

# Highlights of the New Regulations For Organized Camps

## Section 30700

New definitions for:

- Aquatics Supervisor
- Camp
- Counselor
- Director
- Health Screening
- Health Supervisor
- Site Operator

## Section 30701

Excludes the following camping activities from the minimum standards for physical facilities:

- 1) locations from the main camp where primitive living conditions are an inherent part of the planned activity
- 2) government regulated campgrounds, beaches, or parks that have equivalent physical facilities

## Section 30702

Requires general safety requirements for camps, such as:

- 1) proper drainage
- 2) protection from natural and man-made hazards such as mine pits, quarries, high-speed roads, excessive insects and venomous snakes
- 3) control of poison oak
- 4) prevention of excessive dust that may be injurious to health and safety

## Section 30703

The site operator is required to send written notice to the local health officer at least 30 days prior to:

- 1) construction of any new camp

- 2) any major expansion of physical facilities
- 3) any changes to the name, location, and mailing address
- 4) name and address of person or agency proposing to operate the camp
- 5) proposed dates of occupancy during that calendar year

#### **Section 30704**

The site operator must submit to the local health officer, annually and at change of ownership, either:

- 1) a written verification that the camp is accredited by the American Camp Association or:
- 2) a written description of operating procedures that describes the program of organized and supervised activities of the camp in the following areas:
  - a) Supervisor qualifications and trainings
  - b) Staff skill verification criteria and process
  - c) Participant eligibility requirements (if any)
  - d) Staff-to-participant supervision ratios
  - e) Equipment needed
  - f) Safety procedures
  - g) Emergency procedures specific to location
  - h) Environmental hazards
  - i) Access and equipment control
  - j) Equipment and maintenance repair

#### **Section 30710**

A dependable water supply must be available, comply with the requirements of the California Safe Drinking Water Act, and must conform to the following:

1) Water wells must be constructed in accordance with the requirements of the California Well Water Standards

2) Springs must be adequately located away from potential sources of contamination, and developed with an enclosure and cover to prevent entrance of surface waters, dusts, or small animals

3) Stream sources must be treated

**Section 30711**

Drinking water must be provided and be centrally located in the camp.

**Section 30712**

Handwashing facilities shall be provided adjacent to all flush toilets. Single service soap dispensers shall be provided at handwashing facilities, except for those handwashing facilities located in camper housing facilities.

**Section 30713**

When campers are present for three or more consecutive days and nights, showers shall be provided.

**Section 30714**

Toilets must be provided at required ratios specified in Table 4-4 of the California Building Code. Pit or chemical toilets may be used only in remote areas where plumbing is unavailable, located so as not to endanger water supplies, and constructed to exclude flies and vermin.

**Section 30720**

Plans and specifications for every building or structure must be approved by the local health officer prior to the start of any construction.

**Section 30721**

Head-to-head sleeping accommodations are prohibited. A minimum space of 18 inches, or a physical barrier, must be provided between bed units, including sleeping bags.

**Section 30722**

Every building, structure, tent, tent structure, cabin, and premises must be kept in good repair and maintained in a safe and sanitary condition.

All appliances, equipment, devices, facilities, and electrical-mechanical-refrigerating-ventilating systems must be kept in good repair and maintained in a safe and sanitary condition.

If provided, all mattresses, mattress covers, blankets, sheets, pillows, and sleeping bags shall be maintained in a sanitary and good condition. Blankets, sheets, pillows, and sleeping bags must be laundered and/or sanitized prior to issuance to a camper. Mattresses must be covered with waterproof material or washable covers.

### **Section 30723**

All overhead electrical lines installed in a camp must conform with California Public Utilities Commission Rules for Overhead Electrical Line Construction.

### **Section 30730**

Food service facilities must comply with the requirements of the California Retail Food Code.

### **Section 30735**

All garbage and refuse must be deposited and stored in flytight containers, and removed and disposed of at a frequency and in a manner satisfactory to the local health officer.

### **Section 30736**

Every camp must have a plan and equipment for coping with excessive numbers of flies, mosquitoes and other insects, and with rodents. At times or places where special risk of transmission of disease to humans from insects, rodents, or other animals exists, the camp shall implement special measures under the guidance of the local health officer to protect the campers.

### **Section 30740**

All swimming pools, pools, wading pools, and special purpose pools located in or provided for any camp must be designed, constructed, maintained, and operated in accordance with current California laws and regulations for public swimming pools.

### **Section 30741**

A plan for the use of any lake, stream, river, or the ocean by any camp must be developed and maintained, and submitted to the local health officer prior to use.

