

CHILD CARE FACILITY FACT SHEET



www.myflorida.com/childcare

Definition of Child Care Facility

Any child care center or child care arrangement that provides child care for more than five children, unrelated to the operator and that receives a payment, fee, or grant for any of the children receiving care, wherever operated, and whether or not operated for profit. (Section 402.302(2), Florida Statutes)

Licensing Authority

Every child care facility in the state, unless statutorily exempt, shall have a license which shall be renewed annually. (Section 402.308(1), Florida Statutes)

Child Care Personnel Requirements

Operator/Director Requirements:

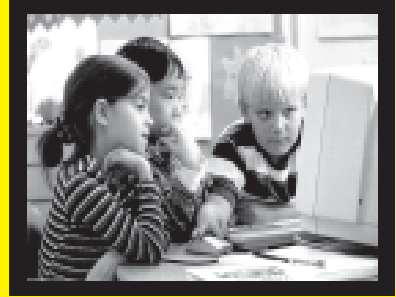
- √ Good moral character based upon a Level 2 screening standards, as provided in Chapter 435.04, F.S..
- √ Must be at least 21 years of age.
- √ Must complete the Department's 40-clock-hour introductory child care training as evidenced by passage of a competency exam.
- √ Must complete 10-hour annual in-service training.
- √ Must complete 0.5 continuing education unit or 5 clock hours of approved training in early literacy and language development birth to 5 years of age.
- √ Must complete specialized training in serving children with disabilities within 5 years after employment.
- √ Must have a director credential prior to issuance of license.

Employee Requirements:

- √ Good moral character based upon a Level 2 screening standards, as provided in Chapter 435.04, F.S..
- √ Must be at least 16 years of age to be left unsupervised.
- √ Must complete the Department's 40-clock-hour Introductory child care training as evidenced by passage of a competency exam.
- √ Must complete 10-hour annual in-service training.
- √ Must complete 0.5 continuing education unit or 5 clock hours of approved training in early literacy and language development birth to 5 years of age.
- √ At least one staff member with a valid certificate of course completion in first aid training and infant/child CPR must be present at all times both onsite and on field trips.

Capacity Requirements

- √ Indoor Square Footage—35 sq. ft. per child (20 sq. ft. if child care facility was licensed by October 1, 1992 and has continued to be licensed).
- √ Outdoor Square Footage—45 sq. ft. per child outdoor play area (Outdoor play area shall be calculated for a minimum of 1/2 the licensed capacity, excluding children under one year of age).
- √ Adequate number of toilet and wash basins available for the number of children in care.



Staff-To-Child Ratios

- 1:4 Infant
- 1:6 One year old
- 1:11 Two year old
- 1:15 Three year old
- 1:20 Four year old
- 1:25 Five and older

Additional Requirements

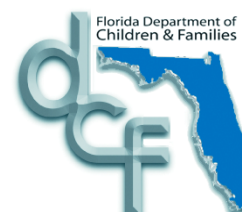
Additional requirements for child care facilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- √ Minimum Staff Credentials
- √ Physical Environments
- √ Sanitation and Safety
- √ Nutritional Practices
- √ Admissions and Record Keeping
- √ Transportation Safety
- √ Access
- √ Child Discipline
- √ Plan of Scheduled Activities
- √ Urban Child Care Facilities
- √ Transition Periods
- √ Evening and Weekend Child Care
- √ Enforcement

Note: Statutory authority to regulate child care facilities may be located in s. 402.305, Florida Statutes and Chapter 65C-22, Florida Administrative Code.

Information provided by:
Child Care Program Office
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg. 6, Floor 3
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0700
(850) 488-4900

(Please contact your local child care licensing office for assistance.)



Revised 10/2007