



# After School Program

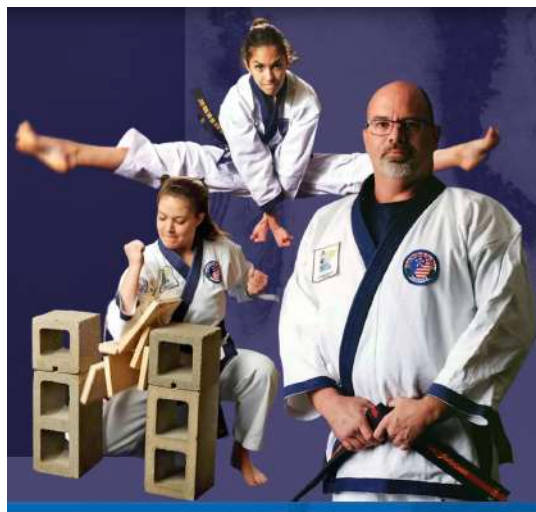
## After-School 2022-23 Operational Policies

We are very excited about the unique programs we have to offer, and we feel you will be as well. The After-School Program is a structured learning environment in partnership with martial arts training that will challenge your children both mentally and physically.

Our program offers an exciting and fun environment for our students. The martial arts framework offers a unique way to teach focus, discipline, confidence, respect for others, self-respect, commitment, concentration, peer pressure skills, ability to follow directions and proper etiquette. All of the above are necessary tools for our children to cope with an ever-changing world.

We have outstanding staff at Aim and Focus Karate. Our staff is a combination of people who love working with children and those with martial arts skills (that also love working with children). All of our staff have current CPR and First Aid training as well as training related to working with children.

This After-School Operational Policies Document contains important information about our policies, registration forms, pricing information and a calendar of events. However, should any additional questions arise please feel free to contact us at (512) 257-8552 or [benjohnson@aimandfocus.com](mailto:benjohnson@aimandfocus.com). We believe ongoing communication with parents is a key component to the success of this program and the growth of your child.



**Location: 8516 Anderson Mill Rd. Suite 100, Austin, TX 78729**

Highlights of our After-School Program:

1. Daily martial art classes (not just a few a week)
2. Advancement in color belt rank
3. Highly structured environment
4. Snacks provided on a daily basis
5. Homework time (**dedicated homework "quiet" room**)
6. Respect, Discipline and Self Esteem are VERY important

We are a licensed daycare provider by the Texas Department of Family Protective Services. We follow all guidelines published by this agency and pride ourselves on our excellent relationship with DFPS.

As a member of our After-School Program, students are welcome to attend evening classes at no additional charge. We do ask that you pick up your child and give them something to eat between the After-School Program and the evening classes. We cannot allow children to simply stay on the premise after the normal termination of the After-School Program to attend a later evening class. Please visit with Sa Bom Nim Johnson if your child wishes to attend evening classes.

### Meet Master Ben Johnson

Master Johnson has been studying Tang Soo Do for over 30 years. He is a Master Instructor in the Tang Soo Do Mi Guk Kwan Association and currently holds the rank of 5th degree black belt. Aim and Focus Karate was established February 1st, 2000.

I simply love teaching Tang Soo Do. I've held many jobs and positions in my working career, but the job I value above all else is "teacher". As a teacher I define my success by the accomplishments of my students. In March of 2008 we had our first student from the After-School Program test for Black Belt. Since then we've had numerous After-School / Summer Camp alumni test for Black Belt. This is a tremendous accomplishment for these young people.

Our school is not a "belt factory". Our students earn their rank. They can take pride in every belt they receive. We charge a fair price for our services. Students don't advance faster or receive extra training assistance because they pay a higher tuition. **My students earn privileges and responsibilities based on their effort and hard training, not on how much tuition they pay.**

We don't offer separate "leadership" or "Black Belt" programs but rather incorporate this in our daily curriculum. We teach our students to the very best of our ability.

We are a traditional martial arts school and take great pride in that distinction.

We are part of the Tang Soo Do Mi Guk Kwan Association. While this may seem unfamiliar to new students, it is important to understand we are part of something much bigger than simply



our school. Our organization is internationally recognized and we are given the opportunity to train with a wide variety of very talented Master instructors.

We have several Black Belt instructors in our school that compete locally, nationally and internationally. Our instructors hold several "Grand Championship" awards from these competitions.

