

# Types of Child Care

## New Hampshire

Dept. of Health & Human Services, Child Care Licensing Unit, Concord, NH • (800) 852-3345 x9025, (603) 271-9025 • [www.dhhs.nh.gov/oos/](http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oos/)

### • Exempt Family Child Care Home

A private home in which any number of the provider's own children, whether related biologically or through adoption, and up to 3 additional children are cared for regularly for any part of the day, but less than 24 hours. Legally operating, exempt from licensing.

### • Licensed Family Child Care Home

An occupied residence, licensed by the State of NH, in which child day care is provided for less than 24 hours per day, except in emergencies, for up to 6 children from 1 or more unrelated families. Of the 6 children, no more than 4 can be under 36 months of age; and of the 4 children under 36 months, no more than 2 can be under 24 months of age.\* The 6 children shall include any foster children residing in the home and all children related to the caregiver except children who are 10 years of age or older. In addition to the 6 children, up to 3 children attending a full-day school program may also be cared for up to 5 hours per day on school days and all day during school holidays. \*If a family child care worker, assistant or aide (whether paid or volunteer) is employed, it is permissible for all the 4 children under 36 months of age to be under 24 months.

### • Licensed Family Group Child Care Home

An occupied residence, licensed by the State of NH, in which child day care is provided for less than 24 hours per day, except in emergencies, for 7-12 children from 1 or more unrelated families. The 12 children shall include all children related to the caregiver and any foster children residing in the home, except children who are 10 years of age or older. In addition to the 12 children, up to 5 children attending a full-day school program may also be cared for up to 5 hours per day on school days and all day during school holidays.

### • Licensed Center Based Program

Any program licensed by the State of NH, to provide any of the following types of child care: **Group child care center** (child day care provided for preschool children and up to 5 school-age children, whether or not the service is known as day nursery, nursery school, kindergarten, cooperative, child development center, day care center, center for the developmentally disabled, progressive school, Montessori school or by any other name); **Infant/toddler program** (child day care provided for any part of a day, for 5 or more children under the age of 3 years); **Preschool program** (child day care and a structured program *not exceeding 5 hours per day* provided for children 3 years of age and older who are not attending a full-day school program); **School-age program** (child day care provided for up to 5 hours per school day, before and/or after regular school hours and all day during school holidays and vacations for 6 or more children who are 4 years and 8 months of age or older. Minimum staff to child ratios:

Age of children	Min. staff to child ratio	Max. group size per room
6 weeks - 12 months	1 : 4	12
13 months - 24 months	1 : 5	15
25 months - 35 months	1 : 6	18
36 months - 47 months	1 : 8	24
48 months - 59 months	1 : 12	24
60 months and over	1 : 15	30

When mixed ages are in the same group, staff to child ratio and group size is based on the average age of the children in the group. A second staff person must be in the building when 11 or more children are present.

**View New Hampshire child care regulations at [www.dhhs.nh.gov/oos/cclu/rules.htm](http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oos/cclu/rules.htm).**

## Vermont

Dept. for Children & Families, Child Development Division, Child Care Licensing Unit, Waterbury, VT • (800) 649-2642, (802) 241-0837 • <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd>

### • Legally-Exempt Family Child Care

Child care provided for children of not more than 2 families other than that of the person providing care. Care may take place in the private home of the provider or of the child(ren) being cared for. Legally operating, exempt from registration.

### • Registered and Licensed Family Child Care Home

Residence of a person approved to provide developmentally appropriate care, education, protection and supervision designed to ensure wholesome growth and educational experiences for children outside of their own homes for periods of less than 24 hours per day. In a **Registered FCCH** one provider may care for up to 10 children, with no more than 6 under school-age and of those 6, no more than 2 under 24 months; additional options exist when a second staff person is present and during summer vacation. A registered provider's own children under 24 months residing in the home count in the limit on children less than 24 months but *not* in the overall limit on children. In a **Licensed FCCH** two providers may care for up to 12 children, with limits on the number of children per age range. A licensed provider's own children younger than school-age residing in the home are included in determining the capacity of the program.

**View Vermont child care regulations at <http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/laws-regs>.**

### • Licensed Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program

A program and facility operating on a regular or continuous basis, whether or not for compensation, providing developmentally appropriate care, education, protection and supervision designed to ensure wholesome growth and educational experiences for children outside of their own homes for periods of less than 24 hours per day. Minimum staff to child ratios:

Age of children	Min. staff to child ratio	Max. group size per room
Birth - 18 months	1 : 4	8
18 months - 30 months	1 : 4	10
24 months - 36 months	1 : 5	10
32 months - 42 months	1 : 6	15
36 months - Kindergarten	1 : 10	20
1st grade and up	1 : 13	26

For mixed age groups, the staff/child ratios and maximum group size shall meet requirements for the age of the youngest child in any group.

### • Licensed Afterschool Child Care Program

A program licensed by the Division to provide school age children (5 years of age or older currently attending kindergarten or having completed kindergarten or a higher grade) with developmentally appropriate experiences before school, after school and during school vacations. Staff/child ratio shall not exceed 1:13 and the maximum number of children in an identified group shall be 26.