

Inspection Files

Licensed child care programs in Oklahoma are typically inspected three times per year by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services. Inspections are unannounced. Additional inspections may be made when there is a complaint or to follow-up on a violation.

Check the Record

The child care inspection files are public record. Be sure to check the record for the program you have selected before you place your child in care. Thereafter, check the file every once in a while so you know your chosen child care program continues to follow the licensing requirements. Inspection reports and a history of any complaints can be viewed in several ways.

Internet

A summary of facility monitoring can be viewed on the internet at <http://childcarefind.okdhs.org/childcarefind/>. Search for the center or home. You can search by county, city, zip code or by name. Then click on an individual child care program. The record summary will contain two sections. The first section has results of inspection visits. The second section is a summary of complaints.

On-site

Some records must be posted at the entrance to a child care facility. Others are available on request. Ask to see the program's compliance file and required postings.

In person

You may discuss the record with a licensing agent in person. Call the DHS office in your county for an appointment to view the detailed file.

Be aware that any complaint investigation that rises to the level of abuse/neglect is referred to OKDHS Child Welfare Services for screening and investigation and will not appear in the child care inspection file online. All other complaints are investigated by OKDHS Child Care Services. Only complaints proven to be true are available for viewing online. Higher quality programs are likely to have fewer violations and complaints.

Most types of child care in Oklahoma are required to have a license. Anyone caring for one or more unrelated children on a regular basis must have approval from the state to operate a child care program and is subject to inspection. Care that takes place in the child's home is exempt from the licensing requirement.

You may review the Oklahoma requirements for different types of licensed child care at <http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/cc/prvdrs/lic/docs/requirements.htm>.

For more information call Oklahoma Child Care Resource & Referral Association, toll free (888) 962-2772.