

# Types of Child Care

[www.agendaforchildren.org](http://www.agendaforchildren.org)

## Early Learning Centers (Child Care Centers)

Early Learning Centers are programs licensed by the Louisiana Department of Education that serve seven or more children. In Louisiana, child care centers may be licensed as Type I, Type II and Type III. Regulations for the types differ in several ways, including their staff training requirements, staff:child ratios, and allowable forms of discipline. If you are eligible for the Child Care Assistance program, it's important to know that only Type III centers may accept payments from the Child Care Assistance Program, and Type I and Type II centers may not.

## Family Child Care Homes

Family child care homes are programs located in the home of the caregiver that serve up to six children. In Louisiana, family child care (FCC) programs are not licensed by the state, but FCC programs that receive payments through the Child Care Assistance Program and/or the Food program must register with state agencies and meet certain space, nutrition and training requirements.

## Head Start and Early Head Start

Head Start and Early Head Start are federally funded programs offering free early care and education programming and other family-related services to low- and moderate-income families. Head Start programs may be offered in a child care center, a family child care home or through a public school.

## Montessori Programs

Montessori programs follow the Montessori philosophy, which stresses children's self-directed development. Montessori programs may be licensed by and/or registered with the Louisiana Department of Education.

## Parents' Day Out Programs (also known as "Mother's Day Out")

Parents' Day Out programs typically provide care for a few hours a day. They may also operate for only part of the week. Parents' Day Out programs are not required to be licensed by state agencies.

## School-Based Preschool Programs

Preschool programs are offered by many public and private schools.

## Summer Camps

Summer camps serve children during summer break. Some summer camp programs operate for the whole summer, while others may be open for just a few weeks. Camps vary widely in terms of which age groups they serve. Summer camps are not required to be licensed or regulated by state agencies in Louisiana.

**Babysitters/Nannies: [www.care.com](http://www.care.com): one time or ongoing caregiver matching site**

## >>> CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE APPLICATION PROCESS <<<

1. Determine if you are eligible for child care assistance.
2. Are you responsible for paying child care costs for a child under 13 or a child under 18 with a disability who lives with you?
3. Does every adult in your household work or attend school or a training program for at least 20 hours a week?
  - If not participating in one or a combination of these activities, do these persons receive disability income?
  - Do you attend an accredited education or training program as a full-time student?
4. Is your household's total monthly gross earned and unearned income less than the amount listed below for your household size? (gross income refers to income before any deductions from the paycheck)

<b>2 PERSONS</b> \$2,150	<b>3 PERSONS</b> \$2,656	<b>4 PERSONS</b> \$3,162	<b>5 PERSONS</b> \$3,668	<b>6 PERSONS</b> \$4,173	<b>7 PERSONS</b> \$4,268	<b>8 PERSONS</b> \$4,363	<b>9 PERSONS</b> \$4,458
-----------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------

If you answered YES to all of the above questions, you may be eligible for child care assistance. \* Limits are Subject to change

1

### SUBMIT APPLICATION + VERIFICATION DOCUMENTS:



OR



OR



**CAFÉ CUSTOMER PORTAL**

**MAIL**

**FAX**

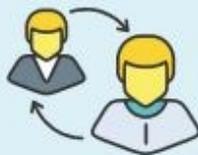
[HTTPS://CAFE-CP.DOE.LOUISIANA.GOV/EDSELFERVICE/](https://cafe-cp.doe.louisiana.gov/edselfservice/)

#### VERIFICATION DOCUMENTS INCLUDE:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Last 4 consecutive check stubs (within 45 days)</li> <li> All unearned income documentation (if applicable)</li> <li> Detailed school schedule (if applicable)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Birth certificates for all children in the household</li> <li> Social security cards for all household members (optional)</li> <li> Any other documents requested</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

2

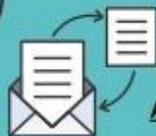
### WITHIN 5 BUSINESS DAYS OF RECEIVING APPLICATION:



**THE CASEWORKER**  
will mail the applicant  
any needed verification forms

3

### THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD HAS 10 BUSINESS DAYS TO:



RETURN  
THE RATE AND  
AVAILABILITY FORM



COMPLETE  
A FINGER IMAGE SCAN  
(NEW APPLICANTS ONLY)



TAKE ANY  
OTHER  
NEEDED ACTION

4

### BY THE 30TH BUSINESS DAY, THE CASE IS DETERMINED:



OR



OR



#### ELIGIBLE:

Applicant and provider  
receive a Notice of Certification

#### INELIGIBLE:

Applicant receives  
a Notice of Ineligibility  
and can reapply at any time

#### REJECTED:

If applicant provides all verification  
10-30 business days from application date,  
the case is reviewed again



CCAP HOUSEHOLD ELIGIBILITY: P.O. BOX 260037 • BATON ROUGE, LA 70826  
TELEPHONE: 1-877-453-2721 • FAX: 225-342-3906 • [LDECCAP@LA.GOV](http://LDECCAP@LA.GOV)



# Child Care continued

There are many things to consider when searching for a child care center. For example:

- Center's approach to early learning
- Full or part time program
- Location
- Accessible by public transportation
- Hours

In addition you will want to feel comfortable with the care your child will receive on a day to day basis. Below are some questions you may want to ask when you visit the center as well as some things to watch for during your tour of the center. Feel free to request several parent contacts for recommendations.

## Questions:

- What curriculum is utilized?
- What are your caregiverchild ratios?
- How much caregiver rotation happens within the classroom on a weekly basis?
- How long has the caregiver, in the classroom your child would be assigned to, been working in that classroom?
- Are infants allowed to sleep and eat according to their own schedule?
- What is your sick child policy?
- What are your holiday closures?
- How do you handle potty training?
- How do your caregivers approach behavior issues/discipline?
- How does your center conduct nap/rest times?
- What is the visitation policy? Is there an "open door" policy for parents? Parent involvement?

## Observations:

- If meals are prepared/served at the center ask to tour the kitchen facility. Ask how food allergy issues are handled during meal preparation and during meal times.
- Are caregivers talking with infants and toddlers? Are they listening to the children?
- Do the caregivers make eye contact with the children and meet them at eye-level?
- Is the center clean and are the toys in good working condition?
- Are infants assigned their own crib?

***This is a partial, suggested list of questions and observations. Bring your own list, tailored to your family's needs to your tour .***