

All About LICENSED CHILDCARE



THE BASICS

- All caregivers providing care for more than one family in their home, at a center, or similar (park, recreation center, etc.) must be licensed through the state of CA.
- CA Community Care Licensing utilizes Title 22, which regulates things such as but not limited to staff to child ratios, employee education requirements, and daily programming and caregiving practices.
- Every licensed provider is listed on the CDSS website and can easily be searched at <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/carefacilitysearch/>

WHO CAN ATTEND LICENSED CARE?

- Children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old.
- Vaccinations are required by licensing in the state of CA, there are no exemptions.

TYPES OF FACILITIES

- Home Daycares
Located within a private residence, can hold a small (up to 8 children) or large license (up to 14 children).
- Childcare Centers
Located in a commercial building, church, or similar, can hold a license for as many children as square footage will accommodate based on licensing requirements.

LICENSING EXEMPTIONS

- Parent/Homeschool Co-ops
Parents or teachers rotate caregiving on an unpaid part-time basis.
- Parks + Rec Programs
Public or non-profit programs that offer recreational services.
- Businesses
Businesses that offer limited and specified childcare while parent is on-site.
- Other Groups
Other groups overseen by other state agencies such as the dept of health or education.



NATURE NURTURE PLAYHOUSE

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WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN CHOOSING CARE

Always tour a childcare facility or home before deciding on utilizing them for care.

Below are some key things to consider when touring:

- **Staff to Child Ratios:** Centers and home daycares are bound by licensing to utilize specific caregiver/child ratios, smaller ratios are a key component of quality care.
Required Ratios:
Infants (18 months and under) 1:4
Toddlers (18 months- 30 months) 1:8
Preschoolers (30 months- 1st grade) 1:12
- **Safe Environment:** Ensuring the childcare center or home daycare is clean, developmentally appropriate, and safe for children to explore freely is essential.
- **Loving Caregivers:** Pay attention to the relationships between children and caregivers. Are they securely attached? Do the children and staff alike seem happy in one another's company? Do the caregivers use a loving approach when working alongside the children?
- **Center Culture:** Notice the center or home culture. Is the environment warm and inviting with a positive energy? Do caregivers get along with one another and appear happy at work? Do the caregivers have a passion for their work? Does the center or home represent as a team, similar to a second family? Remember, your child could be spending majority of their time in childcare, therefore culture is very important.

LICENSING VIOLATIONS

Although checking a facility's violation history is important, if you have found a center you love and discover it has citations, simply inquire with the director about why. Typically, their response will tell you all you need to know. Type A violations are grounds for concern and can deter from choosing a facility for care, however Type B are more common and often are not representative of a poor-quality program or center as a whole. Asking questions and looking up the violations on the CDSS website are the most effective ways to determine which programs are operating to your personal standards.

If a childcare center or home daycare is found guilty of violating any of the Title 22 licensing regulations, they may be cited. There are two types of citations based on the offense severity.

Type A Citation: Issued when there is an immediate risk to the health, safety, or personal rights of the residents. These deficiencies require immediate correction to prevent harm.

Type B Citation: Issued when there is a potential risk that could lead to harm if not corrected. These deficiencies are less urgent than Type A but still need to be addressed promptly.

Licensing Violations are listed online under each individual facility, you can do a facility search and find their violations via
<https://www.cclcdss.ca.gov/carefacilitysearch/>



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Logical and Natural Consequences

Logical and natural consequences allow children to make choices and be responsible for them.

Rather than implementing punishments, which can actually be counter-effective in achieving desired behavior outcomes, utilizing this approach to discipline allows children to remain dignified and respected while learning to navigate the power their choices have.

(Telep, Valya Goodwin. Discipline and Punishment: What is the Difference, 2019).

Natural Consequences

- Occur naturally as a result of a child's actions, no adult intervention is needed
- No explanation is needed, but narrating is helpful

Logical Consequences

- Implemented by the adult
- Related directly to the action
- Must be clearly and calmly explained to the child
- 3 R's of Logical Consequences: Related, Respectful, Reasonable

Examples

Action:

Refuses to wear jacket



Consequence:

Gets cold



Runs indoors or by pool



Slips and falls or gets hurt



Eats too many sweets



Gets a tummy ache



Examples

Action:

Makes a mess



Consequence:

Cleans it up



Hits a person or animal



Checks on their friend and offers assistance (ice pack, hug, space, etc.)



Uses a toy in a destructive or unsafe manner



The toy gets put away temporarily



NATURE NURTURE PLAYHOUSE

Defining Quality Care through Attachment

Nature Nurture Playhouse values quality childcare built on the foundation of secure attachment, with an understanding that it increases language development, cognitive and social competence, and overall outcomes for children (Marshall, 2004). The benefits of secure attachments within childcare extend to individuals, families, and society as a whole.

SECURE ATTACHMENT

Secure attachment is depicted through long-lasting, warm and intimate relationships with primary caregivers. These genuine connections and bonds are especially important for children ages 6 months to 3 years old. Consistent and responsive caregiving practices create these attachments and are necessary for quality care. (Tizard, 2009)



BENEFITS OF SECURE ATTACHMENT

Individuals:

- Improves social, emotional, and cognitive development
 - Fosters better school performance
 - Increases likelihood of higher paying jobs and job stability
 - Supports healthier adult relationships
- (Herbst, 2018)

Families:

- Minimizes stress and anxiety that goes with leaving your child in someone else's care
 - Supports healthy dynamics within the family
 - Allows family resources to be utilized elsewhere
 - Ensures optimal development of children in the home
- (Kennedy, 2022)

Society:

- Positively impacts employment rates and increased higher paying jobs
 - Lessens crime and incarceration
 - Provides fiscal gains economically
- (Barnett, 2007)



References

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