



What is ChildCare.Gov?

ChildCare.gov helps families access safe and quality child care services in their community that best meets their individual needs.

The site provides links to State or Territory child care websites that parents use to search for child care and related consumer information.

ChildCare.gov is a requirement of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Reauthorization (CCDBG) Act of 2014. The site is operated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care (OCC).

ChildCare.Gov Contents

ChildCare.Gov links to state websites and helps to organize state resources for families in one place. Searching for child care can be stressful. ChildCare.Gov helps families access the information they need fast!

Whether accessed through a computer, tablet, or phone, ChildCare.Gov is a one-stop reliable source of information for parents. Regardless of state or zip code, families can get help to:

- Find child care
- Choose high-quality child care including key questions to ask
- Get help paying for child care
- Find other programs for which they may qualify
- Access parenting resources and child developmental information

Finding Child Care

Whether parents live in an urban or rural area, ChildCare.Gov links to state zip code searches to help make finding child care easier.



Child Care Options

Choosing High-Quality Child Care

ChildCare.Gov offers tips for parents about what to ask when looking for child care. So that parents have the information they need all in one place to be educated consumers, ChildCare.Gov links to state and territory child care provider

- licensing requirements,
- health and safety information,
- background check requirements, and inspection reports.

ChildCare.Gov also links to local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agencies where parents can talk to child care specialists.



Ensuring Safe & Healthy Child Care

Getting Help to Pay for Child Care

Child care is expensive. ChildCare.Gov links to state child care assistance programs as well as assistance available to families serving in the military.

High-quality child care programs may cost more. However, cost isn't the only aspect for parents to consider. Safety and a place that will promote healthy child development are also important aspects to review.

ChildCare.Gov helps connect parents to financial support and child care information so that families can make the best decision to meet their work and children's needs.



Other Support and Resources for Your Family

Connecting to Other Programs that Support Families

All families with children share some basic needs. For example, every family needs enough income to take care of basic living expenses, pay debts, save money, and build assets.

Access to education, training and well-paying employment opportunities is important, as is access to safe, affordable, and reliable banking and financial services.

To help reduce family financial stress, this section provides information about many resources that may be able to help.

For example, this section covers topics like health insurance, heating/cooling assistance, and food assistance. The categories include:

- Financial Assistance for Families
- Health Insurance Programs
- Mental Health Services
- Health and Safety Resources
- Child Protective Services
- Child Support Enforcement
- Learn More about Money Management



Your Child's Health and Development

Accessing Parenting Resources and Child Developmental Information

As every parent knows, when children are born, they arrive without a manual. ChildCare.Gov links to information, programs, and services that support parenting and recommendations for children's learning and development.

For example, the way adults care about you and your child helps their brains grow and be ready for school. Resources can be used by families and child care providers.

The categories include:

- Your Child's Health
- Your Child's Development
- Tracking Your Child's Development
- Responding to Challenging Behaviors
- Partnering with Your Child Care Provider
- Preventing Exclusion and Expulsion from Child Care Programs
- Services for Children with Disabilities
- Building Connections with Your Community

State Hotline Contacts to Report Child Care Health and Safety Violations

Each State has a system to receive and respond to reports of possible child care health and safety violations. ChildCare.Gov links to a list of state toll-free phone numbers and regional numbers for agencies designated to receive and investigate reports of suspected health and safety violations. Professionals and concerned citizens can call state hotlines or regional numbers to share their concerns.

