

What is Quality Care?

Quality child-care programs provide a safe and nurturing place for children to play and grow, through activities that help children develop physical, social, emotional, and intellectual skills. The main components of high-quality childcare are:

Staff

Are providers warm and nurturing?
Do they encourage you to visit the program at any time?

Learning Environment

Is it comfortable and inviting?
Is it spacious with child-sized furnishings with plenty of room for play?
What type of discipline is used? Is it positive?

Health and Safety

Are children always supervised with the required number of staff?
Are nutritious meals and snacks served?
Are staff trained for emergencies?

Parent Involvement

Does the provider show interest in your family and culture?
Does the provider encourage parent participation?

Steps to Find Quality Care:

- ✓ Call childcare referral agencies
- ✓ Call potential providers
- ✓ Visit potential providers
- ✓ Check the provider's licensing history

What are the differences in Family Home and Center Based Programs?

Family Home: A licensed childcare program where care is offered by a licensed childcare provider for no more than ten children that are not related to the provider.

Center Based: A licensed childcare program where care is offered by a licensed childcare provider for more than 20 children in a location other than the provider's residence.

What is License-Exempt Child Care?

By state law, certain programs are exempt from licensure, but are required to be regulated. These include:

- Childcare programs that are under the exclusive control of a religious organization.
- Any nursery school program for preschool children that operates no more than four hours per child per day.

Information provided by Children Ready to Enter School Committee, April 2022.

For Further Information about Quality Early Care, Consult:

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Southeastern District
To obtain a current list of licensed childcare providers and questions
573-840-9590
<http://health.mo.gov/safety/childcare/index.php>

Child Care Aware of Missouri
866-892-3228 (toll free)
<http://www.mo.childcareaware.org/>

National Association for the Education of Young Children
800-424-2460 (toll free)
<http://www.naeyc.org/>

Family Care Safety Registry
866-422-6872 (toll free)
<http://health.mo.gov/safety/fcsr/>

211 Missouri
800-427-4626 (toll free)
www.211Missouri.org

This information is provided for parents and others seeking early care and education services in Butler County. These are not professional recommendations. The Butler County Community Resource Council does not accept any responsibility for quality of care from any educator listed in this brochure. Please follow the suggestions listed to determine your best options.

Contents of this brochure may not be completely accurate at any given time due to changes in educators and licensed providers.



Butler County Early Care & Education

**Information
for parents and
others needing early
childhood services in
Butler County, Missouri**

