
















2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Alabama

97 Total Score	65% Total Percentage	7 Overall Rank	Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Family Child Care Costs (2010)			Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
For an Infant: \$ 4,650			Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? All children counted
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 4,750			Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Alabama

Strengths

- Family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry, but a check of the sex offender registry is not required.
- Providers are required to complete 24 hours of annual training, including CPR and first aid.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions.
- Safety standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address door locks/safety gates.

Weaknesses

- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every two years.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- In offering activities, providers are only required to address active play and limit TV.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to address all of the recommended developmental domains in offering activities.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Alaska

48 Total Score	32% Total Percentage	28 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 7,500
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,250

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 5
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Alaska

Strengths

- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 50 programs or fewer.
- Providers are required to undergo a comprehensive background check that includes using fingerprints to check state and federal criminal records and checks of child abuse and neglect registry, juvenile records and sex offender registry.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every two years.
- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only four hours of Initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Arizona






53 Total Score	35% Total Percentage	23 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,550
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,200

Type of care reviewed: Certified Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 5
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Arizona

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected twice a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Providers must offer activities addressing all developmental domains.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Background checks do not require a check of either the sex offender registry or the child abuse registry.
- Providers are required to complete only seven hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training.
- Providers are allowed to care for six infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Background checks should include a check of the sex offender and child abuse registries.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Arkansas






48 Total Score	32% Total Percentage	28 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 4,500
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 4,100

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Child Care Family Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 6
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? Yes
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Arkansas

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected three times per year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints.
- Background checks do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are only required to complete eight hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are only required to offer toys/materials for motor development and offer books for all ages.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present. A single provider may care for up to ten preschool-age children at one time.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history. Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in California






38 Total Score	25% Total Percentage	34 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,850
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,600

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: Second Unrelated Family
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in California

Strengths

- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry, but a check of the sex offender registry is not required.

Weaknesses

- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every five years.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 257 programs.
- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 15 hours of initial training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only four hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are not required to address any developmental domains in toys/materials offered.
- When offering activities, providers are only required to offer creative activities
- Requirements do not address the following health standards: hand washing, universal health precautions, administration of medication, diapering/toileting and weekend/evening care.
- Requirements do not address the following safety standards: electrical hazards and outdoor playground surfaces.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all of the recommended developmental domains in learning activities.
- Require providers to address all recommended health standards.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Colorado






95 Total Score	63% Total Percentage	9 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 8,400
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 7,750

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: Second Unrelated Family
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Colorado

Strengths

- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- A comprehensive background check is required for all providers, including the use of fingerprints to check state and federal criminal history databases, and a check of the child abuse and sex offender registries.
- Providers must offer toys/materials addressing all developmental domains.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers must meet requirements regarding parent involvement, daily/frequent communication with parents and allowing unannounced parent access.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every two years.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 140 programs.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are only required to have 15 hours of initial training, plus CPR and first aid.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid certification.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Connecticut






66 Total Score	44% Total Percentage	15 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 9,400
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 8,950

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? All children counted
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Connecticut

Strengths

- Family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry, but a check of the sex offender registry is not required.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Annual inspections of family child care homes are not required. Inspectors are required to inspect at least one-third of family child care homes each year.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 332 programs.
- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are only required to have initial and annual training in first aid. No other initial or annual training is required.
- Providers are only required to offer toys/materials in motor development and materials that are culturally sensitive.
- When offering activities, providers are only required to offer dramatic play and active play.
- Requirements do not address the following safety standards: SIDS prevention, crib safety and outdoor playground surfaces.

Recommendations

- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Require providers to have comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification.
- Establish a requirement for 24 hours of annual training for providers.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to offer learning activities in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Delaware






109 Total Score	73% Total Percentage	4 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,950
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,150

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home - Level I
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? All children counted
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Delaware

Strengths

- Family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- All family child care homes are inspected once a year. There is also an annual fire inspection.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry, but a check of the sex offender registry is not required.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Providers must offer toys/materials addressing all developmental domains.
- Providers must offer activities addressing all developmental domains.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 150 programs.
- Providers are required to complete only three hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Department of Defense






107 Total Score	71% Total Percentage	5 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ --*see notes
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ --*see notes

Type of care reviewed: Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? All children counted
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Department of Defense

Strengths

- Family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- All family child care homes are inspected at least four times per year, including health, safety or fire inspections.
- Routine monitoring inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 50 programs or fewer.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Everyone present in a family child care home is required to undergo background checks.
- Providers are required to complete 38 hours of comprehensive initial training within the first six months of providing care.
- Providers are required to complete 24 hours or more of annual training.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers must meet requirements regarding parent involvement, daily/frequent communication with parents and allowing unannounced parent access.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Unannounced complaint inspections are not required.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without a state fingerprint check and do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are only required to offer toys/materials for motor development and to have materials that are culturally sensitive.
- Requirements do not address the following health standards: universal health precautions and weekend/evening care.

Recommendations

- Require complaint inspections be unannounced.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Background checks should require the use of state fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and a check of the sex offender registry.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all recommended health standards.

DoD Notes: DoD does not license programs, but operates a system of child care programs on its military installations. These programs are required to follow program regulations and oversight established in DoD Instructions and regulations developed by each military service branch. A draft of the revised DoD Instruction for Child Development Programs is under final legal review in preparation for posting in the Federal Register sometime in 2012.

