

# MODEL BREASTFEEDING POLICIES FOR EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROVIDERS

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- The center is committed to providing ongoing support for breastfeeding mothers, including providing an opportunity to breastfeed their baby in the morning and evening and holding giving a bottle, if possible; when mom is due to arrive. In the event that the parent or guardian does not provide a quantity of breast milk to meet the infant's daily requirement, infant formula will be provided in accordance with Ohio Child Care Center Rules.
- All child care center staff will be trained in the proper storage and handling of human milk, as well as ways to support breastfeeding mothers.
- 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 to other employees 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 earlier or leave later to make up time.
- The center 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 center.
- Breastfeeding mothers and employees may store their expressed breast milk in the center refrigerator. Mothers should provide their own containers, clearly labeled with name and date.
- Breastfeeding mothers shall be provided a private and sanitary place to breastfeed their babies or express milk. The area will have an electrical outlet, comfortable chair, and nearby access to running water.

Sources:

Vermont Department of Health Breastfeeding Friendly Employer Project. Loving Support Makes Breastfeeding Work: Sample Childcare Center Breastfeeding Policy.

Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Nutrition, Physical and Obesity Program, Wisconsin Partnership for Activity and Nutrition Breastfeeding Committee. Ten Steps to Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Centres. Updated May 2013.