**Emergency contact phone number: (512) 426-0664 (Master Johnson's cell phone)**

## What makes us different from other programs?

The After-School Program at Aim and Focus Karate teaches discipline and respect but it also includes a lot of fun. The children learn by example from the instructors and get lots of hands-on experience with everything we teach. When you tour our facility you'll hear "yes sir" from the students...but they will be saying it with pride and enthusiasm. They are learning that respect is a two way process and should always be extended to others.

On a daily basis we stress with our students the "ACE Program". ACE stands for "Attitude, Concentration and Effort". One of my students, a major league baseball player, explained to me that no matter what happens on the field, he always controls "ACE". We strive to teach the students to focus on ACE and not worry about factors in life they cannot control.



Master Ben Johnson and his staff are passionate about teaching young students. They truly enjoy it. Our program is not all about "kicking and punching" (though we do a lot of just that), it's about teaching self confidence and self esteem. We're not just a "karate school" nor are we simply a "daycare" facility. We are both and we blend our programs together with exceptional results. This is a physically challenging program where the children gain strength, balance and agility while having a great time.

## Staff

All of our staff meet or exceed all requirements under the Texas Department of Family Protective Services as workers in a licensed daycare center. This includes pre-service training, continuing education training, CPR & First Aid training as well as annual random drug testing. Many of our staff are Black Belts in our program but several do not study martial arts at all. We love the diversity of our staff and the many benefits they bring to our team as individuals.

## Hours of Operation

First day (08/17/22) to last day (05/25/23) of school for each school we pickup

1. We operate from the release of school until 6:00pm
2. If RRISD closes schools due to inclement weather, we will also be closed.
3. "All Day Out" care (an additional \$20/day) will be provided on the following days:

09/26/22	RRISD Staff Development Day
10/10/22	RRISD Staff Development Day
10/24/22	RRISD Staff Development Day
11/21-25/22	Thanksgiving Holiday
12/16/22	RRISD Staff Development Day
12/19-23/22	Christmas Holiday
12/26-30/22	Christmas Holiday <b>(NOTE: CLOSED ALL WEEK)</b>
01/02-03/23	New Year's Holiday
01/16/23	MLK Day
02/20/23	RRISD Staff Development Day
03/10/23	RRISD Staff Development Day
03/13-17/23	Spring Break
04/07/22	RRISD Staff Development Day
04/21/23	RRISD Staff Development Day

## Holidays / Events

Aim and Focus Karate is **closed** for the following holidays/events:

1. Labor Day (09/05/22)
2. Thanksgiving (11/24-25/22)
3. Christmas (12/26-30/22) – entire week

**Note: We are closed the week between Christmas and New Year's. Attendance has historically been very low and our staff deserves a nice break over the holidays.**

## Email contacts

Often the easiest way to contact our school is by email. Please feel free to email us with any questions or concerns. Feel free to email regarding your student's attendance plans:

Office Manager: **office@aimandfocus.com**

Master Ben Johnson: **benjohnson@aimandfocus.com**

## Nondiscrimination Policy

Applications of enrollment are accepted regardless of race, religion, color, sex or national origin.

## Forms and Paperwork

Aim and Focus Karate must have enrollment paperwork completed and on file before the student will be admitted. This will help us comply with all regulations and ensure the safety of your child. **Please keep all information updated.**

## Registration Fee

A **\$50 registration fee** is due at the time of enrollment. It is vital you pay your registration fee to secure your child's placement in our program. We cannot hold positions without paperwork and registration fees. **Registration fees are non-refundable. This registration fee also applies to current students in any of the Aim and Focus Karate programs.** Martial arts uniforms will be issued to new students the first day of attendance.

## Registration Deadlines

**Registration for the After-School Program 2022-23 begins on Friday, May 6th**

## Tuition and Fees

Aim and Focus Karate operates on a budget, just like every other business and home. We count on receiving payments on time to ensure we satisfy our obligations. For that reason we have established a policy concerning payment and tuition fees.

Tuition for students previously enrolled at Aim and Focus Karate is **\$295/month**. Tuition for new students enrolling in our program for the first time is **\$335/month**. If a sibling(s) is also enrolling, the tuition for the additional family member(s) is reduced **\$35/month (per student)**.

**We offer a discounted tuition rate for current students in appreciation for their dedication and support of our program.**

**Current Student:** is a student that has attended one of our programs for the previous school year (After-School the previous year, Summer Camp, evening classes). Enrolling a month or two prior to the beginning of the After-School Program does not qualify. The intent here is to acknowledge students and parents that have made a long term commitment to our program. Offering this discount is solely at the discretion of the Director and individual decisions may be necessary.