*Cost of Care: For DoD, cost of care is based on family income.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in District of Columbia






96 Total Score	64% Total Percentage	8 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 11,700
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 8,050

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Child Development Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? All children counted
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in District of Columbia

Strengths

- Family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- All family child care homes are inspected twice a year. There is also a fire inspection and a lead inspection.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Providers must offer toys/materials addressing all developmental domains.
- Safety standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address door locks/safety gates.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Background checks do not require a check of either the sex offender registry or the child abuse registry.
- Providers are required to complete only nine hours of initial training. No topics other than CPR and first aid are required.
- Providers are required to complete only 15 hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.

Recommendations

- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Background checks should include a check of the sex offender and child abuse registries.
- Require providers to complete 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Florida






81 Total Score	54% Total Percentage	12 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 7,150
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,050

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Day Care
Number of children in care when regulation begins: Second Unrelated Family
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Florida

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected twice a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Everyone present in a family child care home is required to undergo background checks.
- Providers are required to undergo a comprehensive background check that includes using fingerprints to check state and federal criminal records and checks of child abuse and neglect registry, sex offender registry and juvenile records.
- Providers are required to complete 35 hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 10 hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are not required to offer toys/materials in any developmental domains.
- When offering activities, providers are not required to address any developmental domains.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to offer learning activities in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Georgia






84 Total Score	56% Total Percentage	11 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 5,400
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,000

Type of care reviewed: Registered Family Day Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 3
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



Fully Meets



Substantially Meets



Partially Meets



Marginally Meets



Does not meet

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Georgia

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected twice a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Providers are required to have a CDA credential in addition to a high school degree or GED.
- Providers must offer activities addressing all developmental domains.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 120 programs.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks do not require a check of either the sex offender registry or the child abuse registry.
- Providers are required to complete only 20 hours of initial training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 10 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry and the child abuse registry when conducting background checks.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

State Note: Georgia rules now require a preregistration inspection be conducted by the Child Care Services Division prior to the issuance of a Family Day Care Home registration certificate. This change moved Georgia from a score of 0 in 2010 to an overall rank of 11 in 2012.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Hawaii






64 Total Score	43% Total Percentage	16 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 7,350
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 7,300

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 3
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Hawaii

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected once a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- A comprehensive background check is required for all providers, including the use of fingerprints to check state and federal criminal history databases, a check of the child abuse registry and a check of the sex offender registry.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- No initial training is required except CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only four hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Requirements do not address the following safety standards: SIDS prevention, crib safety and door locks/safety gates.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Require providers to have comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Idaho

0 Total Score	0% Total Percentage	52 Overall Rank
State received a zero because they do not require licensing for small family child care homes.		

Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 5,400
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,050

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Group Daycare Facility
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 7
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? Yes
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
1. 1A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	<input type="radio"/>
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	<input type="radio"/>
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	<input type="radio"/>
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	<input type="radio"/>
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	<input type="radio"/>
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	<input type="radio"/>



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Idaho

Strengths

- None, as Idaho does not license family child care providers until they are caring for seven or more children.

Weaknesses

- Providers are allowed to care for up to six children for pay without being licensed.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require everyone present in a family child care home to undergo a comprehensive background check.
- Introduce inspections for family child care homes at least annually.
- Require family child care providers to complete comprehensive initial training and at least 24 hours annual training.
- Require family child care providers to address all recommended health and safety standards.

State Note: Idaho does not license family child care until seven children are in the home. Since Idaho does not require licensing for small family child care homes, the state received a zero. However, Idaho requires a background check for family day care providers caring for four or more children. The state does not require a fingerprint check of either state or federal records, but does require a name-based check as well as a check of the state child abuse registry, the Idaho Adult Protection Registry and the Idaho Sex Offender Registry. Owners, operators and staff, and others over age 13 who have unsupervised access, as well as others 13 and older who are regularly on the premises are subject to a background check.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Illinois






60 Total Score	40% Total Percentage	17 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 7,150
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,600

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Day Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 4
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? Yes
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Illinois

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected once a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- A comprehensive background check is required for all providers, including the use of fingerprints to check state and federal criminal history databases, a check of the child abuse registry and a check of the sex offender registry.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address outdoor playground surfaces.

Weaknesses

- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are required to complete only 15 hours of initial training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 15 hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Indiana

0 Total Score	0% Total Percentage	52 Overall Rank
State received a zero because they do not require licensing for small family child care homes.		

Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 5,900
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 4,950

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Child Care Home - Class I
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 6
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	<input type="radio"/>
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	<input type="radio"/>
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	<input type="radio"/>
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	<input type="radio"/>
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	<input type="radio"/>
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	<input type="radio"/>



Fully Meets



Substantially Meets



Partially Meets



Marginally Meets



Does not meet

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Indiana

Strengths

- None, as family child care providers in Indiana may care for up to six children for pay without being licensed.

Weaknesses

- Family child care providers may care for up to six children for pay without being licensed.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require everyone present in a family child care home to undergo a comprehensive background check.
- Introduce inspections for family child care homes at least annually.
- Require family child care providers to complete comprehensive initial training and at least 24 hours annual training.
- Require family child care providers to address all recommended health and safety standards.

