

Counselor-To-Child Ratio While Swimming Worksheet Day Camps for Children

Use of form: Use of this form is voluntary. Day camps may use this form to determine the required counselor-to-child ratio while children are in the water and to help ensure compliance with DCF 252. The ratio of counselors to children may not be less than the minimum number of counselors to children specified in Table DCF 252.425.

Instructions: Fill in the number of children in each age group and review the criteria to determine the number of counselors required.

Date Calculations Completed (mm/dd/yyyy)	Time of Day	Name of the Group of Children
Counselor Name		Counselor / Assistant Counselor Name
Waterfront Supervisor Name		

CALCULATIONS

1 Age – Child	2 Number of Children in Age Group		3 Numerical Weight for Age Group		4 Weight in Age Group Column 2 x Column 3
3 years to 4 years		x	.25	=	
4 years to 5 years		x	.167	=	
5 years through 6 years		x	.083	=	
7 years and older		x	.056	=	
Group Size	=		Counselors Required	=	

CRITERIA

1. The camp shall maintain a ratio of one person with a current Red Cross certified lifesaving certificate per 25 children in the water.
2. When there is a mixed-age group, the counselor-to-child ratio shall be adjusted on a pro rata basis according to age.
3. Each camp offering water activities shall designate a staff person as waterfront supervisor. The waterfront supervisor shall be 18 years of age or older and hold a current certification as a lifeguard from a nationally recognized certifying agency.
4. The waterfront supervisor, or equally qualified person acting as waterfront supervisor, shall be on duty at all times whenever children are in the water.
5. The waterfront supervisor, or equally qualified person acting as waterfront supervisor, may not be included in ratios during any period when children are in the water.
6. While children are in the water, all staff counted toward maintaining ratios must be able to swim.
7. Counselors shall not engage in any duties that are not related to caring for children when they are counted in meeting ratios.
8. A support staff person may only be considered in determining ratios during those hours when that person gives full attention to the care and supervision of children and if that person meets the qualifications of a counselor.

EXAMPLES

Example 1 – 6 children age 5 years and 5 children age 7 years will be served in one group.

Children age 5 years	6	x	.083	=	.498	▶ 1 counselor who can swim and the waterfront supervisor.
Children age 7 years	5	x	.056	=	.280	
Group Size	11		Counselors Required	=	.778	

Example 2 – 16 children age 5 years and 10 children age 7 years will be served in one group.

Children age 5 years	16		.083	=	1.328	▶ 2 counselors who can swim and the waterfront supervisor.
Children age 7 years	10		.056	=	0.560	
Group Size	26		Counselors Required	=	1.888	