Tuition payments must be made on the 1st of each month (September - May). A \$20 late fee will be charged on the 5th of the month for any accounts that are not current. If the account is not current by the 15th of the month, your place in the program will be in jeopardy.

**There will be a 50% pro-rated charge for the days in August.**

**The August tuition for current students will be \$147 (sibling rate will be \$130). The pro-rated August tuition for new students will be \$167 (sibling rate will be \$150).**

Full month payments are expected regardless of actual attendance and/or holidays. The cost structure of our program is based on this assumption.

We have structured our rates to be competitive with local day-care providers and at the same time offer an extremely high quality program at very reasonable rates. Please consider that you are receiving After-School care as well as daily martial arts instruction.

Tuition payments will not be pro-rated over incomplete months. This includes holidays and school closures. If you wish to unenroll a student, we ask for **2 weeks notice** so that we can make arrangements to allow another student to enroll (our program is always full).

There are additional fees for belt tests and optional clinics:

- **Belt Test Fee: \$50 (for all belt tests)**
- **Tang Soo Do Mi Guk Kwan Association annual membership is \$30 (fee is paid by Aim and Focus Karate)**
- **New uniform: \$20**
- **Sparring Gear is REQUIRED for students at Green Belt Level (the cost is \$75)**
- **White / Orange Belt may purchase sparring gear if they wish**

**NOTE:** Any uniforms, sparring gear, etc. that are left in the school after a student leaves, will be donated to charity after 60 days.

We want Aim and Focus Karate to be a place where any student can attend that has a desire to study the martial arts.

**Studying our martial art is part of our program and class attendance is not optional on a regular basis.**

## **Tang Soo Do Mi Guk Kwan Membership**

All students that train at Aim and Focus Karate must belong to the Tang Soo Do Mi Guk Kwan Association. There is an annual membership for each student (\$30: first student, \$20: family member, \$40: Black Belt member). Aim and Focus Karate pays this fee on behalf of the student.

### **No call fee**

It is critically important we are aware if a student will not be attending the After-School Program on a particular day. Parents should not rely on the schools passing along information to our drivers or facility. **Parents must convey this information to us directly.**

We understand that mistakes happen and we want to work with parents on missed pickup calls. We allow each family 2 missed calls / notifications per school year. After this limit, a "no call fee" of \$20 per incident will be charged to your account. These missed notifications can dramatically delay our bus schedules and cause serious impact to our program.

## Late pickup fee

It is necessary for children to be picked-up on time. Parents who pick up their children after 6:00 p.m. will be charged a late fee of \$10 for the first 15 minutes and \$10 per each additional 15 minutes.

## Returned checks

There will be a \$25 charge for all returned checks in addition to any fees charged to Aim and Focus Karate Inc. by the bank.

## Clothing and personal belongings

Each student will have a karate uniform (do bok). This do bok should be brought on Monday and taken home on Friday. The uniforms should be washed when taken home and properly folded by the student (please do not wash the student's belts --- they can be hand washed and air-dried if necessary). Care of their uniform is a responsibility each of our students should take very seriously. Students will have assigned lockers for the storage of their uniforms, equipment and other personal belongings.

### **Aim and Focus Karate is not liable for the loss of items brought to the school.**

Each student has an assigned locker in the dressing rooms. The students are issued a backpack storage area number that matches their assigned spot on the shoe racks.

Aim and Focus has a Lost & Found. This is the best place to look for lost items. If lost clothing items remain in the Lost & Found for over a month, they will be donated to the local Goodwill Industries.

## Arrival and departure

Please sign your child out every day. Please do not ask your child to walk out to your vehicle at the end of the day. This is for your child's safety and we are not flexible on this request. Should there be extenuating circumstances please call us on the phone and we will try to accommodate you. Please let us know if you'll be picking your child up early so we can be sure to have them ready.

Aim and Focus Karate is not responsible for custody arrangements but we certainly understand these situations can be very sensitive. We will not release your child to anyone that is not listed on our "authorized pick-up" list. We will also request a driver's license validation for anyone that we do not know. If a family member will be picking up your child, even on an intermittent basis, please encourage them to stop by so we can meet them. We will not allow your child to leave in the company of a minor (even brother, sister, etc.). This is all for the safety of your child.

