


# MAHUBE-OTWA Pod Model Childcare Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Is this Rule 2 or Rule 3 licensed?** Rule 2
- 2. What statute does this model fall under?** *Subd. 4. Special family daycare homes: “Nonresidential child care programs serving 14 or fewer children that are conducted at a location other than the license holder's own residence shall be licensed under this section and the rules governing family day care or group family day care if: (d) the license holder is a community collaborative child care provider. For purposes of this subdivision, a community collaborative child care provider is a provider participating in a cooperative agreement with a community action agency as defined in section 256E.31;”*
- 3. Who holds the license?** Each individual childcare provider holds her own license for her childcare space. Each room has a separate address. Providers need to submit a copy of their contract with MAHUBE-OTWA when they apply for and/or renew their specialty family childcare license.
- 4. How does the rent work?** MAHUBE-OTWA holds the lease to the entire space utilized by Head Start and Early Head Start in the DLCCC which includes family childcare, office space and home base. Head Start and Early Head Start funding supports the cost of the space. Each provider pays \$125 per month as “rent” of their room to MAHUBE-OTWA.
- 5. Can they share a playground?** Yes, all the providers utilize the same playground near the DLCCC. However, each provider is responsible for supervising their own group of children while using the playground, and the total number of children on the playground at any one time cannot exceed the maximum licensing capacity.
- 6. Are both Head Start and non-Head Start children enrolled?** Yes, each provider has a unique number of Head Start and non-Head Start children enrolled in their childcare depending on their individual contract.
- 7. How is the billing handled?** Each provider bill’s the parent, MAHUBE-OTWA, CCAP or Early Learning Scholarship program for daily childcare charges depending on the payment arrangements for each child.
- 8. What are the ratios?** In a Head Start/Early Head Start childcare partnership, a single adult can care for 6 children ages 5 and under and 2 adults can care for 10 children ages 5 and under.
- 9. How can a provider financially afford the lower ratios?** MAHUBE-OTWA Head Start pays each provider a monthly Enhanced Service Fee in addition to her daily childcare rates for the provision of Head Start services and to offset the revenue lost with lower ratios.

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- 10. Who hires the childcare assistants/helpers and substitutes?** Each provider is responsible for hiring their own helpers, assistants and/or substitutes.
- 11. Can providers care for children from another provider's room?** No. Each provider can only care for children enrolled in their childcare. However, a parent may choose to have the necessary paperwork completed for their child with more than one provider if there are circumstances where they may need to utilize more than one provider for care.
- 12. Can a one provider "fill in" for another provider if they are gone?** No. Each provider can only provide care in her own licensed space.
- 13. Can providers share subs?** Yes, as long as each provider has all of the necessary licensing paperwork on file for the substitute including a background check. Each provider needs their own paperwork for each sub.
- 14. How is food handled?** The providers make their own no-prep or low-prep breakfast and snacks. Lunches are catered from the senior nutrition center.
- 15. Are the providers eligible to be on the family childcare food program?** No. Providers are not eligible to participate in the traditional family childcare food program because they are not located in a "home" setting. However, providers are eligible to participate in the CACFP which is utilized by Rule 3 licensed centers. Food must be catered or prepared in a commercial kitchen to be eligible for CACFP reimbursement.
- 16. How do the providers receive their Parent Aware rating?** Each childcare provider who partners with Head Start receives an accelerated 4 Star Parent Aware Rating as long as the contract is maintained.
- 17. Do providers lose tax breaks if they don't operate out of their home?** Yes, providers do lose some of the tax incentives when not operating out of their home.
- 18. What are the benefits of partnering with MAHUBE-OTWA Head Start at the DLCCC?**
- Able to "go to work" and "come home from work" like everyone else
  - Relationships and support with other providers and Head Start staff
  - Feel less isolated
  - No damage to own their home
  - Access to the DLCCC playground and indoor gym (Big Back Yard)
  - Catered lunches mean less time shopping and preparing meals
  - Provision of some supplies and equipment
  - On-site coordinator to provide technical support and coaching
  - On-site family service worker to support families facing challenges
  - Increased income
  - Lower ratios
  - Professional development opportunities such as CDA