

Overview of Types of Child Care Facilities in Iowa

Criteria	Non-Registered Child Care Home	Non-Registered CCA (paid) Homes	Child Development Homes				Child Care Centers
			Category "A"	Category "B"	Category "C" (2 providers)	Category "C" (1 provider)	
State regulated			●	●	●	●	●
Number of providers statewide	Unknown	1,436	994	1,752	277	244	1,484
Maximum capacity	5 ¹	5 ¹	8 ²	12 ³	16 ⁴	8 ⁵	Varies by licensing ⁶

¹A child care home provider’s own children that are preschool-age and younger ARE included in the provider’s legal capacity. The provider’s school-age children are not included in the provider’s legal capacity unless the children are home-schooled.

²Child Development Home ‘A’ – Limit of six (6) preschool children with a maximum of four (4) children age 24 months or younger. Of these children, no more than three (3) can be 18 months of age or younger. The provider can care for two (2) school-agers for less than two (2) hours at a time.

³Child Development Home ‘B’ – Limit of six (6) preschool children with a maximum of four (4) children age 24 months or younger. Of these children, no more than three (3) can be 18 months of age or younger. The provider can care for four (4) school-agers (which can be full-time when school is not in session). Two (2) additional part-time preschool or school-age children can be in care for a total of no more than 180 hours per month. Where there are more than eight (8) children present for more than two (2) hours, a DHS-approved assistant 14 yrs. or older must be present.

⁴Child Development Home ‘C’ (two providers) – Limit of 12 preschool children with a maximum of four (4) children 24 months of age or younger. The providers can care for two (2) school-agers for less than two (2) hours. Two (2) additional part-time preschool or school-age children can be cared for a total of no more than 180 hours per month. When there is more than eight (8) children or if four (4) children 18 months of age or younger are present, the business co-provider must be present.

⁵Child Development Home ‘C’ (one provider) – Limit of eight (8) children with a maximum of four (4) children 24 months of age or younger. Of these children, no more than three (3) can be 18 months of age or younger.

⁶Center and preschool staff to children ratios: Babies up to 23 months old, 1:4; 2 yr. olds, 1:6; 3 yr. olds 1:8; 4 yr. olds, 1:12; and 5 year olds and older 1:15 (NOTE: Additional ratio requirements exist for combination age groups and specific situation.)

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	Non-Registered Child Care Home	Non-Registered CCA (paid) Homes	Category "A"	Category "B"	Category "C" (2 providers)	Category "C" (1 provider)	
Inspection visit prior to serving children							●
Annual monitoring - Facility & records inspection			● ⁷	● ⁷	● ⁷	● ⁷	●
Minimum age of caregiver		18 yrs.	18 yrs.	20 yrs.	21 yrs.	21 yrs.	Director 21 yrs. ⁸
Iowa child abuse registry check		● ⁹	● ⁹	● ⁹	● ⁹	● ⁹	● ⁹
Iowa criminal records check		● ¹⁰	● ¹⁰	● ¹⁰	● ¹⁰	● ¹⁰	● ¹⁰
National (FBI) fingerprint-based record check		● ¹¹	● ¹¹	● ¹¹	● ¹¹	● ¹¹	● ¹¹

⁷Iowa law includes 'intent' language for the Department of Human Services (DHS) to conduct annual compliance visits on 100% of Child Development Home providers by SFY '14. In SFY'15, DHS was at a rate of 84% of annual compliance visit to Child Development Homes. Although DHS has not been able to achieve annual compliance visits to every Child Development Home, every Child Development Home is getting a compliance visit within a two-year period.

⁸An on-site supervisor at a child care center must be at least 18 years old and staff can be a minimum of 16 years old and must be under direct adult supervision.

⁹Child abuse registry checks are required for all household members, assistants and substitutes or child care center staff and volunteers, who are left alone with children, age 14 and older. The record check is repeated every two (2) years.

