

Types of Care

In Indiana, early learning programs can exist in a variety of places, including homes, schools, ministries and commercial buildings. Each type of care has different guidelines based on state rules and regulations. Many programs may also go above and beyond the requirements to serve the children and families in their care. Use this chart as a reference to talk with potential child care providers about how they operate safely and legally.



	LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTER	LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME	UNLICENSED REGISTERED MINISTRY	UNLICENSED REGISTERED MINISTRY ACCEPTING CCDF	VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (VCP) MINISTRY	LEGALLY LICENSED EXEMPT PROGRAM (LLEP) HOME	LEGALLY LICENSED EXEMPT PROGRAM (LLEP) CENTER
Program Operations	<i>Commercial building</i>	<i>Residential building</i>	<i>Religious ministry</i>	<i>Religious ministry</i>	<i>Religious ministry program that meets all ministry rules, CCDF eligibility, and additional health and safety standards</i>	<i>Program in a residential building that meets an exemption in law or regulation and is not required to obtain a state license to operate legally. Can participate in the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program if they meet certain eligibility standards.</i>	<i>Program in a non-residential building that meets an exemption in law or regulation and is not required to obtain a state license to operate legally. Can participate in the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program if they meet certain eligibility standards.</i>
Inspection Reports	Inspection reports available online						
Federal Background Checks Required on Staff	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Total Number of Children in a Group is Limited	X	X		X	X	X	X
Ratio of Adults Supervising Children is Required**	X	X		X	X	<i>If there are more than 16 children enrolled, follow Licensed Child Care Center ratio and group size.</i>	<i>If there are less than 16 children enrolled, follow Licensed Family Child Care Home ratio and group size.</i>
First Aid/CPR Training Required	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Safe Sleep Training Required	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Universal Precautions Training Required	X	X	X	X	X		
Child Abuse & Neglect Training Required	X	X		X	X	X	X
Drug Test Required for All Staff	X	X		X	X	X	X
Continuing Education Requirement	X	X		X	X	X	X
Eligible to Participate in Paths to QUALITY™	X	X			X		X
Capacity Limits	X	X			X		

**Talk with the child care provider to learn more about the number of children per teacher.