

NEW CRIB SAFETY STANDARDS

The Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced new crib safety standards. Beginning June 28, 2011 **all** cribs manufactured and sold (including resale) must comply with the new standards. Child care facilities have until December 28, 2012, to phase out non-compliant cribs.

Child care surveyors will provide guidance and technical assistance to child care facilities until December 28, 2012, when the cribs are phased out. Surveyors will ensure that cribs currently in use are maintained in good working order, and licensees will receive consultation concerning the new standards. For more information about the child care regulations or consultations in regard to the recall, please contact the local child care surveyor.

CPSC Press Release:

CPSC Approves Strong New Crib Safety Standards To Ensure a Safe Sleep for Babies and Toddlers

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) voted unanimously to approve new mandatory standards for full-size and non-full-size baby cribs as mandated by the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA). The federal crib standards had not been updated in nearly 30 years and these new rules are expected to usher in a safer generation of cribs.

Once they become effective, the mandatory crib standards will: (1) stop the manufacture and sale of dangerous, traditional drop-side cribs; (2) make mattress supports stronger; (3) make crib hardware more durable; and (4) make safety testing more rigorous.

CPSC has recalled more than 11 million dangerous cribs since 2007. Detaching drop-side rails were associated with at least 32 infant suffocation and strangulation deaths since 2000. Additional deaths have occurred due to faulty or defective hardware. These new standards aim to prevent these tragedies and keep children safe in their cribs.

Effective June 2011, cribs manufactured, sold, or leased in the United States must comply with the new federal standards. Effective 24 months after the rule is published, child care facilities, such as family child care homes and infant Head Start centers, and places of public accommodation, such as hotels and motels, must have compliant cribs in their facilities.

The full-size and non-full-size crib standards adopted the current ASTM International voluntary standards with additional technical modifications. For more information on crib safety and safe sleep environments for baby, visit CPSC's crib information center at: www.cpsc.gov/info/cribs/index.html

Sources for Additional Information on Crib Safety

- Child Care Provider Guide <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/5023.pdf>
- The New Crib Standard: Questions and Answers <http://www.cpsc.gov/onsafety/2011/03/the-new-crib-standard-questions-and-answers/>
- Consumer Product Safety Commission: <http://www.cpsc.gov>, specifically the Crib Information Center <http://www.cpsc.gov/info/cribs/index.html>
- American Academy of Pediatrics <http://www.aap.org>
- Safe Kids Child Care Safety http://www.safekidskansas.org/child_care.htm