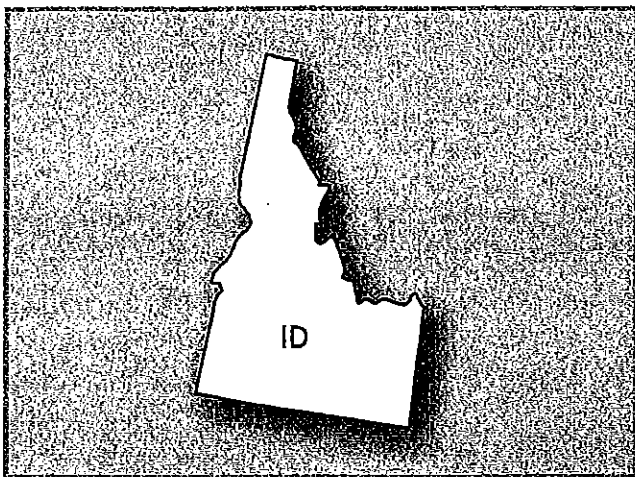


State of Regulations for Child Care Centers in Idaho

Overall Score: 15/150 (10%)
Rank: 52

	Score	Percent	Rank
Oversight	2/50	4%	52
Standard	13/100	13%	52



Child Care Center Prices in 2007

Average annual fees paid for an infant in a center	\$5,736
Average annual fees paid for a 4-year-old in a center	\$5,004

Child Care Center Oversight

Standards for Ranking	Meets Recommendation
1. All centers and family child care homes are licensed.	
2. Monitoring visits of centers are conducted 4 times a year.	
3. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	
4. Licensing staff have a Bachelor's degree in a related field.	
5. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents.	

Child Care Center Regulations

Standards for Ranking	Meets Recommendation	Standards for Ranking	Meets Recommendation
1. Staff: child ratios in compliance with NAEYC standards.		6. Require all teachers to have 24 hours or more of ongoing training per year.	
2. Group size in compliance with NAEYC standards.		7. Require checks of criminal history, child abuse registry, state fingerprint, federal fingerprint, and sex offender registry.	
3. Center directors required to have a Bachelor's degree or higher in ECE** or related field.		8. Require programs to address six developmental domains.***	
4. Teachers required to have a CDA** credential or an Associate's degree in ECE*** or related field.		9. Require 10 basic standards of health and safety.****	
5. Center staff required to have orientation training, and training in first aid, CPR, fire safety, and other health and safety issues.		10. Require parent involvement, communication and allow parental visits.	

Key Fully Meets Substantially Meets Partially Meets Marginally Meets Does not meet N/A = Not Available

*Out of 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Department of Defense. * National Association for the Education of Young Children; *** Early Childhood Education; ** Child Development Associate credential; **** Six developmental domains are social, physical, language/literacy, cognitive/intellectual, emotional and cultural; ***** Ten areas are immunizations, guidance/discipline regulations, diapering and handwashing, fire drills, medication administration, incident reporting, placing infants on backs to sleep, hazardous materials, playground surfaces under outdoor equipment and emergency preparedness.

Source: Survey of state child care administrators conducted by the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies in Fall 2008. Note: Information was also verified against state regulations. Source for price information: National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies. "Parents and the High Price of Child Care: 2008 Update."

State of Regulations for Child Care Centers in Idaho

Strength

- ✓ Requires all center staff to undergo a comprehensive background check that includes a check of state and federal criminal history records using a fingerprint, and checks of child abuse and neglect registries and sex offender registries.

Recommendations

- ☒ Require at least annual licensing inspections.
- ☒ Require some unannounced routine inspections of centers.
- ☒ Establish education requirements for center directors.
- ☒ Establish education requirements for head/master teachers.
- ☒ Require orientation training of all new child care center employees.
- ☒ Establish maximum group sizes for all age groups.
- ☒ Require centers to offer activities that address all developmental domains.
- ☒ Establish center requirements related to guidance practices, fire drills, administration of medications, placing babies on their back to sleep (to prevent Sudden Infant Death Syndrome), emergency plans, surfaces under playground equipment, and reporting serious incidents to parents.

