



Quality LICENSING INFORMATION

LICENSING INFORMATION

The state of Colorado licenses child care facilities to reduce risks and make sure each facility is complying with basic health and safety standards. This license does not guarantee quality but does make sure the provider has met specific requirements, including staff training and background checks.

Background checks

Applicants, owners, employees, and residents of licensed child care facilities must submit fingerprints to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation for a criminal record check, and their names must be checked against the Central Registry of Child Protection.

Fire and Health Inspections

Prior to the original license being issued, and at least every two years thereafter, all child care facilities except family child care homes must be inspected and obtain approving health and fire department inspection reports.

These reports can be obtained from the local department of health, the State Department of Public Health and Environment, and from the local fire department. These reports must be maintained at the facility and be available for review upon request.

All licensed child care programs must make the following information available at your request:

1. Current License

License Types - Centers or Home Providers

- **Permanent:** Most common; on-going license
- **Provisional:** Issued to new facilities if a minor licensing issue exists
- **Probationary:** Issued when a serious compliance issue exists that could compromise a child's health or safety

License Types - Family Home Providers

	School Age Children	Children under age of 2	Max # of Children
6 + 2 License	2	2	8
3 under 2 License	0	3	6
Infant/Toddler License	0	3 (under 1 year)	4
Large Family Home License	up to 12	2	12 (with 2 providers present)
Experienced Child Care Provider	Many options included in this license. All will be listed on the provider's license. Max # of children in care range from 7 to 9.		

2. Last licensing inspection date & findings

Homes are visited on a "risk-based, variable-visit schedule" after the initial inspection. Those facilities at a higher risk and needing the most attention may be visited every six months or more, while those with a history of complying with the set standards may be visited only once every three years.

3. The maximum number of children assigned to each room or home

4. The adult-to-child ratio for each room or home



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Staff Training and Education Requirements

Child Care Centers and Preschools

- The lead teacher and Director must have set amount and a combination of work experience and college course work
- First Aid, CPR, Medication Administration training and Universal Precautions
- Additional minimum of 15 hours per year of training for all staff

Family Home Child Care

- Family Home Providers must have a set amount of education or the approved training to obtain a license, with more training required to care for infants and toddlers
- First Aid, CPR, Medication Administration training and Universal Precautions
- Additional minimum of 15 hours per year of training

School Age Child Care

- Director must have a combination of work experience and college course work
- First Aid, CPR, and Medication Administration training and Universal Precautions

In-Home Care

- Determined by nanny agencies or parents
- No statewide standard

Relative Care

- No statewide standard

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Provider Files

To make an informed decision, you are encouraged to obtain information from the state Division of Child Care or ask your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency for assistance in obtaining/interpreting provider files.

You can review these documents in person, by email, fax, regular mail or online.

To view these documents online visit www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare. To review in person, call the Division of Child Care at least 72 hours in advance to make an appointment.

To review by email, fax, or mail, you will need to have the name of the program, address, phone number, or license number, and you will be required to provide your name and phone number.

Each file includes:

- licensing history
- number of children allowed to be cared for
- information on past complaints
- information on past inspections
- any restrictions to the license

To obtain provider files contact:
 Division of Child Care
 Colorado Department of Human Services
 1575 Sherman Street, 1st Floor,
 Denver, CO 80203
 Phone: 303.866.5958 or 1.800.799.5876
www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare

To Find Child Care in Colorado Dial: **1-877-338-CARE (2273)** Today!