This report reviewed Class I Licensed Child Care Homes in Indiana. A provider caring for seven or more children, including the provider's own children, is required to have a Class I license. Since this is the lowest level of required licensing, Indiana received a zero because it does not require licensing for small family child care homes

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.












2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Iowa

0 (31) Total Score	0% (21%) Total Percentage	43 Overall Rank
State received a zero due to not requiring an inspection before licensing.		

Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,500
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,250

Type of care reviewed: Registered Child Development Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 6
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? Yes
Inspection before being licensed? No

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets		Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.			7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.			8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.			9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.			10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.			11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.				



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Iowa

Strengths

- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.

Weaknesses

- The state does not inspect the family child care home before licensing.
- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every two years.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 408 programs.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints.
- Providers are required to complete only five hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are not required to offer toys/materials in any developmental domains.
- In planning activities, providers are only required to plan learning activities and offer active play.
- Requirements do not address the following health standards: hand washing, universal health precautions, diapering/toileting and weekend/evening care.
- Requirements do not address the following safety standards: crib safety, outdoor playground surfaces and transportation.
- Providers are allowed to care for four infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Conduct an initial inspection before licensing.
- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to offer learning activities in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all recommended health standards.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Kansas






111 Total Score	74% Total Percentage	3 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,250
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,450

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Day Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? All children counted
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Kansas

Strengths

- All family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- All family child care homes are inspected once a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Providers are required to have comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification.
- Providers must offer toys/materials in all developmental domains.
- Providers must offer activities addressing all developmental domains.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints and do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are required to complete only 15 hours of initial training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only five hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the sex offender registry for background checks.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

State Note: Lexie's Law, signed in 2010, requires all family child care providers caring for one or more unrelated children to be licensed. That, along with significant changes effective in 2012, moved Kansas from a state scoring a zero in 2010 into the top ten in 2012.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Kentucky






59 Total Score	39% Total Percentage	20 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,250
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,200

Type of care reviewed: Certified Family Child-Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 4
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Kentucky

Strengths

- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Providers are required to have comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every two years.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints.
- Providers are required to complete only six hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only nine hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are only required to offer books for all ages in toys/materials offered.
- Providers are allowed to care for four infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Louisiana

0 Total Score	0% Total Percentage	52 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ NR
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 4,350

Type of care reviewed: Child Day Care Center Class A
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 7
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	<input type="radio"/>
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	<input type="radio"/>
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	<input type="radio"/>
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	<input type="radio"/>
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	<input type="radio"/>
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	<input type="radio"/>



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Louisiana

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ None, as Louisiana does not require licensing for small family child care providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Allows providers to care for up to six children for pay without being licensed.
Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.■ Require everyone present in a family child care home to undergo a comprehensive background check.■ Introduce inspections for family child care homes at least annually.■ Require family child care providers to complete comprehensive initial training and at least 24 hours annual training.■ Require family child care providers to address all recommended health and safety standards.	

State Note: Regulations for large family child care providers, i.e., those caring for seven or more children, are the same as those for child care centers. Licensing is voluntary for small family child care providers. Since Louisiana does not require licensing for small family child care homes, the state received a zero.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Maine






46 Total Score	31% Total Percentage	31 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,700
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ NR

Type of care reviewed: Certified Family Child Care Program
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 3
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Maine

Strengths

- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every two years.
- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- The state does not require license exempt providers receiving subsidies to undergo a background check.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints and do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only six hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Requirements do not address the following health standards: exclusion of ill children and universal health precautions.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Conduct a background check on all family child care providers, including license-exempt providers receiving subsidy.
- Background checks should include the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and a check of the sex offender registry.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to address all recommended health standards.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Maryland






102 Total Score	68% Total Percentage	6 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 8,850
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 7,450

Type of care reviewed: Registered Family Child Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? All children counted
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Maryland

Strengths

- All family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- All family child care homes are inspected once a year, including health, safety or fire inspections.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry. A check of the sex offender registry is not required in regulation.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Family child care providers are required to have 38 hours of initial training including emergency preparation, CPR and first aid.
- Forty-five hours of preservice training is required for those approved for care in homes with four children under the age of 2 years.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address outdoor playground surfaces.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 115 programs.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.

Recommendations

- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks in regulation as well as in practice.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Massachusetts






86 Total Score	57% Total Percentage	10 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 12,100
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 11,300

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? ALL CHILDREN COUNTED
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Massachusetts

Strengths

- All family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- All family child care homes are inspected once a year, including health, safety or fire inspections.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Providers are required to have comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification.
- Providers must offer toys/materials addressing all developmental domains.
- Providers must offer learning activities in all developmental domains except limiting TV.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 340 programs.
- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints and do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 11 hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 10 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Michigan






0 (107) Total Score	0% (71%) Total Percentage	37 Overall Rank
State received a zero due to not requiring an inspection before licensing.		

Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,450
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,250

Type of care reviewed: Registered Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? ALL CHILDREN COUNTED
Inspection before being licensed? No

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Michigan

Strengths

- All family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a master's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry, but a check of the sex offender registry is not required.
- Providers must offer toys/materials addressing all developmental domains, except culturally sensitive materials.
- Providers must offer activities addressing all developmental domains.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- The state does not inspect the family child care home before licensing.
- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted for 10 percent of homes each year.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 168 programs.
- Providers are required to complete only six hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 10 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.