We utilize the Kinderlime system to track attendance and pickups. Each authorized pickup individual will be issued a unique pin code. Please do NOT share pin codes. Parents will also receive automatic notifications via Kinderlime when their student arrives in our facility and when they are signed out.



## Illness

Your child's health is of great importance. If your child becomes ill while at the After-School Program, you will be notified to pick-up your child. Please make sure we have updated information on how to get in touch with you at all times. We do not have the facilities to aid ill children, so please be as timely as possible when picking-up ill children. Your child will be kept as comfortable as possible until your arrival. If necessary, they will be separated from the other children.

## Transportation

We will transport your child from school to our facility. We will take every precaution in transporting your child. Each child will be informed of the bus rules and will be expected to abide by them. Failure to comply with the rules may cause your child to be unable to attend the After-School Program in the future. We will make every effort to work with your child as well as you to address any issues that come up. However, we always consider safety as our top priority.

We utilize only Federally and State approved vehicles for the transportation of the children (large school buses). We do NOT use 15 passenger vans.

## Medication

**Medication will not be administered by employees of Aim and Focus Karate.** If your child requires medication during the time they are in our care, parents will have to make arrangements to dispense the medication. This includes non-prescription medications.

## Medical Emergencies

The staff with Aim and Focus Karate have received First Aid and CPR training as required by Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. If a medical emergency occurs, aid will be given as appropriate for the level of our training. All efforts will be made to immediately contact parents or guardians. Emergency 911 will be contacted if the professional emergency services are required.

## Homework Policy

We have designated times during the After-School Program for homework. We provide pencils and paper as needed. This is a structured time for the students to either work on homework or read (the only allowed activities). We will also provide assistance with understanding directions and "getting started" help. However, we cannot provide tutoring. Also, many parents wish their children to complete homework at home since they want to be involved in the student's education. This means some students will not be doing homework (but reading quietly). We provide the opportunity for students to complete homework, but excessive homework is not a reason for missing martial arts class. Please do not ask your student to sit out karate class in order to complete homework. We have a "dedicated homework room" after martial arts classes have been completed. This is a quiet area where students can study.



## Parent Notifications

Parents will be notified of medical issues immediately by either phone or in person. Behavior concerns will be addressed with parents in person by staff member and in writing from the Director if necessary. Parent notifications are often posted on the front desk. Lastly, the informative email and newsletters will be distributed to all parents on a regular basis. We utilize the email distribution service Constant Contact. Parents might want to make sure our emails don't end up in your "junk/spam" folders.

## Field Trips

We do not take regularly scheduled Field Trips as part of the After-School Program. Parents will be notified if a Field Trip is scheduled for the After-School Program.

***Emergency contact phone number: (512) 426-0664 (Master Johnson's cell phone)***

## Injuries

Aim and Focus Karate makes every effort to prevent childhood accidents, but they are a normal part of growth and development. **Parents are responsible for medical bills that may arise from accidents.** We will notify you immediately in the event of illness or accident. For this reason it is important to keep your records updated at all times. Incident reports will be kept on file anytime an injury occurs.

## Required Equipment

Each child will be issued a uniform during the first week of school. Their uniform must be kept in their locker during the week or brought every day. If replacement and/or additional uniforms are needed they can be purchased from the karate school. Uniforms should be taken home on the last day of the week for washing. PLEASE stress with your student that having their uniform every day is very important.

## Audio / Video Monitor

The training areas, lobby and open areas are constantly monitored by audio/video equipment. This is primarily for security reasons, but also helps us provide a safe environment for the students at Aim and Focus Karate.

Pictures taken during After-School can be used for advertising purposes as well as appearing on our web site and social media. The students will not be identified by name.

## Martial Arts Class Participation

We expect each student to participate in martial art classes on a daily basis. Please contact Master Johnson if there is a restriction for your student's participation. Please do NOT ask your student to convey this message. Our program is fun and exciting, but it does require a lot of physical activity.

Another major component of our training is the students must bring their uniform to After-School on a very regular basis. Students will have to sit out class and read a book if they do not have their uniform. This can also impact the student's eligibility to test and promote in rank. **PLEASE** stress this responsibility with your student(s).

