

**Child Care Licensing Standards Comparison
Broward County Child Care Licensing & Enforcement**

Local county licensing agencies must meet or exceed state minimum standards. Below is a comparison of the standards enforced by Broward County Child Care Licensing & Enforcement which exceed state standards.

	State	Broward County
Licensure/Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities must be licensed; homes may be licensed or registered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires licensure of facilities <u>and</u> homes
Licensure Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only facilities are charged a licensure fee \$1 per child, minimum of \$25 per center, maximum of \$100 per center. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both facilities and homes are charged a licensure fee and application fee of \$27.50 Facilities Small 5-50 children \$71.50 Medium 51-150 children \$126.50 Large over 150 children \$165.00 Homes: Regular/Large \$27.50 Late fee for application submission is \$55.00 and for license changes is \$55.00. Substantial Compliance School is charged a registration fee of \$110.00 annually. All fees will be increased annually by 3% or the CPI which ever is less.
Exemption from Licensure The provisions of ss. 402.301-402.319, except for the requirements regarding screening of child care personnel, shall not apply to a child care facility which is an integral part of church or parochial schools conducting regularly scheduled classes,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Such facilities are required to register annually with the department attesting to meeting the minimum requirements of the applicable local governing body as to health, sanitation, and safety, and screening requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition to requiring such facilities to register annually, Broward County requires such facilities to meet the standards for substantial compliance set forth in Article II of the Broward County Child Care Facility Ordinance. Article II sets forth requirements for standards including, but not limited to:

<p>courses of study, or educational programs accredited by, or by a member of, an organization which publishes and requires compliance with its standards for health, safety, and sanitation. However, such facilities shall meet minimum requirements of the applicable local governing body as to health, sanitation, and safety and shall meet the screening requirements pursuant to ss. 402.305 and 402.3055.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These types of facilities are not inspected 	<p>background screening; health, safety and sanitation; physical facilities, personnel training; and record keeping.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Such facilities are inspected twice/year.
<p>Non-public Schools Programs for children who are at least 3 years of age, but under 5 years of age, shall not be deemed to be child care and shall not be subject to the provisions of ss. 402.301-402.319 relating to child care facilities, provided the programs in the schools are operated directly by the schools, provided a majority of the children are enrolled in the schools are 5 years of age or older, and provided there is compliance with the screening requirements for personnel pursuant to s. 402.305 or s.402.3057.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Such programs are not deemed to be child care and are not subject licensure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Such programs are required to register annually and must meet the standards for substantial compliance set forth in Article II of the Broward County Child Care Ordinance. Article II sets forth requirements for standards including, but not limited to: background screening; health, safety and sanitation; physical facilities, personnel training; and record keeping. • Such facilities are inspected twice/year.
<p>Background Screening: Facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background screening <u>clearance</u> for owner and director/designated rep must be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>All</u> child care personnel must obtain successful background screening <u>clearance</u>

	<p>received prior to licensure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background screening for all other applicable child care personnel must be <u>submitted</u> prior to licensure. 	prior to licensure.
Background Screening: Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAHRS screening conducted on owner and household members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition to the owner and household members, Broward County conducts a CAHRS screening on the substitute and employee.
Naptime Supervision: Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sufficient staff must be in <u>close proximity</u>, within sight and hearing of all children (does not include supervision of children up to 24 months, which must be directly supervised at all times). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Direct supervision</u> of napping children using the following naptime ratios: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under 1 year: 1 staff to 4 children 1 year, under 2 years: 1 staff up to 12 children 2 years, under 3 years: 1 staff up to 22 children 3 years and up: 1 staff up to 30 children
Family Day Care Home Operator: Minimum Age Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 years of age
Fire Inspection (Homes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large Family Child Care Homes shall have an annual fire inspection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both Large Family Child Care Homes and Family Day Care Homes must have an annual fire inspection
Direct Supervision in facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons 16 years old may be counted in the staff to child ratio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons under the age of 18 may not be counted in the staff to child ratio
Specialized training for Infants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All personnel are required to take 40 hours of introductory course in child care plus 10 hours of annual in-service training; training not specified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All personnel are required to take 40 hours of introductory course in child care plus 10 hours of annual in-service training; however, personnel assigned to infant care are required to take 10 hours of initial training and 4 hours of annual in-service training in infant care
Documented receipt of discipline policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific requirement for staff receipt of policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child care facility must have documented proof of personnel receipt of discipline policy

Proof of immunization requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children are required to have proof of immunization within 30 days of enrollment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infants are required to have proof of immunization prior to enrollment; for older children proof must be provided within 15 days
General Liability insurance requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum amount of \$100,000 in comprehensive general liability is required
Minimum staff for supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of 2 staff must be on the premises at all times during hours of operation if the number of children exceed the following: four infants; six children, three to five years of age, 10 children including five who are preschool age.
Health Examination for personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior to the first day of being employed by a facility, all child care personnel shall have a signed statement from a physician or authorized agent of the Health Department attesting the employee is in good health in order to care for children
First Aid and Pediatric CPR requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require at least one staff with current and valid certificate of first aid and infant and child CPR and one staff shall be present at all times that children are in care of the facility, both on-site and on field trips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require at least two staff with current and valid certificate of first aid and infant and child CPR and one staff shall be present at all times that children are in care of the facility, both on-site and on field trips
General Safety and Sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reptiles will no longer be permitted to be handled by children, heavy cleaning of child care facility must be done when children are not present, closet doors are required to be opened from the inside for a child to be able to escape from inside, an operable flash light must be in the facility for use in the event of a power failure, and gloves shall be worn to serve food, including snacks.
Discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children shall not be confined in high chairs,

		say seats, bounce seats, cribs or playpens while awake for more than fifteen minutes at a time without direct staff contact.
Screening requirement for lease companies that provide Transportation to facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require that employees of leasing companies who are transporting children must be background screened with documented proof.
Temporary Suspension of license	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorize County to temporarily suspend a facility's license in cases of imminent danger of health, safety, and welfare of children of children or a substantial probability of death or serious harm, with a formal revocation hearing to follow
Person in charge in director's absence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any person who is left in charge of a child care facility (other than the director) must have a CDA credential or equivalent
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Additional best practices and processes implemented by Broward County Child Care Licensing & Enforcement:

- Background screening is completed on-site due to live scan capabilities. This expedites the background screening process by providing immediate results.
- Providers interested in becoming licensed as a child care facility attend a mandatory licensing seminar that further explains the licensing process, rules and regulations. This assists providers in determining whether or not they want to further pursue licensure.
- Child care providers may choose to participate in the Quality Rating System (QRS). The Quality Rating System (QRS) is a comprehensive and voluntary initiative designed to enhance the quality of early care and learning programs to improve child well-being.

Accreditation:

- Broward County Child Care Licensing & Enforcement is the first public child care licensing regulatory agency to pursue and receive accreditation from the Council on Accreditation (COA). COA accreditation attests that an organization meets the highest national standards and is delivering the best quality services to the community it services.