



Minimum Standards Revision Notice

Date: December 21, 2022

Effective Date: December 21, 2022

To: All Holders of Chapter 748, Minimum Standards for General Residential Operations

From: Rachel Ashworth-Mazerolle, HHSC Associate Commissioner for Child Care Regulation

Subject: Protections for Children on the Grounds or Premises

The amended and new rules are necessary to implement Texas Human Resources Code (HRC) §42.002, §42.042, and §42.068 to:

- Add the term "grounds" and its definition;
- Update safety and security policies and training requirements for operations that provide trafficking victim services; and
- Add requirements for RTCs to (1) post "no trespassing signs" that meet criteria specified in rule at specific location, (2) ensure that the "no trespassing" signs are legible and reflect under whose authority the signs are currently posted, and (3) request signs from CCR, as needed, to comply with the rules.

In December 2022, the Executive Commissioner of HHSC adopted the amended and new rules to be effective December 21, 2022. A six-month technical assistance period will be given for §748.3319, §748.3321, §748.4553, and §748.4659 from 12/21/22 to 6/21/23.

Specific Rule Changes

The amendment to §748.43 adds the term “grounds” and its definition. The term “premises” is also added, but its definition refers directly to the “grounds” definition.

New §748.3319 indicates that an RTC must post “no trespassing” signs meeting certain criteria at the locations specified in the rule.

New §748.3321 describes additional responsibilities for an RTC, including:

- Ensuring that the “no trespassing” signs are legible and reflect under whose authority the signs are currently posted; and
- Requesting new signs from CCR, as needed, to comply with rules.

The amendment to §748.4553 clarifies that a GRO providing trafficking victim services must have written policies that ensure safety and security of trafficking victims and employees on the grounds of the GRO.

The amendment to §748.4659 clarifies that a GRO providing trafficking victim services must have annual training that addresses the external safety and security risks at the operation, including the grounds of the operation. The amendment also adds unapproved visitors and intruders as examples of safety and security risks.

Highlighted Versions and TA Document

You may view highlighted versions of the adopted rules at [Minimum Standards | Texas Health and Human Services](#).

If your operation is an RTC, contact your CCR inspector and request the technical assistance document that assists RTCs in posting, creating, or requesting the “no trespassing” signs.

If you have questions, please contact your CCR inspector or send an email to [RCCR Standards](#).