## Discipline in the Martial Art Classes

Each child will participate in our martial arts program. As part of this program, the students will be expected to execute such activities as jumping jacks, pushups and sit ups as part of their conditioning and discipline. These activities will also be used as a consequence for not following directions or misbehaving during class. For example, if a child is jumping around in class and not paying attention they will be asked to follow directions. If the behavior continues, they will be asked to do 10 pushups (or jumping jacks, situps, etc.). The child will then rejoin the class and continue the program. We remind the children before each class to get a drink of water and / or use the restroom. If a child must use the restroom during class, they are expected to ask permission to rejoin class and will execute 10 pushups. We want the children to be responsible for what they need to do to prepare for class, but realize that emergencies can happen and want the child to have another option. The children are never forced to execute any physical activity. If the child refuses to participate, we will have them sit out and discuss the situation with their parents when they arrive. This type of consequence may also be used if a student does not follow guidelines concerning respect toward others or their own personal discipline. This is simply part of their training in our martial arts skills program.

## Food and Snacks

All students will be provided a snack when they arrive at the facility. The students are NOT allowed to bring their own snacks. Snacks cannot be shared and anything left will be immediately discarded. We do offer "organic snacks" and if you'd like your student to be required to select organic snacks, please tell the staff. We offer a variety of snacks for the students to select. We try to keep the snack options within reason with regards to sugar / salt, but also something they will eat. We do NOT have a food services license, so we can ONLY serve **pre-packaged single serving snacks. We do NOT serve chips or candy.**

The current snack list is posted on the bulletin board by the front desk. Organic or Gluten Free snacks are also available — please speak to the folks at the front desk if you wish to restrict your student's snack options. We do not allow students to bring their own snack unless it is medically necessary and we have signed approval from a medical professional.

**Aim and Focus Karate is not responsible for meeting the nutritional needs of your child. We offer a snack in the afternoon but this should not be considered a meal replacement.**

## Dressing / Shoes

All students in the After-School Program must be able to dress themselves without assistance and put on their own shoes. We realize that some of our Kindergarten children may find this challenging, but we simply cannot help students dress. We are a unique After-School Program in that the students must change clothes twice during the day (in to and out of their uniforms). The students must have these skills in order to be admitted into the program.

## Water Activities

The students will not participate in any swimming water activities during the After-School Program

## Animals

Animals will not be allowed in the school. Please do not send your children to the After-School Program with any pets or animals.

## Waiting List / Enrollment Selection

Every year our program is full. We maintain a "Waiting List" of students wishing to enter the program. However, this list is not maintained on purely a "first come / first serve" basis. The Director selects children from the waiting list based on time, but also based on which school the student attends (bus and supervision considerations) and age (we must consider the impact to our current enrollment).

## Pest Control Treatment

As part of our commitment to provide your child with a safe, pest-free learning environment, Orkin Pest Control may periodically apply pesticides to help manage insects, weeds or pathogens. Pesticide applications are part of our Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program, which relies largely on non-chemical forms of pest control. Pesticide applications at Aim and Focus Karate are made only by trained and licensed technicians. Should you have any questions about the IPM at Aim and Focus Karate or wish to be notified in advance of pesticide application, you may contact the IPM coordinator (Master Ben Johnson, (512) 257-8552, benjohnson@aimandfocus.com).

Orkin Pest Control treats the exterior of Aim and Focus Karate every 3rd Tuesday of the month. Pesticides / chemicals are not applied within the facility. Our facility has been inspected by a representative of the Texas Department of Agriculture (the inspection report is in our DFPS Binder at the front desk).

## Emergency Drills and Procedures

During the After-School Program, we will conduct "Fire Drills" on a monthly basis. These drills are tracked for audit purposes and parents are welcome to see this report (located in the DFPS Binder found at the Front Desk).

We also conduct "Severe Weather Drills" on a regular basis (two drills each quarter). During these drills, all students are taken to areas of the building where they would be safe during severe weather. We also have a "weather radio" located in the AED cabinet. We also conduct "lockdown drills" in the event the school becomes unsafe. The students are relocated to the dressing rooms with a barricade device to prevent the door from being opened from outside the dressing room. These drills are also tracked in the DFPS Binder.

On an annual basis we conduct Emergency Relocation Drills. If our facility were to become unsafe, we would relocate the children to the following locations:

**Gateway Church, 7104 McNeil Dr, Austin, TX 78729**

Parents would be IMMEDIATELY notified by telephone in the event of an Emergency Relocation. If possible, notifications would also be left at the Aim and Focus Karate location.

## Policy Changes

Parents will be notified of minor changes to this document by a notice posted on the "After-School Bulletin Board". If significant changes are made, parents will be notified in writing and requested to sign a notification log. Our staff carefully reviews this document each year and significant changes are rarely ever needed.

