§ 98.41 Health and safety requirements.

(a) Although the Act specifically states it does not require the establishment of any new or additional requirements if existing requirements comply with the requirements of the statute, each Lead Agency shall certify that there are in effect, within the State (or other area served by the Lead Agency), under State, local or tribal law, requirements designed to protect the health and safety of children that are applicable to child care providers of services for which assistance is provided under this part. Such requirements shall include:

(1) The prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations). With respect to immunizations, the following provisions apply:

(i) As part of their health and safety provisions in this area, States and Territories shall assure that children receiving services under the CCDF are age-appropriately immunized. Those health and safety provisions shall incorporate (by reference or otherwise) the latest recommendation for childhood immunizations of the respective State or territorial public health agency.

(ii) Notwithstanding paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section, Lead Agencies may exempt:

(A) Children who are cared for by relatives (defined as grandparents, great grandparents, siblings (if living in a separate residence), aunts, and uncles);

(B) Children who receive care in their own homes;

(C) Children whose parents object to immunization on religious grounds; and

(D) Children whose medical condition contraindicates immunization;

(iii) Lead Agencies shall establish a grace period in which children can receive services while families are taking

(2) Any such additional requirements shall be consistent with the safeguards for parental choice in §98.30(f).