

For more information, contact the following agencies:

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Certified Family Child Care Homes
In-Home Child Care Providers
Phoenix: (602) 542-4248
Toll-free: 1-877-822-2322
www.azdes.gov/childcare

Child Care Resource & Referral
Registered Homes
Toll-free: 1-800-308-9000
www.azchildcare.org

Arizona Department of Education
Child and Adult Care Food Program
Phoenix: (602) 542-8700
Toll-free: 1-800-352-4558
www.azed.gov/health-nutrition/cacfp

Arizona Department of Health Services
Licensed Child Care Centers
Certified Group Homes
Flagstaff: (928) 774-2707
Phoenix: (602) 364-2539
Tucson: (520) 628-6540
Toll-free: 1-800-615-8555
www.azdhs.gov/als/childcare/index.htm



Equal Opportunity Employer/Program • Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI & VII), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008; the Department prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities, or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics and retaliation. The Department must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service or activity. For example, this means if necessary, the Department must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that the Department will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy, call 602-542-4248; TTY/TDD Services: 7-1-1. • Free language assistance for DES services is available upon request. • Disponible en español en línea o en la oficina local.

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WHAT IS REGULATED CHILD CARE IN ARIZONA?

A Child Care Guide for Arizona Providers and Parents



Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES)
Arizona Department of Education (ADE)
Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS)



ARIZONA TRI-AGENCY CHILD CARE MATRIX

Regulating Agency	Department of Health Services (DHS)		Department of Economic Security (DES)			Department of Education (ADE)
Type of care	Child care center	Child care group home	Certified family child care home	In-home child care	Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR & R) Registered child care home	Alternative Approval Home (AA)
Environment	Center based	Home based at provider's home	Home based at provider's home	Home based at children's home	Home based at provider's home	Home based at provider's Home
Number of Children for Compensation	5 or more children	Maximum of 10 children	Maximum of 4 Children	Maximum of 4 Children	Maximum of 4 Children	Maximum of 4 Children
Adult Child Ratio	Infants: 1:5 or 2:11 Age 1: 1:6 or 2:13 Age 2: 1:8 Age 3: 1:13 Age 4: 1:15 Above 5: 1:20	1:5 2:10 (plus provider's own children)	1:4 (1:6 if provider's own children are included)	1:4 (plus provider's own children)	1:4 (plus provider's own children)	1:4 (1:6 if provider's own children are included)
Mandatory Inspections	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes ¹
State Licensed/Certified	Licensed	Certified	Certified	Certified	Not licensed/certified	Not licensed/certified
Department of Child Safety Background Check	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required (child care provider only)	Not required
Department of Public Safety Fingerprint	Required	Required	Required	Required (child care provider only)	Required (child care provider only)	Required (child care provider only)
Eligible for DES Contract/Subsidy²	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Eligible for Food Program³	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes

¹ Monitored by a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) sponsor organization that contracts with ADE.

² DES will reimburse a portion of child care expenses for families who qualify for child care assistance and who choose a provider that holds a DES contract.

³ CACFP will pay CACFP - contracted child care providers a portion of food cost when providing meals to children in care.

