specified in N.J.A.C. 10:122-7.7(e)3; and

iv. Recording any unusual incidents involving the child and ensuring that the child's parents are informed of them, as specified in N.J.A.C. 10:122-4.8(c).

4. If more than 12 infants or 20 toddlers occupy an individual room or a specific area within a large room, areas for up to 12 infants or 20 toddlers shall be defined by visible barriers, partitions or any other room dividers or separations having a height above the eye level of the children who will use those areas.

(b) For early childhood programs, the following shall apply for children 2 1/2 years of age and older:

1. A group shall consist of the number of children:

i. Occupying an individual room or occupying a specific area within a large room. The area shall be defined by a visible barrier, partition or any other room divider or separation having a height above the eye level of the children who will use that area; or

ii. Engaged together in a particular activity at any given time, regardless of whether the room or area within a large room is divided or partitioned.

2. Each group shall be limited to a maximum of 20 children except during meals, naptime, outdoor activities, specially scheduled events (for example,