## Questions or Concerns

Parents are encouraged to visit the school at any time during operation. If at anytime you wish to speak with the Director (Sa Bom Nim Ben Johnson), please contact him by phone to make an appointment or simply speak with him in person as time permits. Sa Bom Nim Johnson is always available to discuss the needs of the students attending Aim and Focus Karate.

If a parent would like to review the "Minimum Standards Document" as published by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or review past licensing inspection reports, please speak with the Director. All of this documentation is readily available to parents.

## Document Update Log

All content changes to this document will be logged/tracked in this section.

-- Start of Change Log --

1. Origin version of this document published on 05/06/2022 as the Official After-School Operational Policies Document for Aim and Focus Karate

-- End of Change Log --

## School Contact information

**Note: Acknowledged by signature on Enrollment Application.**

### RRISD

**Caraway Elem.,** 11104 Oak View Dr, Austin, TX 78759 **(512) 464-5500**

**Live Oak Elem.,** 8601 Anderson Mill Rd., Austin, TX 78729 **(512) 428-3800**

**Pond Springs Elem.,** 7825 Elk Horn Mtn., Austin, TX 78729 **(512) 464-4200**

**Sommer Elem.,** 16200 Avery Ranch, Austin, TX 78717 **(512) 704-0600**

**England Elem.,** 8801 Pearson Ranch, Austin, TX 78717 **(512) 464-5000**

**Laurel Mountain Elem.,** 10111 DK Ranch Rd, Austin, TX 78759 **(512) 464-4300**

### Contact Information:

## Texas Department of Health and Human Services

Child Neglect or Abuse Hotline: (800) 252-5400

Local Child Care Licensing Office: (512) 834-3195

Web Site: [www.dfps.state.tx.us](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us)

## Discipline and Guidance Policy for: Aim and Focus Karate

Discipline must be:

- (1) Individualized and consistent for each child;
- (2) Appropriate to the child's level of understanding; and
- (3) Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control.

A caregiver may only use positive methods of discipline and guidance that encourage self-esteem, self-control, and self-direction, which include at least the following:

- (1) Using praise and encouragement of good behavior instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior;
- (2) Reminding a child of behavior expectations daily by using clear, positive statements;
- (3) Redirecting behavior using positive statements; and
- (4) Using brief supervised separation or time out from the group, when appropriate for the child's age and development, which is limited to no more than one minute per year of the child's age.

There must be no harsh, cruel, or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of discipline and guidance are prohibited:

- (1) Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment;
- (2) Punishment associated with food, naps, or toilet training;
- (3) Pinching, shaking, or biting a child;
- (4) Hitting a child with a hand or instrument;
- (5) Putting anything in or on a child's mouth;
- (6) Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting, or yelling at a child;
- (7) Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive, or profane language;
- (8) Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom, or closet with the door closed; and
- (9) Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age.

Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Chapters 746 and 747, Subchapters L, Discipline and Guidance **Note: Acknowledged by signature on Enrollment Application**

## Gang Free Zone Information

*(information required by Texas law)*

### **What is a gang free zone ?**

A gang free zone is a designated area around a specific location where certain gang related activity is prohibited and is subject to increased penalty under Texas law. Specific locations where certain gang related criminal activity is now prohibited include, but are not limited to, public schools, playgrounds, video arcade facilities and day care centers.

The area that falls within a gang free zone can vary depending on the type of location. For example, certain gang related criminal activity that occurs within 300 feet of a video arcade facility is a violation of the new law, whereas certain gang related criminal activity that occurs within 1000 feet of a school or day care center is a violation of the law.

### **How do parents know where the gang free zone ends?**

The gang free zone is within 1000 feet of your childcare program. Maps may be produced for the purposes of prosecution and may be updated by the local municipal or county engineer. Parents may contact their local municipality to attempt to obtain a copy of the map if they choose to do so.

### **Why are gang free zones needed?**

Similar to the motivation behind creating drug free zones, the goal of gang free zones is to deter certain types of criminal activity in areas where children gather by enforcing tougher penalties.

### **What does this mean for my daycare center?**

Childcare providers are required to inform parents and guardians of children attending their center about the new gang free zone designation. This means that parents or guardians need to be informed that certain gang related criminal activity or engaging in organized criminal activity within 1000 feet of your program is a violation of this law and is therefore subject to increased penalty.

**For additional information, please contact the Texas Department of Family Protective Services.**