Any camp which uses lakes, streams, rivers, or the ocean for swimming must be equipped with at least one lifeboat or equivalent water safety device.

No lake, stream, or river can be used unless careful soundings of the depth of water, the location of eddies and pools, and determinations of the presence of dangerous currents, sunken logs, rocks, and obstructions have been made.

Visible and legible signs indicating the depth of water, the location of pools or eddies, and the presence of currents of water shall be posted at any lake, stream, or river used for swimming.

Lifeguard services must be provided at any location used for swimming by campers. There must be an aquatics supervisor who is at least 18 years old and who possesses an American Red Cross Lifeguard Certificate, YMCA Swim Lifeguard Certificate, or an equivalent certificate. Lifeguard Services must be provided at a ratio of one lifeguard for each 25 campers in the water.

### **Section 30750**

Every camper and each staff member must furnish a health history of their health status. The health history must include the following:

- 1) A description of any health condition requiring medication, treatment, special restriction or consideration while at camp
- 2) A record of immunizations including date of the last tetanus shot
- 3) A record of any allergies

A signed statement by a parent or guardian to seek emergency medical treatment shall be provided for each staff member or camper, except those minors accompanied in camp by a parent or guardian.

Health screening must be conducted under the supervision of the full-time adult Health Supervisor by qualified staff for:

- 1) all staff prior to the arrival of campers
- 2) all campers under the age of 18 who are unaccompanied by a parent or guardian within 24 hours of arrival at camp.

If a physician is not on-site when campers are present, arrangements must be made for a physician to be available on an on-call basis. An infirmary with provision for isolating patients must be provided. Advance arrangements must be made for the immediate removal of seriously sick or injured campers or staff members to a point of adequate medical care, on the recommendation of a physician.

A medical log book must be maintained by the Health Supervisor which includes at least the following information for each accident, injury, or illness:

- 1) Name of person treated
- 2) Dosage and intervals of any medication dispensed
- 3) First aid or medical treatment rendered
- 4) Name of person administering the first aid or medical treatment
- 5) Date and time of treatment
- 6) Date parent/guardian notified of accident, injury, or illness

The Health Supervisor or the site operator must report all occurrences of foodborne illness, suspected foodborne illness, or any other reportable disease promptly to the local health officer.

All medication brought to a camp by campers that needs to be dispensed by the Health Supervisor or qualified staff must be in the original container and properly labeled in accordance with law, or in containers accompanied by specific written dispensing instructions from a parent, legal guardian, or physician. All medication must be stored in a locked container when unattended by the Health Supervisor.

A written health care plan must be developed and maintained by the Health Supervisor, and must include:

- 1) The responsibilities and authority of the Health Supervisor and other qualified health staff meeting the requirements of section 30700 (f) that provide health care including first aid
- 2) The procedures for camp health care and sanitation
- 3) A record keeping process
- 4) A plan for provision and maintenance of supplies and equipment
- 5) The relationships and agreements with local medical personnel, hospitals, and providers of emergency care and other emergency care providers
- 6) A plan to prevent and control the spread of pandemic flu or other communicable diseases among campers

### **Section 30751**

Every camp shall have a Director at the camp in charge who is at least 25 years and has at least two seasons of administrative or supervisory experience in camp activities. The Director must provide staff for the care, protection, and supervision of the campers. The Director and all camp counselors may not have direct unsupervised contact with campers without first obtaining a satisfactory criminal history record check.

There shall be at least one counselor, who is a high school graduate or who is at least 18 years old, for each 10 campers under 16 years old.

The Health Supervisor shall verify that all counselors have been trained in the principles of first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

### **Section 30752**

All firearms and ammunition, when not in use for authorized camp activities, must be locked in a designated cabinet. The key must be in the possession of the Director or qualified staff with a satisfactory criminal history record check.

### **Section 30753**

Each camp must retain on-site a written site specific plan outlining procedures for the following emergency situations:

- 1) Natural disasters
- 2) Lost campers
- 3) Fires
- 4) Transportation emergencies
- 5) Severe illnesses and injuries
- 6) Strangers in camp
- 7) Aquatic emergencies as appropriate for the site
- 8) Other emergency situations as appropriate for the site

The site specific plan must include procedures for:

- 1) Evacuation of the camp site

2) Control of vehicular traffic through the camp

3) Communication from persons at the site of an emergency to the emergency medical facilities, the nearest fire station, and the administrative and health staff of the camp

Camp staff must be trained in implementation of the emergency plan procedures.