

Process for Changing Child Care Licensing Rules and Regulations

- ND Legislature enacted child care licensing law into ND Century Code in 1981 and has authority to approve administrative rules and regulations
- Revision of licensing rules and regulations occurs approximately every 10 years
- ND Department of Human Services (DHS) currently in the process of revising child care licensing rules and regulations



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Licensed Child Care in North Dakota

Key players in child care

- ND Legislature enacts child care licensing laws and approves rules/regulations
- ND Department of Human Services and County Social Services implement rules and regulations
- Child Care Resource & Referral provides training and consultation

Child care demand increased dramatically in the last decade

76% of women with children ages 0 to 6 years in labor force
 85% of women with children ages 6 to 17 years in labor force
 82,000 children ages 0 to 12 potentially needing child care

Child care industry struggles to build adequate supply

Supply meets 35% of demand

Type of License	# of Programs	Capacity
Family/Group	1,221	15,035
Centers	132	10,168
School-age care	46	3,823
Total	1,399	29,026

Child care expenses

Average annual tuition for infant care \$5,352
 Average annual tuition for preschool care \$4,728

A family of four with an income of \$36,000 will pay 25% of their annual earnings for child care. The family is not eligible for child care assistance.
 Child care workers earn 63% of ND median wage or an average wage of \$7.50. 60% of providers in centers have been at their current job less than a year.

The challenge of quality

- Program assessments completed on 90 infant-toddler programs in ND
- Only 6% of infant-toddler programs rated high enough to support children's development with health and safety needs fully met, staff caring and supportive, and children learning and engaged
- 76% of infant-toddler programs rated mediocre with basic health and safety needs met, a minimal amount of adult warmth and support, and few learning experiences
- 18% of infant-toddler programs judged of poor quality with basic health and safety needs not met, no adult warmth or support observed, and learning not encouraged

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 Data sources:

US Census Bureau, 2000 Census
 ND CCR&R 2005 Annual Report,

ND Child Care Center Workforce Summary 2006