Recommendations

- Conduct an initial inspection before licensing.
- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year for all family child care homes.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Minnesota






60 Total Score	40% Total Percentage	17 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 7,350
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,600

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Children Family Day Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: Second Unrelated Family
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Minnesota

Strengths

- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Safety standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address outdoor playground surfaces.

Weaknesses

- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every two years.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 150 programs.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints and do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 10 hours of initial training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only eight hours of annual training including CPR.
- Requirements do not address the following health standards: universal health precautions and weekend/evening care.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Mississippi

0 Total Score	0% Total Percentage	52 Overall Rank
State received a zero because they do not require licensing for small family child care homes.		
Family Child Care Costs (2010)		
For an Infant: \$ 3,850		
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 3,600		

Type of care reviewed: Child Care Facilities for 12 or Fewer Children in the Operator's Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 6
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	<input type="radio"/>
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	<input type="radio"/>
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	<input type="radio"/>
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	<input type="radio"/>
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	<input type="radio"/>
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	<input type="radio"/>



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Mississippi

Strengths

- None, as Mississippi does not license family child care providers unless they are caring for seven or more children.

Weaknesses

- Allows family child care providers to care for up to six children for pay without being licensed.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require everyone present in a family child care home to undergo a comprehensive background check.
- Introduce inspections for family child care homes at least annually.
- Require family child care providers to complete comprehensive initial training and at least 24 hours annual training.
- Require family child care providers to address all recommended health and safety standards.

State Note: Mississippi does not license family child care homes until a provider cares for six preschool-age children, plus the provider's own children. Since Mississippi does not require licensing for small family child care homes, the state received a zero.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD). States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Missouri






50 Total Score	33% Total Percentage	24 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 5,500
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 4,800

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 5
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Missouri

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected at least four times per year, including fire inspections.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Complaint reports are not available online.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Only requires initial training in CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are only required to address active play and plan learning activities.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Make complaint reports available online.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to address all of the recommended developmental domains in learning activities.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.





Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.







Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.






2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Montana

0 (65) Total Score	0% (43%) Total Percentage	38 Overall Rank
State received a zero due to not requiring an inspection before licensing.		
Family Child Care Costs (2010)		
For an Infant: \$ 7,000		
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,500		

Type of care reviewed: Registered Family Day Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 3
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? No

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Montana

Strengths

- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- The state does not inspect the family child care home before licensing.
- Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted for 20 percent of registered homes each year, plus an annual fire inspection.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 106 programs.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints and do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 4.5 hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only eight hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Conduct an initial inspection before licensing.
- Increase licensing inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year for all family child care homes.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Nebraska

0 (34) Total Score	0% (23%) Total Percentage	42 Overall Rank
State received a zero due to not requiring an inspection before licensing.		
Family Child Care Costs (2010)		
For an Infant: \$ 6,300		
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,650		

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home I
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 4
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? No

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Nebraska

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected once a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions.

Weaknesses

- The state does not inspect the family child care home before licensing.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 180 programs.
- Inspection reports are not available online.
- Background checks only include a check of the child abuse registry. They do not require a state criminal history check, or the use of fingerprints to check state and federal databases, or a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are only required to complete initial training in CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are not required to offer toys/materials in any developmental domains.
- Providers are not required offer activities in any developmental domains.
- Requirements do not address the following safety standards: SIDS prevention, outdoor playground surfaces and door locks/safety gates.
- Providers are allowed to care for four infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Conduct an initial inspection before licensing.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Make inspection reports available online.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the sex offender registry.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Require providers to complete 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to offer learning activities in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Nevada






34 Total Score	23% Total Percentage	36 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 8,000
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ NR

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 5
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Nevada

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected three times per year, including fire inspections.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry, but a check of the sex offender registry is not required.

Weaknesses

- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- The state does not require license-exempt providers receiving subsidies to undergo a background check.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 15 hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are only required to offer toys/materials for motor development and culturally sensitive materials.
- Requirements do not address the following health standards: toxic substances and weekend/evening care.
- Requirements do not address the following safety standards: electrical hazards and door locks/safety gates.
- Providers are allowed to care for four infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Conduct a background check on all family child care providers, including license-exempt providers receiving subsidy.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all recommended health standards.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New Hampshire

59 Total Score	39% Total Percentage	20 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 8,200
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 7,500

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 4
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New Hampshire

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected once a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry, but a check of the sex offender registry is not required.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 116 programs.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED if they are 21 years or older.
- Providers are only required to complete five hours of initial training, plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are not required to address any specific developmental domains in toys/materials offered.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New Jersey

0 Total Score	0% Total Percentage	52 Overall Rank
State received a zero because they do not require licensing for small family child care homes.		

Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 8,200
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 7,050

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Child Care Centers
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 6
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	<input type="radio"/>
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	<input type="radio"/>
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	<input type="radio"/>
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	<input type="radio"/>
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	<input type="radio"/>
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	<input type="radio"/>



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New Jersey

Strengths

- None, as New Jersey does not require licensing for small family child care home providers.

Weaknesses

- The state does not require licensing for small family child care homes, but permits voluntary registration.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require everyone present in a family child care home to undergo a comprehensive background check.
- Introduce inspections for family child care homes at least annually.
- Require family child care providers to complete comprehensive initial training and at least 24 hours annual training.
- Require family child care providers to address all recommended health and safety standards.

