

Recently, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) voted to ban the manufacturing and commercial selling of all drop-side cribs. Included in this ban, is a rule requiring child care centers and family child care homes to stop using all drop side cribs by December 28, 2012. In addition to this, on June 28, 2011, the new crib guidelines will be in effect for any cribs purchased or otherwise obtained after that date. "The crib standards will apply to anyone who manufactures, distributes, or contracts to sell a crib; to child care facilities, family child care homes, and others holding themselves out to be knowledgeable about cribs; to anyone who leases, sublets, or otherwise places a crib in the stream of commerce; and to owners and operators of places of public accommodation affecting commerce." What this will mean for child care facilities, is that it will be considered unlawful "to sell, lease, or otherwise distribute or provide a crib for use that does not meet the new CPSC crib standards, regardless of the date the crib was manufactured."

The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, along with the CPSC, understands that it will take planning and time to replace your drop-side cribs. This is why the CPSC has given you 24 months from the date the Rule was posted (12/28/2010) to replace them. If you participate in the Better Beginnings program, you could elect to use Better Beginnings grant funds to replace drop-side cribs. Please ensure that any cribs you purchase meet the CPSC crib guidelines.

A copy of the Federal Registry Rule can be found at <http://www.cpsc.gov/businfo/frnotices/fr11/cribfinal.pdf>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your Licensing Specialist or the Child Care Licensing Central office at (501) 682-8590