

Tips, Resources & Definitions

The A-B-C's for Busy Parents

November 2023



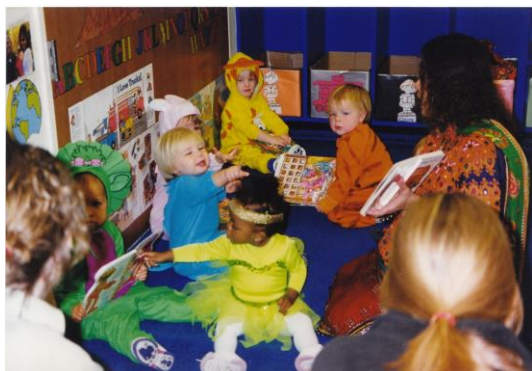
Steps to Choosing Safe & Healthy Child Care

Three key steps to finding quality child care.

- 1. Look:**
Visit the child care programs you are considering. Observe the environment and the health & safety procedures followed by the providers. Notice the number of children that each adult is responsible to supervise.
- 2. Check:**
Are children supervised at all times? Are staff interacting with the children and are positive behavior guidance techniques used? Is the outdoor play area safe? Is there a plan to follow if a child is injured, sick, or lost? Are nutritious foods served?
- 3. Ask:**
Have the adults been trained to care for children? Is there always someone present who has current CPR and first-aid training? Are the adults continuing to receive training on caring for children? Have staff passed criminal history background checks? Has the program been inspected by the licensing agency within the last 12 months? Will you be given a copy of the program's policies?

Parent Resources:

- Download and print the [Child Care Checklist](#) from the University of Utah as a guide for questions to ask when looking at child care programs.



Utah Child Care Definitions

Licensed Care.

- **Licensed Child Care Centers.** Care in a program that is not in a home for 5 or more children (for more than 4 hours per day).
- **Licensed Family Child Care.** Home-based care for 9-16 children.
- **Residential Certificate Child Care.** Home-based care for 7 or 8 children.

Additional information: <https://childcarelicensing.utah.gov/child-care-providers/rules-and-requirements/>

Exemptions to Licensure/Regulation

- Care provided on no more than two days during any calendar week;
- Care provided in the home of the provider for less than four hours per day, or for fewer than 7 unrelated children in the home at one time;
- Care provided in the home of the provider on a sporadic basis only;
- Care provided by a facility or program owned or operated by an agency of the United States government;
- A group counseling provided by a mental health therapist who is licensed to practice in this state;
- Care provided at a residential support program that is licensed by the Department of Human Services.

Exempt Application and Public Notice Required.

- Care provided to a child as part of a course of study at or a program administered by a public or private educational institution, or by a parochial education institution;
- Care provided to a child by a public or private institution of higher education, if the care is provided in connection with a course of study related to the education or study of children
- Care provided to a child at a public school by an organization other than the public school, if the care is provided under contract with the public school or on school property; or the public school accepts responsibility and oversight for the care provided by the organization;
- Care provided to a child as part of a summer camp that operates on federal land pursuant to a federal permit;
- Care provided by an organization that: qualifies for tax exempt status; provides care through a written agreement with: a municipality that provides oversight for the program; or a county that provides oversight for the program; and provides care to a child who is over the age of four and under the age of 13;
- Care provided to a child at a facility where: the parent or guardian of the child is physically present in the building where the care is provided while the child is in care and is near enough to reach the child within five minutes if needed; the duration of the care is less than four hours for an individual child in any one day, the care is provided on a sporadic basis, the care does not include diapering a child, and the care does not include preparing or serving meals to a child.

Providers listed shall post, in a conspicuous location near the entrance of the provider's facility, a notice prepared by the department that: states that the facility is exempt from licensure and certification; and provides the department's contact information for submitting a complaint.