

Findings from...

The 2005 Child Care Licensing Study

The 2005 Child Care Licensing Study was produced by the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) and the National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center (NCCIC).

**Table E:
Frequency of Licensing in 2005**

State	Length License is Valid		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Alabama	2 years	2 years	2 years
Alaska*	2 years	2 years	2 years
Arizona	3 years	3 years	3 years
Arkansas	Non-expiring	Non-expiring	NC
California	Non-expiring	Non-expiring	Non-expiring
Colorado	Non-expiring	Non-expiring	Non-expiring
Connecticut	2 years	2 years	2 years
Delaware	1 year	1 year	1 year
District of Columbia	1 year	1 year	NC
Florida*	1 year	1 year	1 year
Georgia	Non-expiring	1 year	Non-expiring
Hawaii	1 year for the first 4 years of licensure, then licenses are issued for 2 years	1 year for the first 4 years of licensure, then licenses are issued for 2 years	1 year for the first 4 years of licensure, then licenses are issued for 2 years
Idaho	NL	NL	NL
Illinois	3 years	3 years	3 years
Indiana*	2 years	2 years	2 years

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State	Length License is Valid		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Iowa	2 years	2 years	2 years
Kansas	Non-expiring	1 year	Non-expiring
Kentucky	1 year	1 year	NC
Louisiana	1 year	NL	NL
Maine	1 year	1 year	NC
Maryland*	Non-expiring	Non-expiring	NC
Massachusetts*	2 years	3 years	3 years
Michigan	2 years	3 years	2 years
Minnesota	1 year	2 years	2 years
Mississippi	1 year	1 year	1 year
Missouri	2 years	2 years	2 years
Montana*	1 year	1 year	1 year
Nebraska	Non-expiring	Non-expiring	Non-expiring
Nevada	1 year	1 year	1 year
New Hampshire	3 years	3 years	3 years
New Jersey	3 years	NL	NL
New Mexico	1 year	1 year	1 year
New York	2 years	2 years	2 years
North Carolina	Non-expiring	Non-expiring	NC
North Dakota	Facilities have choice of 1 year or 2 year license	Facilities have choice of 1 year or 2 year license	Facilities have choice of 1 year or 2 year license
Ohio	2 years	NL	2 years
Oklahoma	Non-expiring	Non-expiring	Non-expiring
Oregon	1 year	2 years	1 year

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State	Length License is Valid		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Pennsylvania	1 year	2 years	1 year
Rhode Island	1 year	2 years	1 year
South Carolina	2 years	2 years	2 years
South Dakota*	Non-expiring	NL	Non-expiring
Tennessee	1 year	1 year	1 year
Texas	Non-expiring	Non-expiring	Non-expiring
Utah*	2 years	2 years	2 years
Vermont	1 year	1 year	NC
Virginia*	2 years	NL	3 years
Washington	3 years	3 years	NC
West Virginia	2 years	2 years	2 years
Wisconsin*	Non-expiring	Non-expiring	NC
Wyoming*	1 year	1 year	1 year

Key:

NC=No category of facility

NL=Facility not licensed

***Notes:**

Alaska: First year licenses are valid for up to 1 year.

Florida: Registered family day care homes are renewed annually.

Indiana: Child care ministry registrations are valid for 1 year with quarterly inspections.

Maryland: At time of first licensure, a home or center is licensed for 2 years. After that initial 2-year period, the facility is eligible to receive a non-expiring license.

Massachusetts: A 6-month provisional license is issued to all new facilities.

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Montana: A provider is offered either a regular 1-year, 2-year, or 3-year license/registration. All newly licensed and registered providers are given the regular 1-year license/registration upon completion of the application requirements. After the first year of operation, a provider may request an inspection to determine compliance with an extended license/registration. Upon inspection, if providers have a perfect survey, then they can be awarded a 3-year license/registration. If there are five or fewer deficiencies in prescribed areas (usually paperwork issues and non-safety areas), then the provider can be awarded a 2-year certificate.

South Dakota: Voluntarily registered providers receive a certificate of registration that is valid for 2 years.

Utah: Residential certificates are issued for 1 year only.

Virginia: Conditional and provisional licenses may be issued for periods up to 6 months for licensed child care centers and family child care homes. Licensed homes may be issued a 1-, 2-, or 3-year license. The maximum duration of a child day center license is 2 years. Religious exempt centers and certified preschool licenses are valid for 1 year.

Wisconsin: Licenses are continued every 2 years, but are considered non-expiring. Certified in-home providers and certified school-age only programs have a 2-year certification period that does expire unless renewed.

Wyoming: Two-year licenses are issued to facilities that meet specific criteria identified in licensing rules.