

Types of Oklahoma Child Care

According to state law, most child care programs in Oklahoma are required to be licensed. Licensing standards set minimum requirements for the health, safety and well-being of children in care outside their own homes.

Programs that are exempt from licensure include: care provided in a child's own home or by relatives, informal arrangements for the occasional care of children, programs in which children attend on a drop-in basis and parents are on the premises and readily accessible, single activity programs and programs operating for 15 hours or less per week.

Child Care Center

A licensed facility that provides care and protection of children and operates more than 30 hours a week. Centers typically care for more than 12 children. Often children are grouped in classes by age group. Centers can also provide drop-in services that care for children on a drop-in basis and meet the needs of parents seeking occasional or part-time care.

Family Child Care

A licensed family home that provides care and protection for up to 7 children for part of the 24-hour day. Family child care homes are typically located in the caregiver's own residence. Depending on the number and ages of children, one adult commonly cares for a mixed age group.

Preschool Program

A licensed part-day facility that operates more than 15 hours and less than 30 hours a week and provides care and supervision for preschool aged children. Examples include some Mother's Day Out programs, nursery schools and private preschools. Public school pre-kindergarten programs are exempt from licensing and are not included in this category.

School Age Program

A licensed facility that provides care and supervision for school-age children, such as before-school and after-school programs and extended day programs for more than 15 hours per week.

(FCC)* Large Family Child Care Home

A licensed family home that provides care and supervision for 8 to 12 children for part of the 24-hour day. Depending on the number and ages of children, more than one caregiver is usually required.

(CCC)* Drop-in Facility

A specialized child care center that cares for children once in a while with no child attending more than 6 hours per day for a maximum of 24 hours a week. Drop-in facilities must be licensed if parents are not on the premises.

(CCC)* Early Head Start

A federally funded early education program for children (ages 0-3). Must be licensed if operating more than 15 hours per week. Typically families meet low income eligibility criteria.

 **(CCC)* Head Start**

A federally funded early education program for children (ages 4-5) Must be licensed if operating more than 15 hours per week. Typically families meet low income eligibility criteria.

 **(CCC)* Camp**

A licensed facility that provides care and supervision for school-age children and operates during regular school vacations for no more than 12 hours per day, such as day camps and summer park programs

 **(FCC)* Nanny Service**

A Nanny Service is an employment agency which provides names of individuals who are available work as Nannies or housekeepers. Nannies provide care and supervision in a child's own home. Care provided in a child's home is exempt from licensing, and Oklahoma does not regulate nanny placement agencies.

You may review the Oklahoma requirements for different types of licensed child care at <http://nrckids.org/index.cfm/resources/state-licensing-and-regulation-information/oklahoma-regulations/>

*For internal coding purposes.

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

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