

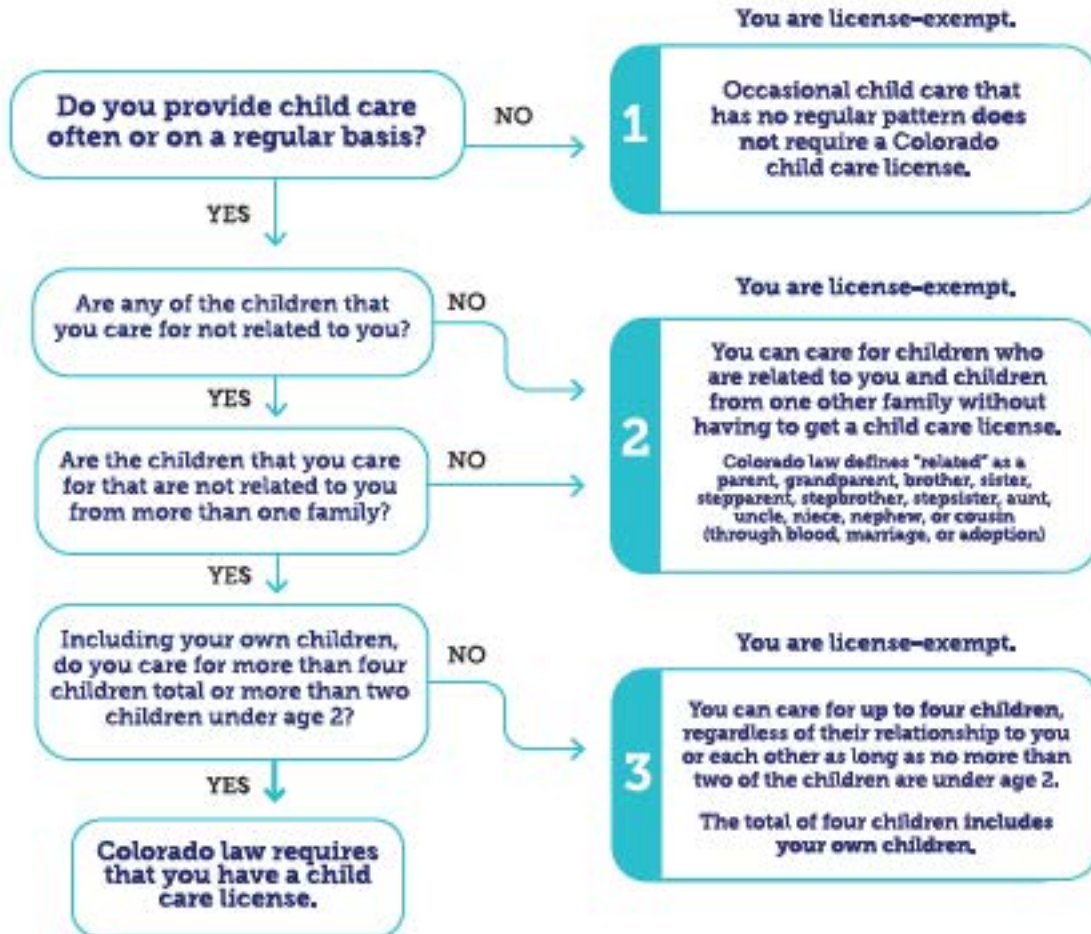


# Do You Need a License to Provide Child Care?

See if the child care you provide requires a Colorado child care license.

Colorado has licensing rules for providing child care. These rules are to protect the health and safety of the children receiving care.

There are only three types of child care situations that do not require a license. These care situations are "license-exempt." Providing care outside of the three license-exempt options requires that you get a Colorado child care license.



## Did You Know?

- Nanny shares and other informal types of care are still required to follow child care licensing rules.
- A child care license is connected to both the person providing care and the location where the care is provided. That means if you are moving your licensed child care program, you will need to get a license for the new location.

**Become Licensed to Provide Child Care**

Scan the QR code to learn about the child care licensing process.



**We're Here to Help!**

To contact a licensing specialist who can guide you through the licensing process, please call 800.799.5876 or email [cdcc\\_communications@state.co.us](mailto:cdcc_communications@state.co.us)

Legally Exempt, Qualified Exempt, or Licensed?

Helping You Navigate Your Legal Child Care Home Program Options

See the [“Do I Need A License?” flowchart](#) to determine if you are legally required to hold a Colorado child care license to provide care.

## FAMILY, FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS (FFN)

FFN may legally care for children without a license if their situation meets the following criteria: Care is limited to one (1) of the options below at any one time: Care for any number of children directly related to the provider AND, in addition, may provide care for children, who are siblings from one (1) additional household, that are unrelated to the provider.

-- Or --

Care for a total of four (4) children, from up to four (4) different families, related or unrelated to the provider.

## QUALIFIED EXEMPT-COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CCCAP)

The purpose of CCCAP is to provide eligible households with access to high quality, affordable child care that supports healthy child development and school readiness while promoting household self-sufficiency and informed child care choices. CCCAP Qualified Exempt (QE) child care providers work in partnership with counties to assist families in their community to obtain child care services that meet the needs of the family. Parents choose a family, friend or neighbor to be their child's CCCAP Qualified Exempt Provider. Grant opportunities, CCCAP reimbursement for CCCAP eligible children in care, \$500 bonus incentive, available. Contact your County Department of Human/Social Services for more information on how to become a CCCAP Qualified Exempt provider.

## LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME

A variety of licensed program types to choose from): See the [“Do I Need A License?” flowchart](#) to determine if you are legally required to hold a Colorado child care license to provide care. The most common type of license is called the regular Family Child Care Homes license. Providers can care for 6 children ages birth to 18 years old with no more than 2 under the age of 18 months, plus an additional 2 school age children during non school times.

When you apply for a license, you have access to trainings and education that are free or low cost. As well as support from your licensing specialist, early childhood council, and local resource and referral agency. Grant opportunities, quality level incentives, \$5000 bonus incentive, CCCAP reimbursement for CCCAP eligible children in care, CAC Food Program Reimbursement, and free marketing for child care through Colorado Shines available. Learn more at: [cdec.colorado.gov/child-care-licensing-and-administration](http://cdec.colorado.gov/child-care-licensing-and-administration)