



CHILD CARE OPTIONS

CHILD CARE CENTER	Care provided for a group of 7 or more children in a nonresidential setting, for 3 or more hours per day. Child care centers must be licensed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services
SCHOOL-AGE CHILD CARE	Care provided for 7 or more school aged children whenever school is not in session, usually in elementary schools, community centers, churches, or day care centers. School-age programs must be licensed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.
FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES	Exempt/Informal child care providers are <u>now regulated</u> if they serve children whose parents are receiving assistance paying for their child care through DSS. Exempt/Informal providers care for only 2 children, in addition to their own. They may never have more than 2 children under the age of 2 years, and never more than 8 children total.
	Registered family child care providers may care for 6 children in their home. They may also care for 2 additional school-aged children (for a total of 8 children). Providers are regulated by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services and meet minimum requirements for health, safety, nutrition, and programming.
	Group family child care providers care for 12 children with the help of a paid assistant. They may also care for an additional 4 school-aged children. Group providers are licensed by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services and must meet minimum requirements for health, safety, nutrition, and programming.
DROP-IN SITE	Care provided in a non-residential setting where children are supervised less than 3 hours a day without prior arrangement.
IN HOME CARE	Care provided in the child's own home. An in-home provider is employed by the child's family and is non-regulated by the state. However, parents become employers and must comply with labor laws, such as paying minimum wage, withholding income taxes, worker's comp., and disability
NURSERY SCHOOL/ PRESCHOOL	Programs serving 3-5 years old, meeting 1-5 days a week, for less than 3 hours per session. The programs focus on age appropriate activities to enhance educational and social skills. Usually not suitable care for working parents as care is limited in hours.