

# TYPES OF CARE

## LICENSE EXEMPT CARE

The provider is not required to be licensed by the state of California. Exempt care includes home-based providers, nannies and au pairs. Providers care for the children of one family other than their own. The provider may care for the children in their own home or in the family's home.

Parents choosing a license exempt provider have the option of paying to obtain a background check on a potential provider through TrustLine. Call (800) 822-8490 for more information about this process.

### THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- How does the provider interact with your child during the interview?
- Does the provider have previous experience with children?
- How will the provider handle discipline, naps, eating, toilet training and emergencies?
- Will the provider care for your child when he/she is ill?
- Is the provider CPR and/or First Aid certified?
- Has the provider been through the TrustLine process? If not, would the provider be willing to do it now?



Valley Oak Childrens Services  
287 Rio Lindo Avenue, Chico, CA 95926  
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## FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES

Child care is provided in the home of the caregiver. California requires anyone providing care for children from more than one family to be licensed. The provider's own children under the age of 10 count into the capacity whenever they are in the home. The home will be licensed in one of the following categories:

### COUNT

Small Family Child Care Home: six children; ages 0-12. No more than three of whom may be infants. (An infant is a child under 2 years of age.)

Small Family Child Care Home: eight children, ages 0-12. When eight children are present, two children must be over 6 years old and only two children may be infants.

Large Family Child Care Home: twelve children, ages 0-12. No more than four children may be infants. An aide must be present.

Large Family Child Care Home: fourteen children, ages 0-12. When fourteen children are present, two children must be 6 years old, and only three children may be infants. An aide must be present.

### THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- Is the home clean and safe?
- Is the home cheerful and interesting but not over stimulating?
- Are there separate areas for diapering, sleeping, resting and exploring?
- Is there adequate indoor and outdoor play space for children?
- Are firearms kept in the house? If so, are they kept in a safe place away from children?
- Are cleaning supplies and medications locked in a cupboard?
- Does the provider have experience working with children?
- Is the provider knowledgeable about child development?
- Will the provider respect your family's values and culture?
- Are you comfortable communicating with the provider about your child's needs?

## CHILD CARE CENTERS

Centers provide care for a number of children in a group setting that is not a home. The Department of Social Services requires centers to be licensed.

### COUNT

One adult may care for four infants under 2 years of age. One adult may care for twelve children 3 to 5 years old. The director and staff must meet combined education and experience guidelines.

### THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- What is the adult-to-child ratio?
- Are there opportunities for staff to learn more about early childhood education?
- How are parents involved with the program?
- Is information shared about how you can support your child's learning at home?
- If your child is school age, is transportation offered?
- What are the center's child development philosophy and discipline techniques?
- Are there plenty of materials and a variety of items for your child to play with?
- Is the facility cheerful and interesting but not over stimulating?
- Are there separate areas for diapering, sleeping, resting and playing?
- Is there adequate indoor and outdoor play space for children?
- Are cleaning supplies and medications locked away from children?
- Will the staff respect your family's values and culture?
- Are you comfortable communicating with the staff about your child's needs?