



Cradleboard Variance Request Form

The Department of Human Services (DHS) may grant a variance to a license holder to permit the use of a cradleboard in a licensed setting, when requested by a parent or guardian for a cultural accommodation, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections [245A.1435 \(g\)](#) and [245A.16, subd. 1 \(a\) \(9\)](#).

Cradleboard means a board or frame on which an infant is secured using blankets or other material, such as fabric or leather sides, and laces and often has a frame extending to protect the infant's head. The infant is always placed with the infant's head facing outward, and the infant remains supervised in the cradleboard while sleeping or being carried. ([Minnesota Statutes, section 245A.02, subd. 5b](#))

Complete this form and submit it to your licensor to request this variance.

For family child care or family foster care, county and private licensing agencies determine whether to recommend approval or denial of the cradleboard variance request. DHS approves a variance request based on the recommendation of the licensing agency and supporting documentation.

Date of request _____

Name of license holder or applicant _____

Address (street, city, state, zip code) _____

Phone number _____ Email address _____

License type _____ License number _____

Name of licensor (if known) _____

Name of county or private agency responsible for licensing (only needed for child foster care or family child care) _____

Requested time period of variance

Effective date _____ Expiration date _____

Questions about the use of a cradleboard

Please provide detailed information in response to the following questions:

1. How will the license holder, staff, and/or other caregivers become knowledgeable about safe cradleboard practices and use in your licensed setting, including:
 - a. how to ensure the infant is secure in the cradleboard in a way that does not restrict the ability to breathe _____

 - b. how to ensure the infant is secured in a way that does not create an environment for overheating _____

 - c. how to ensure any other safe cradleboard practices are followed _____

(These may include documentation of previous experience using a cradleboard.)

2. How will you ensure applicable supervision requirements are maintained while the infant is in the cradleboard? _____

3. Any additional information? _____

When the variance is approved, DHS will provide terms for the safe use of a cradleboard developed in partnership with Tribal welfare agencies and the Department of Health that the license holder must follow.