

DAYCARE

Types of Child Care

Child Care Options

Family Child Care: This type of care is in a residential setting, in the home of the caregiver. Family child care blends age groups throughout the day. Many family child care providers offer care on multiple shifts; 1st shift, 2nd shift, 3rd shift and weekends.

- **Licensed Family Child Care:** Licensed through the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). They may care for 8 children, including their own or 12 with an assistant.
- **Licensed Family Child Care Group Homes:** Licensed through the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). May care for up to 16 children with a full time assistant.
- **License Exempt Family Child Care:** Not licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). They may care for up to three children, including their own, or children from one family.

Child Care Centers: Provide care in a group setting. Children are grouped by age and activities are planned specifically for each age group. Most child care centers are also licensed.

Preschool: Preschool programs are usually for children ages 3-5 years old. Some may be full day while others are part day. Most follow the school schedule; closed on holidays, snow days, etc...

Head Start and Early Head Start: Head Start is for children ages 3-5 and Early Head Start is for pregnant women, infants and toddlers. Head Start and Early Head Start provide health, education, nutrition and social services to children and families in the program.

School Age Care: These programs offer care to school age children before and after school, holidays, snow days and summer. Many child care centers, schools, community centers, parks and in home child care offer school age care.

Online Childcare Enrollment Request Form - Skip-a-Long Child Development Services

Quality Child Care:

- [Choosing Child Care A List of Questions](#)
- [Choosing Child Care for Children with Special Needs](#)
- [Why Choose In-Home Child Care](#)
- [Home Child Care Network Peoria Facebook Page](#)
- [Child Care Assistance Program](#)
- [Child Care Assistance Eligibility Calculator](#)

Information for Parents and Families:

- [Ten Common Courtesies Child Care Providers Appreciate from Families](#)

- [Seven Ways to Ease the Transition to Child Care](#)
- [Milestones in Your Child's Development](#)
- [Discipline- Alternatives to Spanking](#)
- [All Our Kids Network Family Yellow Pages](#)
- [The Home Child Care Network-Peoria Area Facebook Page](#)

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