

Licensed Day Care Home

Definition of a Day Care Center – Licensed

South Dakota law defines a Day Care Center as the providing of group care and supervision of children on a regular basis for part of a day as a supplement to regular parental care, with or without compensation, for 21 or more children, including children under the age of six living in the home and children from more than one unrelated family received for care in any facility, including a family home. A group family child care home may be located in the provider's own home or in a separate facility.

- A child care center may be located in the provider's own home or in a separate facility.
- Day care centers are mandated by law to be licensed prior to operating, regardless of funding source.
- Centers are inspected each year.
- A day care center may be operated as a nonprofit organization or as an independent, proprietary facility.

Health and safety regulatory requirements met by a licensed group family day care provider:

- ARSD [67:42:10](#) Licensed day care programs
- ARSD [67:42:11](#) Environmental health standards
- ARSD [67:42:16](#) Scope of services for child care programs
- ARSD [61:15:05](#) Day Care Center construction requirements
- SDCL [Chapter 26-6](#) Children's Homes and Welfare Agencies
- [The Licensing Handbook](#)
- [Floor Plan Review Guide](#)
 - [Modification Existing Program](#)
 - [School Age Care \(School only\)](#)

Monitoring and inspections

Sample Monitoring Forms

- [Program Inspection Sample](#)
- [Facility Safety Inspection Sample](#)

[Email a request for more information](#) or to obtain a packet to start the licensing process.

[Call a licensing specialist for more information](#) or to obtain a packet to start the licensing process.