Child Care Services Licensing Areas

District 1
510 N Cambell, PO Box 2440
Rapid City, SD 57709
605-394-2525 or 1-800-644-2914

District 2
912 E. Sioux Ave, Pierre, SD 57501
605-773-3612 or 1-800-226-1033

District 3
3401 10th Ave SE, Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-626-3160 or 1-866-239-8855

District 4
1310 S Main Ave, Suite 101, Brookings,
SD 57006, 605-688-4330 or 1-866-267-5228

District 5
811 E 10th St, Dept 6, Sioux Falls, SD
57103, 605-367-5444 or 1-866-801-5421

District 6
116 E 11th Ave, Mitchell, SD 57301
605-995-8000 or 1-800-231-8346

Division of Child Care Services
910 E. Sioux Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
605-773-4766 or
1-800-227-3020

www.dss.sd.gov/childcare

Registration and Licensure of Child Care Programs

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Children Care Services

The South Dakota Department of Social Services’ Division of Child Care provides oversight, technical assistance and support in promoting safe, healthy and caring environments for children through licensing, registration and quality improvement activities.

Health and Safety Standards

Minimum health and safety regulations are required to reduce risk factors and promote the well-being of children in the child care setting. These regulations serve as building blocks for the establishment of a quality program and address the following areas:

- Staff Training
- Staff Qualifications
- Child guidance and supervision
- Nutritious meals and snacks
- Types of program activities
- Health practices
- Fire and life safety features

Child Care Categories

South Dakota law defines the following types of child care programs registered and licensed in the state:

Registered Family Day Care
The care of 12 or fewer children in the provider’s own home. Registration is voluntary.

Licensed Group Family Day Care
The care of 13 to 20 children in the home or other type of facility.

Licensed Day Care Center
The care of 21 or more children.

Licensed Before & After School Program
The care of 13 or more school-aged children.

Licensed and registered programs may be eligible for public funding (Child and Adult Food Program, Child Care Assistance Program, etc).

By law, licensure is mandatory when care is provided to 13 or more children, regardless of the age of the children and regardless if care is in a home or separate facility.

Consumer Protection Services

If you have a concern about the care of your child or would like more information regarding child care regulation, you should contact your local Child Care Services office. Contact information can be found on the back of this brochure.

Searching for Child Care

Visit www.dss.sd.gov/childcare then click on “Search for Child Care” on the right side of the page to search for registered and licensed child care providers by type, name, city and zip code.

Openings by age of child, days and hours of operation, e-mail and web addresses are available.

In addition, individual provider information can be saved and/or downloaded to make the task of searching for child care easier.