



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona



Division of Child Care

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Supporting the well-being and economic independence of Arizona's families by providing quality child care assistance and services

Legal Authority: The 2014 Child Care and Development Block Grant recognized that child care providers play a critical role in early childhood brain development.

States are required to ensure equal access to quality care, focused on child development & well-being.

- ★ **In Arizona, we accomplish this through State & Community Coordination, Child Care Assistance, DHS Licensing Standards, the DES Provider Registration Agreement, Certified Family Providers, and Quality Set Aside.**
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Child Care Assistance

Child care assistance in Arizona is available for families at or below 165% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) with children 12 years of age or younger.

Eligibility:

- Low-income families that are working
 - Teen parents enrolled in high school or GED classes
 - Homeless or domestic violence shelter residents
 - Individuals who are unable to care for their children due to physical or emotional conditions, or participating in a court-ordered community service or drug treatment program
 - Referral from the Arizona Department of Child Safety
 - DES Jobs Program Referrals
 - Cash Assistance participants
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Child Care Eligibility

Individuals seeking child care assistance submit the following **documents** (as applicable) to a local office:

- A completed [Application for Child Care Assistance](#) ([Spanish Application](#)) or referral from DES Jobs Programs, the Arizona Department of Child Safety or Tribal Child Welfare
- Photo Identification
- Proof of children's citizenship or legal residency
- Most recent paycheck or, if newly hired, an [Employment and Wage Verification Statement](#)
- Verification of eligible activity documents (as applicable)

As part of the application process, parent must select a DES-approved child care provider by calling CCR&R at 1-800-308-9000 or by visiting www.azccrr.com

 des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care/how-apply-for-child-care-assistance

 des.az.gov/find-your-local-office

DES Certified Family Child Care Providers

DES Certified Providers can provide care for families that receive DES child care assistance and private pay families.

Certified Home Providers

- **DES Eligible Families:** The Department pays the provider minus the copayment & any additional costs.
- **Private Pay:** the parent or guardian is responsible for payment.
- **Non-Compensation:** when a provider has children in the home, under the age of 13 for which there is no monetary compensation. Ratios must be maintained at all times regardless of compensation.

Certified In-home Providers

- **DES Eligible Families:** The Department pays the provider minus the copayment & any additional costs. Provider must have a designated family that is approved for Child Care Assistance prior to the application process.
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DES Non-Certified Relative Providers

Non-Certified Relative Providers (NCRP) provide child care services within the State of Arizona for families approved for DES child care, who is related by blood, marriage or by court decree. NCRP Relative providers could be:

- Grandparents, great-grandparents,
- Adult sibling not residing in the same household,
- Aunt, great-aunt,
- Uncle, or great-uncle of the eligible child.



DES Contracted Child Care Providers

Purpose: for Arizona Licensed Child Care Centers and Group Homes to become contracted child care providers with DES to enhance and support the provision of child care services to children and their families eligible for DES child care assistance.

1. Visit the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) website: [Becoming a Licensed Center and Group Home Provider](#).
2. Review the two (2) available pathways for DES providers: **Group Home** or **Licensed Center**.
3. Review information on how to become licensed by the [Arizona Department of Health Services \(DHS\)](#).
4. Complete and submit a DES pre-application request to become a DES contracted provider.
→ The provider application is reviewed by DES to determine provider eligibility.
5. After being accepted as a DES provider, a Compliance Specialist will reach out by email.

DES Child Care Resource & Referral

Arizona's Child Care Resource & Referral helps families find the best care options for their children by providing information for their child care search and decision, including:

- Searchable registry of local child care programs
- State licensing rules and regulations
- Availability of child care assistance
- Quality child care indicators



**Child Care Resource & Referral: Visit azccrr.com
OR call: 1.800.308.9000**
