



Quality Child Care

How Do You Know If Your Child Is Receiving It?



DEPARTMENT of
SOCIAL SERVICES

With You. For You. Building a **Stronger** Louisiana.



LSU
AgCenter
Research & Extension

5 Things Parents Can Do to Ensure Quality Care for Their Child

Check for Quality Staffing Ratios

- Adult/child ratios should be low enough to ensure safety

Ages of Children	National Association for Education of Young Children Ratios	Louisiana Class A Licensing Regulations Ratio
	One Adult Is Needed for Every:	One Adult Is Needed for Every:
Birth – 12 Months	3 – 4 Children	5 Children
12 – 24 Months	3 – 4 Children	7 Children
24 – 36 Months	4 – 6 Children	11 Children
36 – 48 Months	7 – 10 Children	13 Children
5 Years Old	8 – 10 Children	15 Children
5 Years Old	8 – 10 Children	19 Children
6 and Up	10 – 12 Children	23 Children

Check for Quality Relationships

- Families are encouraged to visit the program at any time.
- Caregivers show affection to children.
- Caregivers and children have many conversations throughout the day.
- Caregivers practice positive guidance.
- Caregivers, children and families have positive relationships.
- The children in the classroom come first.



Check for Quality Environment

- Appropriate materials are available daily.
- The room is large enough for children to move about easily and freely.
- There are 35 square feet per child indoors.
- There are 75 square feet per child outdoors.
- The rooms are bright.
- Toys and materials are organized and easily reached by children.
- The rooms have a pleasing smell and comfortable temperature.



Check for Safety and Health

- Caregivers provide constant supervision.
- Caregivers are trained in infant/child CPR and pediatric first aid.
- Caregivers know whom to contact in case of an emergency.
- Children and caregivers practice proper hand washing.
- The environment is free of dangerous chemicals or hazards.
- Playgrounds are fenced.
- Child care centers are licensed by the Louisiana Department of Social Services.
- Meals and snacks are healthy.
- There is a place where sick children rest until picked up.

Check for Quality Services

- Families and caregivers work together to ensure quality.
- Families are kept informed.
- Caregivers work with specialist to help children with different abilities.
- Families are involved in program activities.
- Daily activities are planned.

For Parents

Shopping for Quality Care?

- Locate child care programs in your area.
- Make a visit.
- Ask for family references.
- Make a decision.

Visit Our Web Sites

www.dss.state.la.us
www.lsuagcenter.com



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