



CCR&R in Washington & Columbia Counties
1001 SW Baseline Street
Hillsboro, OR 97123
Phone: 971-223-6100 or 1-800-624-9516
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www.communityaction4u.org

TYPES OF CHILD CARE

It is important to know the types of child care available in order to decide the best type of care for your situation. Here are the four main types of care and the characteristics of each.

I. Certified Child Care Centers

Child care centers operate in a commercial building and/or care for thirteen children or more and are open more than 4 hours a day. Certified centers are licensed by the Child Care Division. All staff must pass a criminal history check.

Most centers are open on a regular basis, and are not affected by staff illness or vacations. They usually operate in community buildings like schools or churches, or in places built especially for child care centers. The cost for center care varies. It is generally more expensive than registered or certified family child care and less expensive than care provided in the child's own home.

II. Certified Family Child Care Homes

Care is provided in a home setting but may not be the residence of the owner. Certified family child care home staff must meet minimum standards for training. The home is inspected by the Health Department every year. All staff must pass a criminal history check.

Many families choose certified family homes because they have a smaller number of children than centers. The staff at certified family homes has the same yearly training requirements as teachers at a child care center. There is a program of activities for the children. Cost varies, but can be higher than registered family child care and less than child care centers.

III. Registered Family Child Care

Family child care is care that takes place in the home of the child care provider. Family child care providers are required to become registered with the Oregon Child Care Division if they care for more than three children at any one time unless the children are all from the same family or are the provider's own children. Family child care providers and anyone in the home over eighteen years of age must pass a criminal history check. Family child care providers must meet minimum training requirements and pass an on-site health and safety review by the Child Care Division. Upon the biennial registration renewal, an additional eight hours of related training must be completed.

There may be up to ten children in care, including the provider's own children under age 13 years. Six children can be under age six years. Of these six, two may be under twenty-four months. Family child care generally offers more flexible scheduling options, such as part-time, on-call or care during evenings and weekends. Providers may hire assistants and/or substitutes to cover sick or vacation days, but it is not required. Price varies, but is generally lower than other types of regulated care.



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IV. Non-Regulated (Exempt) Family Child Care

Care is provided in the caregiver's home. No regulations apply as long as the provider is caring for three children or less not including the provider's own children, all the children are from the same family, or the children are relatives of the provider.

If they are already DHS "Listed" providers, they have had a criminal history check through the DHS Child Care Unit.

V. Other Non-Regulated (Exempt) Programs

There are other types of child care that are not regulated by the Oregon Child Care Division, as long as they operate under the following exemptions:

- Are primarily educational, are for preschool-aged children, and operate less than four hours per day, or
- Are primarily child-focused training (i.e. dance, drama, music, or religion), or
- Are primarily an organized club or hobby group (i.e. Scouts, Camp Fire, Boys and Girls Clubs), or
- Are operated by a school district or government agency (i.e. after-school programs)
- Are operated as a parent co-operative for four hours a day or less, or
- Provide care while parent is on the premises (i.e. fitness club child care), or
- Are operated on an occasional basis by a person, sponsor or organization not ordinarily engaged in providing day care (less than 70 days per year.)

Please note: If you have concerns about any of the providers that you visit, you may call us to report your concerns or you can report it to the licensing agency for child care providers, the Child Care Division (CCD) at 1-800-556-6616.