

The 2007 Child Care Licensing Study

Arkansas State Profile

LICENSING AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency name: Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Arkansas Department of Human Services

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NUMBER OF LICENSED FACILITIES AND LICENSED CAPACITY

Facility Type	Number of Licensed Facilities	Licensed Capacity
Child care centers	3,096	162,179
Small FCC homes	780	9,039
Large/group FCC homes	NC	NC
Other types of licensed facilities*	86	430
Total	3,962	171,648

NUMBER OF LICENSING SUPERVISORS, STAFF, AND CASELOADS

Total number of full-time equivalent licensing supervisors	6
Total number of full-time equivalent line staff	39
Estimated caseload ratio (i.e., number of facilities per line staff)	102:1

Note: NCCIC/NARA calculated the estimated caseload by dividing the total number of licensed facilities (i.e., centers and FCC homes) by the total number of licensing line staff.

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FREQUENCY OF INSPECTIONS BY TYPE			
Type	Child Care Centers	Small FCC Homes	Large/Group FCC Homes
Prior to issuing a license	✓	✓	NC
• Announced	✓	✓	
• Unannounced			
License renewal			NC
• Announced			
• Unannounced			
Routine compliance	✓	✓	NC
• Announced			
• Unannounced	✓	✓	
FREQUENCY OF REQUIRED INSPECTION VISITS BY FACILITY TYPE			
Type	Frequency		
Child care centers	3 times a year		
Small FCC homes	3 times a year		
Large/group FCC homes	NC		
FREQUENCY OF LICENSE RENEWAL BY FACILITY TYPE			
Type	Frequency		
Child care centers	Nonexpiring		
Small FCC homes	Nonexpiring		
Large/group FCC homes	NC		
REGULATIONS SUMMARY			
Regulations Title	Date		
Child care center regulations			
Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers	1/16/2006		
Small FCC home regulations			
Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Family Homes	1/16/2006		

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REGULATIONS SUMMARY, CON.		
Regulations Title	Date	
Large/group FCC home regulations		
NC		
Note: NCCIC/NARA used child care licensing regulations that were posted on the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education Web site between January 1, 2006, to December 31, 2007. Regulations titles were also copied directly from this site.		
DEFINITION OF LICENSED FCC HOMES		
Small FCC homes		
Number of children allowed	6:16	
Maximum number of children to 1 provider	10:1, if none younger than 3 years; 9:1, if none younger than 2 years, and no more than 3 between 2 and 3 years; 8:1, if no more than 1 younger than 2 years; 7:1, if no more than 2 younger than 2 years; and 6:1, if no more than 3 younger than 2 years	
Provider's own children counted	Yes, if preschool age or younger	
Maximum number of infants and toddlers to 1 provider	3 younger than 2 years (varies for ages of other children in care and when additional providers are present)	
Large/Group FCC homes		
Number of children allowed	NC	
Ratio of children to 1 provider	NC	
Provider's own children counted	NC	
CHILD-STAFF RATIOS AND GROUP SIZE BY AGE OF CHILDREN FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS		
Age of Children	Child-Staff Ratio	Group Size
6 weeks	6:1	12
9 months	6:1	12
18 months	9:1	18
27 months	9:1	18
3 years	12:1	24
4 years	15:1	30
5 years	18:1	36
6 years	20:1	NR
7 years	20:1	NR
8-9 years	20:1	NR
10 years and older	20:1	NR

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CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS REQUIRED BY TYPE			
Type	Child Care Centers	Small FCC Homes	Large/Group FCC Homes
Criminal history records	✓	✓	NC
Fingerprints	✓	✓	NC
Child abuse and neglect registry	✓	✓	NC
Sex offender registry			NC
Signed statement about criminal status			NC
MINIMUM PRESERVICE QUALIFICATIONS AND ONGOING TRAINING REQUIREMENTS			
Role	Minimum Preservice Qualifications	Ongoing Training Hours	
Child care center staff			
Director	High school diploma or GED	10	
Master teacher	NR	NR	
Teacher	Enrolled in GED program	10	
Assistant teacher	NR	NR	
Aide	NR	NR	
Small FCC home providers			
Provider	High school diploma or GED	10	
Assistant provider	None	0	
Large/Group FCC home providers			
Provider	NC	NC	
Assistant provider	NC	NC	

Key:

CCP = Certified Child Care Professional Credential awarded by the National Child Care Association
 CDA = Child Development Associate Credential awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition
 ECE = Early childhood education
 FCC = Family child care
 GED = General Educational Development Test
 NA = Not applicable/not addressed
 NAC = National Administrators Credential awarded by the National Child Care Association

NARA = National Association for Regulatory Administration
 NC = No category of facility
 NCCIC = National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center
 NL = Not licensed
 NR = Not regulated
 SAC = School-age children

***Note:**

Other licensed facilities include voluntarily registered FCC homes with 5 or fewer children.