

Oral Health Care Policy

In January of 2010 the Department of Early Education and Care issued a new regulation for Child care programs that include a requirement that educators assist children with brushing their teeth if children are in care for more than four hours or if children have a meal while in care (606 CMR 7.11(11)(d). This regulation is intended to:

- *Help children learn about the importance of good oral health
- * Provide information and resources regarding good oral health to the child care-programs and families
- * Help address the high incidence of tooth decay among young children in Massachusetts, which is associated with numerous health risks.

EEC licensed programs must comply with this regulation. However, parents may choose that their child(ren) not participate in tooth brushing while present at their child care program.

When my child _____ participates in the extended day program I would like to have my child participate in the tooth brushing program and will send a toothbrush in my child's lunch box on the days he (she) attends.

Parent or Guardian's signature

Date

I do not wish to have my child _____ participate in tooth brushing when attending the extended day program.

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Date