

TYPE OF CHILD CARE SETTINGS

License Exempt Child Care

- No licensing requirements
- Hours of operations are usually flexible
- Providers include relatives (grandparents, aunts, uncles), other relatives, friends, or neighbors
- Care is provided in the providers home or in some cases the home of the child
- Parents using this option should consider contacting the Guardian Registry at 1-888-422-5669 or email guardian@dss.ca.gov , to obtain information or a background check on the potential provider

Licensed Family Child Care Home (FCCH)

- Licensed and regulated by the State of California
- Large – cares up to 14 children and requires an assistant
- Small – cares for up to 8 children
- Home setting (private home provider) for children of mixed ages
- Group sizes are smaller allowing for individualized care
- Staff are CPR/First Aid certified
- Often flexible scheduling including, evening, weekend, or overnight care

Child Care Center

- Licensed and regulated by the State of California
- Provide care for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and or/school –age children
- Care is provided in non-home facilities such as churches and schools
- Group sizes are large allowing for rich social experiences
- Staff are CPR/First-Aid and Health and Safety certified
- Many staff have educational backgrounds and/or degrees in early childhood education and provide school readiness activities

QUALITY MATTERS

Choosing the right care for your child is a huge decision. Balancing your child's needs and your busy schedule as a working parent can be tough. When you need to choose a care provider for your child, be sure to look for the Early Stars Rating or the following quality elements:

- Ratios and group size
- Learning Activities
- Environment
- Health and Child Development
- Staff Training and Education

Resource and Referral is here to help you find quality care because *quality matters*.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Early Childhood Education

Location: 7000 Doe Ave., Ste.C
Visalia, CA 93291

Office: 559-651-0185

Fax: 559-651-2427

Email: referralsrr@cc.tcoe.org

Hours: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Guardian Registry

Email: guardian@dss.ca.gov

Phone: 1-888-422-5669

QUALITY MATTERS

TULARE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE AND REFERRAL EARLY LEARNING CARE REFERENCE GUIDE



Tulare County
Office of Education
Tim A. Hire, County Superintendent of Schools



Welcome to the Tulare County Office of Education Early Childhood Education Program. TCOE Early Childhood Education programs provides federal and state early education opportunities and child care options to families throughout the county. This guide is intended to serve as a resource for families seeking early educational learning and care opportunities. If you have any questions regarding the following child care options, please contact Tulare County Office of Education Resource and Referral at **559-651-0185**.

FEDERALLY FUNDED PROGRAMS

Early Head Start / Head Start / Migrant Head Start

Services Offered:

- Complete educational experiences, family support, health screenings, and meals

Who Qualifies:

- Children in families with incomes below the federal poverty guidelines; experiencing homelessness; foster care; IEP/IFSP; currently receiving public assistance and agricultural/migrant work

Hours of Operation:

- Full Day (Vary by program)
- Part Day (AM or PM session)

Ages Served:

- Early Head Start (0-3 years)
- Head Start (4-5 years)

Center Based Service:

- Complete educational experiences, family support, health screenings, and meals

Home Based Service:

- Weekly child-focused visits to promote the parent's ability to support the child's development

STATE FUNDED PROGRAMS

Alternative Payment, CalWORKs Stages 2 & 3

Services Offered:

- Parents utilize a voucher to select a provider who meets their individual child care needs including:

- » State Preschool
- » Licensed Private Center
- » Licensed family child care education network provider
- » Licensed family child care provider
- » License-exempt provider (Family, Friend, or Neighbor)

Who Qualifies:

- Children in families with incomes below 85% of State Median Income (SMI) guidelines or currently receiving cash assistance, children at risk or experiencing homelessness

Requirements:

- Parents are required to be working, attending school/training, seeking employment, seeking permanent shelter or incapacitated

Hours of Operation:

- Vary by program

Ages Served:

- Birth through 12 years old
- Additional services available for families in agriculture/migrant work

STATE FUNDED PROGRAMS – CENTER BASED

General Child Care and Development

Services Offered:

- Complete educational experiences, family support, health screenings, and meals

Who Qualifies:

- Children in families with incomes below 85% of State Median Income (SMI) guidelines or currently receiving cash assistance, at risk or experiencing homelessness

Requirements:

- Parents are required to be working, attending school/training, seeking employment, seeking permanent shelter or incapacitated

Hours of Operation:

- Traditionally to include full day (6 – 8 hours)

Ages Served:

- Birth to 12 years old
- Additional services available for families in agriculture/migrant work

Full Day State Preschool

Services Offered:

- Complete educational experiences, family support, health screenings, and meals

Who Qualifies:

- Children in families with incomes below 85% of State Median Income (SMI) guidelines or currently receiving cash assistance, at risk or experiencing homelessness.
- Children who reside in a school attendance boundary with 80% or more free and reduced lunch

Requirements:

- Parents are required to be working, attending school/training, seeking employment, or incapacitated

Hours of Operation:

- Include full day (6-8 hours)

Ages Served:

- 3-4 years

Part Day State Preschool

Services Offered:

- Complete educational experiences, family support, health screenings, and meals

Who Qualifies:

- Children in families with incomes below 85% of State Median Income (SMI) guidelines or currently receiving cash assistance, at risk or experiencing homelessness.
- Children who reside in a school attendance boundary with 80% or more free and reduced lunch

Requirements:

- Enrollment is prioritized on income guidelines

Hours of Operation:

- Part Day (AM or PM session)

Ages Served:

- 3-4 years