DAY CARE CENTERS AND HOME DAY CARE

DAY CARE CENTER

Day care center is defined as a state licensed child care service use providing regularly scheduled care for a period of less than 24 hours. Day care center means any child care facility other than a family day care home and includes infant centers, preschools, and extended day care facilities.

A child day care center requires an administrative conditional use permit for the RM and RH zoning districts, pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 18.230. The following requirements apply to each child day care center and must be met prior to issuance of certificate of occupancy:

- An on-site vehicle turnaround and parking area, entrance and exit points, and passenger loading area must be provided.
- The child day care center use must have received all necessary permits or approvals from the State of WA Department of Social and Health Services.
- The child day care center use must be inspected by the Poulsbo fire department, and the operator must implement all required corrective measures.
- The operator must have obtained a Poulsbo business license.
- A solid fence at least 6’ high compatible with neighborhood character must be installed along each side and rear lot line, or as otherwise approved.

A day care center located in a multi-use building or campus shall meet the following standards:

- Be considered an accessory use if it is sited on the premises of a community service use, such as a private or public school, grange, place of worship, community center, library, or similar adult gathering place and it is associated with that activity.
- Child care facilities for the use of employees of a business or public facility shall also be allowed as an accessory use of the business or facility.
- When considered an accessory use, the child care center use shall be combined with the primary use and subject to its permit and approval requirements.
- When considered an accessory use in conjunction with a permitted use, a child care center may be permitted in the RL zoning district.
- If a child day care center is proposed after the community use is permitted and established, the child day care center shall be reviewed through minor SPR process in PMC 18.270.

FAMILY DAY CARE HOME

Family day care home is defined as a state licensed day care provider as defined in RCW 74.15.020 who regularly provides day care for not more than 12 children in the provider’s home. Shall be permitted in all zoning districts of the city wherein residential structures are permitted, subject to the following conditions:

- Must meet WA State child day care licensing requirements and provide day care for 12 or fewer children.
- Comply with all building, fire safety, health code and city business licensing requirements.
- Comply with lot size, building size, setbacks and lot coverage standards of the zoning district.
- Provide a safe passenger loading and unloading area.

OTHER DEFINITIONS

Check the permitted use table for each zoning district to determine if these uses are permitted.

- Adult day care. An adult care service providing regularly scheduled care for a period less than 24 hours. Does not include adult care service use meeting the definition of an adult family home as defined pursuant to RCW 70.128.010(1).
- Adult family home. A residential home in which a person or persons provide personal care, special care, room and board to more than 1 but not more than 6 adults who are not related by blood or marriage to the person providing the services.

- Residential care home. Any state or federally approved dwelling used as a residence for the care or rehabilitation of dependent children, the elderly, and the physically and/or mentally handicapped. Residential care homes shall provide care for 6 or fewer residents.
- Residential care facility. Any state or federally approved facility, other than a clinic, used as a residence for the care or rehabilitation of dependent children, the elderly, and the physically and/or mentally handicapped. Residential care centers shall provide care to 7 or more residents.

See PMC 18.40.030 for definitions for the following facilities: boarding home, group home, or confidential shelter.

Disclaimer: This handout should not be used as a substitute for codes and regulations. The applicant/property owner is responsible for compliance with all code and rule requirements, whether or not described here. Please see the City of Poulsbo Municipal Code for complete text and requirements.