State Note: New Jersey does not require mandatory registration/licensing for small family child care homes. However, family care providers that register voluntarily are required to comply with comprehensive requirements in order to receive a Certificate of Registration. The lowest level of required licensure is for licensed child care centers; which includes providers caring for six or more children. Since New Jersey does not require licensing for small family child care homes, the state received no score. However many providers choose to be voluntarily registered. Providers who choose to voluntarily register for family child care must meet standards and have child abuse background checks.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New Mexico






50 Total Score	33% Total Percentage	24 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,150
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,600

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 5
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New Mexico

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected three times per year, including fire inspections.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 50 programs or fewer.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry, but a check of the sex offender registry is not required.
- Providers are required to have 45 hours of comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification, within the first six months of licensing.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training.
- Providers are not required to offer toys/materials in any specific developmental domains.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New York






72 Total Score	48% Total Percentage	13 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 10,200
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 9,450

Type of care reviewed: Registered Family Day Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 3
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in New York

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected at least four times per year, including health, safety or fire inspections.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address outdoor playground surfaces.
- Providers must meet requirements regarding parent involvement, daily/frequent communication with parents and allowing unannounced parent access.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without a federal fingerprint check and do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 15 hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 15 hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are only required to plan learning activities and provide for active play in activities offered.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require the use of federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the sex offender registry.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to address all of the recommended developmental domains in learning activities.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.





Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.







Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.






Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in North Carolina

69 Total Score	46% Total Percentage	14 Overall Rank	Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Family Child Care Costs (2010)			Number of children in care when regulation begins: 3
For an Infant: \$ 6,600			Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,750			Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in North Carolina

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected once a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address crib safety.

Weaknesses

- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without a federal fingerprint check and do not require a check of the child abuse registry.
- Providers are only required to complete two hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are allowed to care for five infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require the use of federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the child abuse registry.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in North Dakota






46 Total Score	31% Total Percentage	31 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,100
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,750

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 6
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? Yes
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in North Dakota

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected twice a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 50 programs or fewer.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address outdoor playground surfaces.

Weaknesses

- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without a state fingerprint check.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only nine hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are not required to offer toys/materials in any specific developmental domains.
- Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Require the use of state fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Ohio

0 Total Score	0% Total Percentage	52 Overall Rank
State received a zero because they do not require licensing for small family child care homes.		
Family Child Care Costs (2010)		
For an Infant: \$ 6,500		
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,800		

Type of care reviewed: Child Care Type A Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 7
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? Yes
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	<input type="radio"/>
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	<input type="radio"/>
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	<input type="radio"/>
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	<input type="radio"/>
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	<input type="radio"/>
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	<input type="radio"/>



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Ohio

Strengths

- None, as Ohio does not license family child care providers unless they are caring for eight or more children.

Weaknesses

- Allows providers to care for up to six children for pay without being licensed.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require everyone present in a family child care home to undergo a comprehensive background check.
- Introduce inspections for family child care homes at least annually.
- Require family child care providers to complete comprehensive initial training and at least 24 hours annual training.
- Require family child care providers to address all recommended health and safety standards.

State Note: This report reviewed Child Care Type A Homes, which must be licensed by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services when a provider cares for seven or more children. Since this is the lowest level of required state-level licensing, Ohio received a zero because it does not require licensing for small family child care homes. Ohio does have Type B Homes, which provide care for up to six children. These homes are inspected and "certified" by county staff.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Oklahoma






120 Total Score	80% Total Percentage	1 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 5,750
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 4,950

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? ALL CHILDREN COUNTED
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Oklahoma

Strengths

- All family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- All family child care homes are inspected three times per year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 50 programs or fewer.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Providers must offer toys/materials addressing all developmental domains.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints.
- Providers are required to complete only four hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.

Recommendations

- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Oregon






36 Total Score	24% Total Percentage	35 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,000
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,400

Type of care reviewed: Registered Family Child Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 4
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Oregon

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected once a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 285 programs.
- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Inspection reports are not available online.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without a state fingerprint check.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only seven hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only four hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are not required to offer toys/materials in any specific developmental domains.
- Requirements do not address the following safety standards: crib safety and outdoor playground surfaces.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Make inspection reports available online.
- Require the use of state fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.





Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.







Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.






2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Pennsylvania

0 (41) Total Score	0% (27%) Total Percentage	40 Overall Rank
State received a zero due to not requiring an inspection before licensing.		
Family Child Care Costs (2010)		
For an Infant: \$ 8,050		
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,700		

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Day Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 4
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? No

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Pennsylvania

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Inspection and complaint reports are available online. ■ Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address universal health precautions. ■ Safety standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address door locks/safety gates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The state does not inspect the family child care home before licensing. ■ Inspections of family child care homes are only conducted for a random sample of 15 percent of registered homes each year. ■ Unannounced monitoring inspections are not required. ■ Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 102 programs. ■ Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree. ■ Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without a state fingerprint check and do not require a check of the sex offender registry. ■ Providers are only required to have initial training in first aid. ■ Providers are required to complete only six hours of annual training plus first aid. ■ Providers are allowed to care for five infants and toddlers when older children are present.
Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed. ■ Conduct an initial inspection before licensing. ■ Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year for all family child care homes. ■ Require that some monitoring inspections be unannounced. ■ Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors. ■ Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field. ■ Require the use of state fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the sex offender registry. ■ Require providers to have comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification. ■ Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid. ■ Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal. ■ Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present. 	

