

Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Bureau of Child Care and Health Facilities
Child Care Licensing and Registration Program
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CCLR At A Glance

Program Purpose:

The Child Care Licensing and Registration Program (CCLR) is responsible for licensing and registration activities for child care facilities, family day care homes and maternity centers, including development of foundational standards of care, inspection, investigation and enforcement. The purpose of these activities is to reduce the risk of predictable harm to children cared for in out of home settings; provide a foundation of health and safety protection for children's well-being and to provide basic consumer protection for Kansas children and families.

Organizational Structure:

The Child Care Licensing and Registration Program (CCLR) is in the Bureau of Child Care and Health Facilities in the Division of Health. Sections within CCLR include:

The Early Care and Youth Programs Section responsible for licensing and registration activities for child day care homes and facilities, resource and referral agencies and programs serving school age children.

The Child Placing Agency and Residential Programs Section responsible for licensing activities for 24 hour residential care facilities, treatment and correctional facilities serving children and youth, family foster homes and maternity centers.

The Compliance and Regulation Development Unit responsible for complaint intake, regulation development and revision, and enforcement protocols,

The Administrative Support Unit responsible for providing supportive services including processing background checks, reception and file management functions.

Funding:

The CCLR Program is funded with both federal and state dollars. Federal funding is from the Child Care Development Fund, Title IV-E and Maternal Child Health Block Grant.

The total state level budget is approximately 5 million dollars with 1.5 million from the State General Fund and the rest from federal funding sources.

Out of the total 5 million, 1.6 million is distributed to local county health departments to conduct the local regulatory program. In addition, local health departments contribute approximately 1.3 million dollars to supplement the funding for regulatory services at the local level.

Staffing Structure:

The CCLR program has 56 full time and 4 half time positions stationed in Topeka and in the 6 district offices across the state.

At the state level 19 positions are surveyor positions with primary responsibility to conduct inspections and complaint investigations. 18 surveyor positions are assigned in the CPA and Residential Programs Section and a 2 half- time surveyor positions are assigned to the Early Care and Youth Programs Section.

In addition to state survey staff, CCLR contracts with 70 local health departments to conduct the regulatory program at the local level. Health departments have primary responsibility to conduct the local regulatory work including orientation, inspection, complaint investigation and consultation.

In FY 2007 the ratio of health department surveyors to facilities and homes is 1 surveyor for every 153 homes and facilities.

In FY 2007 the ratio of foster care surveyors to facilities and homes is 1 surveyor for every 149 homes, facilities and agencies.

Overview of CCLR Program Facts and Stats

Child Care Availability

Based on research completed by the Kansas School Readiness Project, parents report that 87.6% of children entering kindergarten for the 2006/2007 school year received preschool or child care services prior to entering kindergarten.

Based on research completed by KACCRRRA (Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies), 63% of Kansas families with young children are in the workforce.

The Department estimates that approximately 200,000 infant, toddler, preschool and school age children attend child day care each year.

Approximately 5,400 children are living in an out of home placement each month.

At the end of FY 2007, 10,773 child care facilities and homes maternity centers were licensed or registered in Kansas with a capacity to serve over 144,000 children at any one time.

FY 2007 Workload

3,490 new applications were received and processed.

7,973 licenses, temporary permits and certificates were issued.

5,612 facilities and homes closed during the year.

2,723 complaints on child care facilities and homes were received and processed.

FY 2007 Inspections

Licensed facilities and homes are inspected initially and annually.

Registered family day care homes are not routinely inspected. Instead the Registrant self attests to the safety of the day care home.

Both licensed and registered facilities and homes are inspected following a complaint.

Compliance checks are conducted on a case by case basis when necessary to verify compliance following findings of noncompliance.

Over 13,000 surveys were completed through out the year.

71% of completed surveys documented the facility or home was in compliance or substantial compliance with regulations.

FY 2007 Administrative Orders

Administrative orders are issued by the Department when noncompliance is not resolved through monitoring, consultation or corrective action or when the noncompliance significantly and adversely affects the health or safety of children in care. Administrative orders include denial of an application, issuance of a civil penalty, suspension or revocation of a license or certificate.

670 Administrative Orders were issued to 635 pending and open child care facilities and homes for noncompliance with regulatory requirements. This represents 6% of all pending and open child care facilities and homes.

159 licenses and certificates were suspended and 32 licenses and certificates were revoked as a result of the administrative order findings.

The most common reasons for issuance of administrative orders include the following:

1. Persons with convictions of crimes against persons, felony drug convictions or with findings of validated child abuse are living or working in the child care facility or home;
2. The number of children exceeds the license capacity, child staff ratios are not met or children are not supervised;
3. Staff are unqualified, demonstrate poor child care practices, use inappropriate discipline;
4. The physical environment is not safe and free of hazards;
5. Noncompliance is found on multiple inspections and remains uncorrected;
6. The licensee fails to renew the license timely.

FY 2007 Background Checks

Criminal history and child abuse background checks are conducted on all persons over 10 years of age who live work or volunteer in child care facilities or homes. Persons with convictions of crimes against persons, felony drug convictions, certain juvenile adjudications and SRS validations of child abuse or neglect are prohibited from living working or volunteering in child care facilities and homes.

Background checks were conducted on over 40,000 individuals.

379 individuals (1%) were identified as prohibited and not eligible to live, work or volunteer in a child care facility or home.

Compliance Information

Parents and the public may contact CCLR in writing by mail or email and request compliance information. See Heading on the first page for mail and email addresses.