

CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

How to Locate Child Care Near You

To find child care providers near your home or workplace, simply go to the Online Child Care Provider Search at <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/Compass.Web/ProviderSearch/pgm/PSWEL.aspx> or call the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) at (717) 346-9320.

Keystone STARS

Keystone STARS promotes, supports, and recognizes the quality improvement efforts of early learning programs in PA. Keystone STARS emphasizes the following in qualifying early learning programs:

- Standards
- Training/Professional Development
- Assistance
- Resources
- Support

Child Care Works

Child Care Works is a subsidized child care program that helps eligible, low-income working families pay their child care fees. State and federal governments fund this program, which is managed by the Child Care Information Services (CCIS) office that serves your county. If you meet eligibility guidelines:

- The CCIS will pay part of your child care cost. This is called a subsidy payment.
- You will pay part of the cost. This is called the family co-payment.
- The subsidy payment and the family co-payment will go directly to the child care program.

To find out if your family is eligible, contact your local CCIS office through the Child Care Works Helpline at 1-877-4-PA-KIDS (1-877-472-5437).

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Facility Safety Regulation

To keep your child safe, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) regulates daycare/childcare programs in Pennsylvania to ensure that they meet minimum health and safety standards. It conducts annual inspections of providers to determine if they meet regulatory requirements for their license. DHS will perform other investigations if a complaint about the facility is filed. For a helpful checklist to use as you consider which child care provider will best fit your family, go to <http://www.dhs.pa.gov/citizens/childcareearlylearning/fivestepstoselectingachildcareprovider/index.htm#.Vkl04b-L6z4>.

Types of Child Care Providers

The types of Pennsylvania child care providers that are regulated by DHS are:

- Child care centers (seven children or more)
- Family child care homes (four to six children)
- Group child care homes (seven -12 children of various ages or seven through 15 children from 4th grade through age 15)

For FAQs on PA child care, go to <http://www.dhs.pa.gov/citizens/searchforprovider/childcareprovidersearch/index.htm#.Vkl1Rb-L6z4>.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Phone: Child Care Works Helpline,
1-877-4-PA-KIDS (1-877-472-5437)
Child Care Information Services (CCIS)
Contact Numbers by County:
<http://www.dhs.pa.gov/learnaboutdhs/helpfultelephonenumber/childcareinformationservices/index.htm#.VklDyL-L6z4>

Websites: To locate a Keystone STARS facility near you, visit http://www.pakeys.org/pages/stars_centers.aspx

Age Range: Child Care Works - Birth to 13 years

Eligibility: For eligibility guidelines, call
1-877-4-PA-KIDS (1-877-472-5437)

Tom Wolf, Governor

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