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Rhode Island






60 Total Score	40% Total Percentage	17 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 8,700
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 8,300

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 4
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Rhode Island

Strengths

- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Family child care providers are required to undergo a background check that includes using fingerprints for state and federal records check and a check of the child abuse and neglect registry, but a check of the sex offender registry is not required.
- Providers are required to have 36 hours of comprehensive initial training, plus first aid and CPR certification.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers must meet requirements regarding parent involvement, daily/frequent communication with parents and allowing unannounced parent access.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers.

Weaknesses

- Licensing inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every two years. By Rhode Island General Laws, fire safety inspections for family child care homes are completed every year.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 200 programs.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Requirements do not address the following health standards: universal health precautions and weekend/evening care.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Increase licensing inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Include a check of the sex offender registry in background checks.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.





Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.







Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.






2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in South Carolina

0 (39) Total Score	0% (26%) Total Percentage	41 Overall Rank
State received a zero due to not requiring an inspection before licensing.		
Family Child Care Costs (2010)		
For an Infant: \$ 4,550		
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 4,100		

Type of care reviewed: Registered Family Child Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: Second Unrelated Family
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? No

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in South Carolina

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 50 programs or fewer. ■ Inspection and complaint reports are available online. ■ A comprehensive background check is required for all providers, including the use of fingerprints to check state and federal criminal history databases, and a check of the child abuse registry and a check of the sex offender registry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The state does not inspect the family child care home before licensing/registering. ■ Routine monitoring inspections of family child care homes are not required. ■ Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED. ■ Providers are required to complete only two hours of training every year. ■ Providers are not required to address any specific developmental domains in toys/materials or learning activities. ■ Requirements do not address any of the recommended health or safety standards. ■ Requirements do not prohibit corporal punishment. ■ Requirements do not specifically address parent involvement, parent access and daily/frequent communication with parents. ■ Providers are allowed to care for up to six infants and toddlers without being licensed.
Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed. ■ Conduct an initial inspection before licensing. ■ Conduct routine monitoring inspections of family child care homes at least once a year. ■ Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years. ■ Require providers to complete 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification. ■ Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal. ■ Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains. ■ Require providers to address all of the recommended developmental domains in learning activities. ■ Require providers to address all recommended health and safety standards. ■ Prohibit corporal punishment under all circumstances. ■ Require parent involvement and daily/frequent communication with parents and allow parents unannounced access to the program when their children are present. ■ Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present. 	

State note: Family child care providers in South Carolina are required to be registered when they care for children from two or more families (2-6 children). They can choose to be licensed. For registered homes, the *Suggested Standards - Guidelines for Operators of Family Child Care Homes Subject to Registration* are voluntary, so these standards were not scored for this report. Registered family child care providers are required to have comprehensive background checks and two hours of training every year. Providers are required to be licensed when they care for seven or more children.

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in South Dakota

0 Total Score	0% Total Percentage	52 Overall Rank
State received a zero because they do not require licensing for small family child care homes.		

Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 5,050
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 4,900

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Group Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 13
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? Yes
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	<input type="radio"/>
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	<input type="radio"/>
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	<input type="radio"/>
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	<input type="radio"/>
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	<input type="radio"/>
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	<input type="radio"/>



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in South Dakota

Strengths

- None, as South Dakota does require licensing for small family child care providers.

Weaknesses

- Does not license small family child care homes. Family child care providers may care for up to 12 children without being licensed.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require everyone present in a family child care home to undergo a comprehensive background check.
- Introduce inspections for family child care homes at least annually.
- Require family child care providers to complete comprehensive initial training and at least 24 hours annual training.
- Require providers to address all recommended health and safety standards.
- Require family child care providers to address all recommended health and safety standards.

State Note: In South Dakota, a family child care provider is allowed up to 12 children without being licensed. Since South Dakota does not require licensing for small family child care homes unless they receive public funds, the state received a zero. Providers who choose to voluntarily register with the Department of Social Services must meet standards and have background checks.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Tennessee






49 Total Score	33% Total Percentage	26 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 4,750
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 4,050

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 5
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Tennessee

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected at least four times per year, including health, safety or fire inspections.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 50 programs or fewer.
- Providers are required to undergo a comprehensive background check that includes using fingerprints to check state and federal criminal records and checks of child abuse and neglect registry, juvenile records and sex offender registry.
- Providers must offer activities addressing all developmental domains.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- The state does not require license-exempt providers receiving subsidies to undergo a background check.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are required to complete only 12 hours of initial training including CPR and first aid.
- Providers are required to complete only nine hours of annual training including CPR and first aid.
- Requirements do not address the following safety standards: crib safety and door locks/safety gates.
- Providers are allowed to care for four infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Conduct a background check on all family child care providers, including license-exempt providers receiving subsidy.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.



Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Texas

0 (15) Total Score	0% (10%) Total Percentage	44 Overall Rank
State received a zero due to not requiring an inspection before licensing.		
Family Child Care Costs (2010)		
For an Infant: \$ 6,450		
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,350		

Type of care reviewed: Listed Family Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? ALL CHILDREN COUNTED
Inspection before being licensed? No

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets		Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.			7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	<input type="radio"/>		8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	<input type="radio"/>		9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	<input type="radio"/>		10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	<input type="radio"/>		11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>			



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Texas

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ None, as Texas does not require listed providers to meet any requirements except a state criminal history check and limits on group size. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The state does not inspect the family child care home before listing or conduct any monitoring inspections. ■ Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online for listed homes. ■ Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks do not use fingerprints and do not require a check of either the sex offender registry or the child abuse registry. ■ Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED. ■ Providers are not required to complete any initial or annual training. ■ Providers are not required to address any developmental domains in toys/ materials or learning activities. ■ Requirements do not address any of the recommended health or safety standards. ■ Requirements do not prohibit corporal punishment. ■ Providers are allowed to care for three infants and toddlers when older children are present.
Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed. ■ Conduct an initial inspection before licensing. ■ Introduce inspections for family child care homes at least annually. ■ Require everyone present in a family child care home to undergo a comprehensive background check. ■ Require family child care providers to complete comprehensive initial training and at least 24 hours annual training. ■ Require providers to address all recommended health and safety standards. 	

State Note: In Texas, the lowest category of regulation required for all providers is “listed care.” All providers caring for one to three children are required to be listed with the Department of Family and Protective Services and to undergo a background check. Providers are required to be licensed when they care for four or more children.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider’s own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Utah






48 Total Score	32% Total Percentage	28 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 5,750
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,000

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 5
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Utah

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected twice a year, including health, safety or fire inspections.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Everyone present in a family child care home is required to undergo background checks.
- Providers are required to complete 20 hours of annual training, including CPR and first aid.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address weekend/evening care.
- Safety standards address all 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address door locks/safety gates.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints and do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Providers are only required to complete three hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are not required to address any specific developmental domains in toys/materials offered.
- Providers are required to plan learning activities but specific developmental domains are not addressed.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the sex offender registry.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all of the recommended developmental domains in learning activities.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Vermont






40 Total Score	27% Total Percentage	33 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 7,200
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,700

Type of care reviewed: Registered Child Care Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: Third Unrelated Family
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Vermont

Strengths

- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Health standards address nine of 10 basic standards. Providers are not required to address weekend/evening care.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- Routine monitoring inspections of family child care homes are not required.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 275 programs.
- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints and do not require a check of the sex offender registry.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Does not require any initial training beyond a 2-hour orientation.
- Providers are required to complete only six hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are only required to offer toys/materials for motor development.
- Requirements do not address the following safety standards: SIDS prevention, electrical hazards, outdoor playground surfaces and door locks/safety gates.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Conduct inspections of family child care homes at least once a year.
- Require some monitoring and complaint inspections to be unannounced.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history and include a check of the sex offender registry.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all recommended safety standards.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.

2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Virginia

0 Total Score	0% Total Percentage	52 Overall Rank
State received a zero because they do not require licensing for small family child care homes.		

Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,800
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,650

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Day Homes
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 6
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	<input type="radio"/>
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	<input type="radio"/>
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	<input type="radio"/>
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	<input type="radio"/>
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	<input type="radio"/>
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	<input type="radio"/>
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	<input type="radio"/>



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Virginia

Strengths

- None, as Virginia does not license family child care providers unless they are caring for seven or more children.

Weaknesses

- Allows providers to care for up to six children for pay without being licensed.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require everyone present in a family child care home to undergo a comprehensive background check.
- Introduce inspections for family child care homes at least annually.
- Require family child care providers to complete comprehensive initial training and at least 24 hours annual training.
- Require family child care providers to address all recommended health and safety standards.

State Note: Virginia does not license family child care homes until a provider cares for seven preschool-age children, including the provider's own children. Since Virginia does not require licensing for small family child care homes, the state received a zero.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Washington






119 Total Score	79% Total Percentage	2 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 8,650
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 7,200

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Home Child Care
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 1
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? ALL CHILDREN COUNTED
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Washington

Strengths

- All family child care homes caring for one or more unrelated children are required to be licensed.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Child care licensing staff are required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- A comprehensive background check is required for all providers, including the use of fingerprints to check state and federal criminal history databases, and a check of the child abuse and sex offender registries.
- Providers must offer toys/materials addressing all developmental domains.
- Providers must offer activities addressing all developmental domains.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers must meet requirements regarding parent involvement, daily/frequent communication with parents and allowing unannounced parent access.

Weaknesses

- Routine monitoring inspections of family child care homes are only conducted once every eighteen months.
- Child care licensing staff have an average caseload of 97 programs.
- Providers are required to complete only 10 hours of annual training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are allowed to care for 3 infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Increase inspections of family child care homes to at least once a year.
- Reduce the caseload for licensing inspectors.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.





Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.







Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.






