

Child Care Regulations for Wyoming

Child care is not regulated federally; rather it is regulated independently by each state. The standards established by the state are minimum requirements, allowing regional counties or cities their own policies which may expand the rules mandated by the state. Child care may be placed into two main categories: child care at non-residential locations, such as centers, and child care at residential locations, such as private homes.

This tip sheet is solely meant to give the reader a “snapshot” of child care regulations within the state with web links, listed directly below, to the complete rules and regulations of the state. In Wyoming, the Department of Family Services regulates child care. The state categorizes child care into the following type: Child Care Facilities. Other types of local regulations, not included within this tip sheet, such as zoning, health, building, and fire safety codes, may also apply to child care.

[Child Care Facilities](#)

[Wyoming Child Care Locator](#)

Child Care Facilities

Child Caring Facility means any business, for profit or non-profit, which provides care for children at the request of the parents, legal guardians or an agency that is responsible for those children.

Most States have separate regulations for care which takes place at a non-residential setting (i.e., Centers) and those at residential settings (i.e., Family or Home Care Providers). This is not the case in Wyoming, as regulations are uniform. However, the State does define these different settings:

Child Care Center (CCC) means any business operated by a private person, partnership, association or corporation that is operating a business for profit or otherwise, in a building used solely for commercial purposes, where 16 or more children receive care for part of the day.

Family Child Care Center (FCCC) means a child care facility in which care is provided for a maximum of 15 children for part of a day, which may be in a residential or commercial type structure.

Family Child Care Home (FCCH) means a licensed child care facility in which care is provided for no more than 10 children in the primary residence of the provider. OK

Age Descriptions

Infant - Birth to 12 months

Toddler - 12 months to 36 months

Preschool-age - 3 years to 5 years

School-age - Enrolled in 1st grade or higher, or are 6 years and older

Staff: Child Ratios

Infants:	1:4
12 months to 24 months:	1:5
24 months to 36 months:	1:8
3 years:	1:10
4 years and 5 years:	1:12
6 years to 12 years:	1:18

Safety Issues

Regulations: Licenses are issued for Child Care Facilities; valid for 1 or 2 years (2 year licenses basically have established competencies with prior annual inspections and/or have exceeded established guidelines).

Smoking and/or Tobacco Products: Not permitted

Staff Criminal Background Checks: Mandatory for all staff.

CPR and First Aid: Training is required for both.

Sick/ill Children: Many states exclude a sick/ill child from child care. However If a child becomes ill while in care, the child will be isolated; parent/guardian will be notified and child removed.

Pools: Water activity/swimming is allowed with appropriate supervision. Pools will be fenced or enclosed to restrict unsupervised access.

Fencing/Barriers in Outside Area: Fencing, 4 ft in height, is required for any outside area.

Animals/Pets: Animals/pets are allowed. Any appropriate domestic animal will be vaccinated; any animal will be free of communicable diseases. Wild or potentially harmful animals are not allowed on the premises, including reptiles (snakes, lizards, or turtles). Any bird capable of carrying psittacosis shall be certified as being psittacosis free, tested or treated by a veterinarian to eliminate or prevent psittacosis or similar diseases.

Child Care Subsidy (for income eligible families)

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