¹⁰Criminal record checks are required for all household members, assistants and substitutes or child care center staff and volunteers, who are left alone with children, age 14 and older. The record check is repeated every two (2) years.

¹¹National (FBI) fingerprint-based record checks are required for all household members, assistants and substitutes or child care center staff and volunteers, who are left alone with children, age 18 and older. The record check is repeated every four (4) years.

			Child Development Homes				
Criteria	Non-Registered Child Care Home	Non-Registered CCA (paid) Homes	Category "A"	Category "B"	Category "C" (2 providers)	Category "C" (1 provider)	Child Care Centers
Experience required				2 yrs. experience <u>or</u> 1 yr. experience with a child-related degree	Primary provider – 5 yrs. experience <u>or</u> CDA or child-related degree and 4 yrs. experience; Co-provider – 2 yrs. experience <u>or</u> 1 yr. experience with a child-related degree	5 yrs. experience <u>or</u> CDA or child-related degree and 4 yrs. experience	Director/ On-site supervisor – A combination of experience, education and professional development
Minimum education required				High school diploma or GED	High school diploma or GED	High school diploma or GED	Director/ On-site supervisor – high school diploma or GED ¹²
Minimum pre-service & orientation trainings							● ¹³

¹²There are no educational requirements for staff.

¹³Child Care Centers must have a written staff orientation plan and implement the plan. The proposed federal regulations require specific pre-service and orientation trainings.

Criteria	Child Development Homes						Child Care Centers
	Non-Registered Child Care Home	Non-Registered CCA (paid) Homes	Category "A"	Category "B"	Category "C" (2 providers)	Category "C" (1 provider)	
Annual professional development trainings			12 hrs. ¹⁴	12 hrs. ¹⁴	12 hrs. ¹⁴	12 hrs. ¹⁴	10 hrs. ¹⁵
CPR and First Aid certification		● ¹⁶	● ¹⁷	● ¹⁷	● ¹⁷	● ¹⁷	● ¹⁷
Mandatory Reporter training			● ¹⁸	● ¹⁸	● ¹⁸	● ¹⁸	● ¹⁸
Emergency preparedness & response planning							● ¹⁹

¹⁴There are additional training requirements the provider must complete within three (3) months of becoming registered.

¹⁵For child care center directors, site managers and staff working 20 hrs. or more per week, Iowa law requires 10 hrs. of professional development training annually. For staff working less than 20 hrs. per week, Iowa law requires five (5) hrs. of professional development training annually. NOTE: There are additional training requirements that staff must complete within the first six (6) months of employment.

¹⁶Non-Registered CCA Homes self-certify that the provider has a valid CPR and First Aid certificate or a First Aid certificate that includes rescue breathing. DHS does not verify that the provider has these certificates.

¹⁷For CPR and First Aid certification or a First Aid certificate that includes rescue breathing, Iowa law requires Child Development Home providers three (3) months from being registered to get the certification, Child Care Center staff, employed more than 20 hrs. per week, must have the certification within 12 months of employment, and Child Care Center directors/on-site supervisors must have the certification by the 1st day of employment at the facility.

¹⁸Child Development Home providers must complete Mandatory Reporter training within three (3) months of becoming registered. Child Care Center directors/on-site supervisors must complete the training prior to the 1st day of employment at the facility. All Child Care Center staff must complete the training within the first six (6) months of employment. Providers must repeat the training every five (5) years.

¹⁹Child Care Centers are required to have policies and procedures related to emergency preparedness and response planning. The policy and procedure requirements in Iowa law are limited in scope and detail compared to the requirements outlined in federal law for emergency preparedness and response planning.

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Non-smoking environment		●	●	●	●	●	●
Fire extinguisher & smoke detectors		●	●	●	●	●	●
Two (2) direct exits				●	●	●	●
Space requirements				●	●	●	●
Quiet area for sick children				●	●	●	●
Reference letter			Provide three (3)				