2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in West Virginia

0 (64) Total Score	0% (43%) Total Percentage	39 Overall Rank
State received a zero due to not requiring an inspection before licensing.		
Family Child Care Costs (2010)		
For an Infant: \$ 5,350		
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 5,150		

Type of care reviewed: Registered Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 4
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? Yes
Inspection before being licensed? No

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in West Virginia

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected once a year.
- Routine monitoring inspections are unannounced.
- A comprehensive background check is required for all providers, including the use of fingerprints to check state and federal criminal history databases, and a check of the child abuse and sex offender registries.
- Providers must offer activities addressing all developmental domains.
- Providers must offer toys/materials addressing all developmental domains, except culturally sensitive materials.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Providers are permitted to care for no more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Weaknesses

- The state does not inspect the family child care home before licensing.
- Unannounced complaint inspections are not required.
- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are not required to have a high school degree or GED.
- Only requires two hours of initial training in health and safety. CPR and first aid are not required.
- Providers are required to complete only eight hours of annual training. No topics are required, not even CPR and first aid.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Conduct an initial inspection before licensing.
- Require complaint inspections to be unannounced.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Require providers to have a high school degree/GED and complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or higher within three years.
- Require providers to complete 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including first aid and CPR certification.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Wisconsin






59 Total Score	39% Total Percentage	20 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 8,550
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 7,650

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Centers
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 4
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Wisconsin

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected once a year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Inspection and complaint reports are available online.
- Everyone present in a family child care home is required to undergo background checks.
- Initial training requirements include 3 college credits in early childhood education.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints.
- Providers are required to complete only 15 hours of annual training plus CPR; first aid is not required.
- Providers are allowed to care for four infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history.
- Increase the annual training requirements for providers to 24 hours, including CPR and first aid renewal.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.





Abbreviations: NA: Not Applicable.







2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Wyoming






49 Total Score	33% Total Percentage	26 Overall Rank
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Family Child Care Costs (2010)
For an Infant: \$ 6,800
For a 4-Year-Old: \$ 6,250

Type of care reviewed: Licensed Family Child Care Home
Number of children in care when regulation begins: 3
Provider's children under 12 counted in threshold? No
Inspection before being licensed? Yes

Oversight Standards	Meets
1. Family child care homes should be inspected before licensing, at least quarterly, and when there is a complaint.	
2. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
3. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.	
4. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents on the Internet.	

Program Standards	Meets
1. A background check is required for family child care providers, substitutes and assistants, adolescent family members over 12 years of age, and license-exempt providers receiving subsidies.	
2. A background check includes using fingerprints to check state and federal records, and check of child abuse registry, sex offender registry, and juvenile records.	
3. Family child care providers are required to have a high school degree or GED and have the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, college courses in early childhood education or an associate degree initially or within three years of starting to provide child care.	
4. Family child care providers are required to have initial training in child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR and first aid.	
5. Family child care providers are required to have 24 hours or more annual training.	
6. Family child care providers are required to have toys and materials in eight specific developmental domains.	

Program Standards	Meets
7. Family child care providers are required to offer activities in eight specific developmental domains.	
8. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 health areas.	
9. Family child care providers are required to follow requirements addressing 10 safety areas.	
10. Family child care providers are required to communicate with parents, have contracts with parents, allow parents access to the home, inform parents about the use of substitutes and give written policies to parents.	
11. Family child care providers are required to limit total number of children in a small family child care home based on ages of children in care.	



2012 State of Small Family Child Care Homes in Wyoming

Strengths

- All family child care homes are inspected at least four times per year.
- Routine and complaint based inspections are unannounced.
- Health standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.
- Safety standards address 10 of 10 basic standards.

Weaknesses

- Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- Providers are required to undergo background checks, but these checks are completed without using fingerprints.
- Providers are required to complete only six hours of initial training plus CPR and first aid.
- Providers are not required to address any specific developmental domains in toys/materials offered.
- Providers are not required to address any specific developmental domains in activities offered.
- Providers are allowed to care for four infants and toddlers when older children are present. A single provider may care for up to ten preschool-age children at one time.

Recommendations

- Require every family child care home caring for one unrelated child or more for pay to be licensed.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Require the use of state and federal fingerprints for checking individuals' criminal history.
- Increase the initial training requirements for providers to 40 hours of comprehensive initial training, including CPR and first aid.
- Require providers to offer toys and materials in all of the recommended developmental domains.
- Require providers to address all of the recommended developmental domains in learning activities.
- Limit providers to caring for not more than two infants and toddlers when older children are present.

Notes:

The total maximum points a state could receive is 150. Ranks out of 52, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense (DoD).

States received a score of 0 if they do not regulate small family child care homes (care for up to 6 children) OR if the number of children the provider could care for before licensing, including the provider's own children, is seven or more.

States receive a score of 0 if they do not inspect before licensing. Credit given for inspections by licensing, fire, safety and health authorities.

Eight areas of initial training are: child development, child abuse prevention, learning activities, health and safety, child guidance, business practices, CPR, first aid.

Eight different types of toys and materials include those for: motor development, language/literacy, art, math, science, dramatic play, books for all ages, materials that are culturally sensitive.

Eight types of learning opportunities are: plan a variety of learning activities, read to children, introduce math concepts, offer creative activities, offer dramatic play, offer active play, encourage self-help skills, limit use of television.

Ten health areas are: hand washing, meals and snacks, immunizations, exclusion of ill children, universal health precautions, administration of medications, toxic substances, diapering/toileting, home sanitation and weekend/evening care.

Ten safety areas are: SIDS prevention, appropriate discipline, crib safety, electrical hazards, protection from bodies of water, fire drills/emergency plans, outdoor playground surfaces, supervision, door locks/safety gates and transportation. States that permit corporal punishment score a zero in the safety area.

Source for regulatory information: State regulations were reviewed by staff at the National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and by state licensing staff, and are current as of 2/1/2012.

Source for cost of care information: National Association for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies and its members. 2010/2011 data.

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