Weakness

- X The state only licenses child care centers with 13 or more children.
- X Child care centers are inspected only once every two years by fire, and health and safety inspectors.
- X Does not have any state-level licensing staff.
- X Reports of routine inspections conducted at child care programs and reports of those conducted because of complaints are not available online.
- X Center directors are not required to have any college credits/courses.
- X Lead teachers in centers are not required to have a high school diploma or GED before working with children.
- X Center staff are not required to have orientation, fire safety or other health and safety training.
- X Centers are not required to have a first-aid or CPR certified staff on the premises.
- X Center staff are required to complete only 4 hours of annual training.
- X Programs are not required to address any of the six developmental domains. These domains include social, physical, language/literacy, cognitive/intellectual, emotional and cultural.
- X Health and safety standards address only three of 10 basic standards (immunizations, diapering/handwashing and hazardous materials). Guidance/discipline, fire drills, medicine administration, incident reporting, playground surfaces under outdoor equipment, emergency preparedness and placing infants on back are not addressed. Implicitly allows corporal punishment.
- X Has requirements regarding parental visits to the center, but no requirements for communicating with parents or involving them.
- X Does not meet NAEYC's ratio and group size requirements for any of the seven age groups.



We CAN Do Better: 2009 Update
NACCRRRA's Ranking of State Child Care Center Regulation and Oversight

Child Care Center Overall Rankings (Combined Regulations & Oversight)

Over 11 million children under age 5 spend an average of 36 hours a week in non-parental care settings. Almost two-thirds of these children are in center-based care.

State child care licensing regulations govern the health, safety and learning opportunities for these children. Oversight of licensing regulations determines how well the regulations are applied. Weak regulations allow children to be in child care settings that may not be safe, healthy or developmentally appropriate. Relatively strong regulations but weak oversight renders the regulations meaningless since compliance is unknown.

We CAN Do Better: 2009 Update examined state child care center licensing regulations and the oversight of those regulations. NACCRRRA scored and ranked states, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense (DoD) on 10 regulation and 5 oversight benchmarks. The average score for states was 83 out of 150 points—the equivalent of an F. No state earned an A. Only DoD earned a B, and one state (District of Columbia) earned a C. Thirty-three states earned a failing grade. Once again, DoD ranked first for both regulations and oversight. No other state is on the top 10 list for both elements.

Child Care Center Overall Rankings (Combined Regulations & Oversight)

Top 10 Best Overall			Bottom 10 Weakest Overall		
State	Score	Rank	State	Score	Rank
Dept. of Defense	131	1	New Mexico	69	43
District of Columbia	111	2	Arkansas	66	44
Oklahoma	106	3	Iowa	66	44
Tennessee	106	3	Missouri	66	44
Maryland	104	5	Kansas	64	47
Rhode Island	104	5	California	62	48
New York	100	7	Georgia	53	49
Illinois	98	8	Nebraska	49	50
Florida	97	9	Louisiana	46	51
Washington	97	9	Idaho	15	52

Note: Total Possible Score is 150

Alphabetical Listing of States' Overall Scores and Rankings

Ranking of States' Combined Scores for Child Care Center Oversight and Regulations					
State	Score	Ranking	State	Score	Ranking
Alabama	70	42	Missouri	66	44
Alaska	80	33	Montana	73	38
Arizona	87	24	Nebraska	49	50
Arkansas	66	44	Nevada	81	30
California	62	48	New Hampshire	86	27
Colorado	72	41	New Jersey	85	28
Connecticut	81	30	New Mexico	69	43
Delaware	94	13	New York	100	7
Dept. of Defense	131	1	North Carolina	94	13
District of Columbia	111	2	North Dakota	91	19
Florida	97	9	Ohio	80	33
Georgia	53	49	Oklahoma	106	3
Hawaii	89	21	Oregon	87	24
Idaho	15	52	Pennsylvania	92	16
Illinois	98	8	Rhode Island	104	5
Indiana	89	21	South Carolina	76	35
Iowa	66	44	South Dakota	81	30
Kansas	64	47	Tennessee	106	3
Kentucky	75	36	Texas	95	12
Louisiana	46	51	Utah	91	19
Maine	73	38	Vermont	94	13
Maryland	104	5	Virginia	88	23
Massachusetts	96	11	Washington	97	9
Michigan	92	16	West Virginia	87	24
Minnesota	82	29	Wisconsin	92	16
Mississippi	75	36	Wyoming	73	38

Note: Total Possible Score is 150

For more information, check out www.naccrra.org.