

**CHILDCARE VARIANCE SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS - NON-PLUMBED PORTABLE HANDWASHING SINKS**

*Variance requests to install portable handsinks will be critically evaluated. It is the intent for portable handsinks to be used sparingly and only under extreme circumstances.*

**1. Does the facility have no other means for which to install a handwashing sink? Explain.**

*\*Before this Department will consider a variance request for a portable handsink, the facility must first assess with a licensed plumber whether or not a fully plumbed handsink can be installed and provide to the Department written documentation including plumbing estimates that installing a handsink is either not physically feasible or cost prohibitive.*

**2. Does the facility not have the adequate number of staff to maintain staff to children ratios to take a child to a handsink located in a different room (i.e. restroom)?**

**3. What types of room(s) require a portable hand sink? *\*Portable handsinks will not be allowed in restrooms or in diaper changing areas.***

**4. How many children will be in the classroom? What is the age range of the children?**

**5. How many portable handsinks are being requested? *\*Ratio: One portable handsink for every 15 children.***

**6. What is the make/model of the portable handsink? Attach a copy of the specifications and how to contact the manufacturer. *\*The sink must have at a minimum of 15 psi of water pressure.***

**7. Describe the maintenance and cleaning schedule. Include the source of potable water, who is in charge of changing out the water and waste water, location where waste water will be disposed, and monitoring the sink for operational issues.**

- a. *Water shall be from an approved potable water source.*
- b. *All sewage, including liquid waste, shall be discharged to a sanitary sewer or to a sewage system constructed, operated and maintained according to law.*
- c. *The maintenance and cleaning schedule must be posted in the room where the sink is located and available for review by Tri-County staff.*
- d. *The portable handsinks must be cleaned per the manufacturer's guidelines.*
- e. *The water from the portable handsink must be used only for handwashing and not for drinking.*

**8. What is the contingent plan for handwashing if the portable sink runs out of water or becomes inoperable while class is in session?**