

2. Childcare

1. What are the types of childcare?
 - Group Day Care Facilities: day care centers of 7 or more children which are located in an institutional setting. Regulated under the New York City Health Code.
 - Group Family Day Care: day care homes of 6-12 children in the home of an unrelated family. Regulated under the State Office of Child and Family Services.
 - Family Day Care: day care homes of not more than 2-6 children in the home of an unrelated family. Regulated under the State Office of Child and Family Services.
 - School-Age Program: school-age child care means care provided on a regular basis to seven or more school-age children under 13 years of age. Regulated under the State Office of Child and Family Services.
 - Family Home Care: an ACS program that provides childcare and household management services to families who need help providing a safe, nurturing environment for their children. Through training and support, homecare service providers help families to manage their household independently.

2. Overview of childcare
 - Children - ages two months through 12 years - are cared for either in group childcare centers that are licensed by the Department of Health or in the homes of childcare providers that are registered by the Department of Health. Administration for Children's Services also issues vouchers to eligible families that may be used by parents to purchase care from any legal childcare provider in the City.

3. How can childcare help me?
 - Childcare can help parent or caregiver by allowing them to: *work, attend school or participate in training or treatment programs* knowing that their child is safe and under supervision of qualified professionals.

4. How can childcare benefit my child?
 - Childcare can provide children with a solid foundation for appropriate development and education. Each program is operated by an affiliated sponsor and has an educational component to promote school readiness.

5. How do I pay for childcare?
 - Call Administration for Children's Services (ACS) Agency for Child Development (ACD) to find out if you are eligible for publicly funded day care services **(718) 367-5437**
 - a. Financial eligibility is determined by family gross income, with consideration of family size. Fees for childcare services are based on sliding scale.
 - b. Social eligibility requires that a family has an approved "reason for care" as defined by New York State. These reasons include:
 - I. Family is involved in a child welfare case
 - II. Family is receiving Public Assistance and needs child care in order to take part in welfare-to-work programs

8. Tips on finding a childcare for child who has special needs
Early Intervention Program provides free occupational and physical therapy, assistance with speech-language problems and necessary medical services, among other benefits to infants and toddlers who have a disability or developmental delay. There is no income eligibility requirement. Children under age 3 who have a disability or developmental delay are eligible for the EI program.
- a. If you believe your child has a developmental delay or disability, call the New York City Early Intervention Program at **(888) 577-BABY** or **(212) 219-5580** to find out how to get a referral.
 - b. Children must be referred to the Early Intervention Program for an evaluation. Referrals can be made by parents, physicians, childcare providers and social workers.
 - c. If referred, you have a right to a free multidisciplinary evaluation to find out if you child is eligible for services. The evaluation will also help you to better understand your child's strengths and needs, and how early intervention can help.
- Contact your local school district and local early intervention program for resources and help.

9. I found a job, but it is at night. Who will take care of my child?
- There are currently a few childcare programs for those families that need care during non-traditional hours. Some people hire baby sitters and others request help from a friend, neighbor, or relative.
 - Your local Childcare Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agency maintains a list of all state regulated childcare in your area. CCR&R staff can help you find childcare arrangements that offer flexible hours and best match you schedule. Below is a listing of CCR&R offices within the tri-state area:

Child Care, Inc.
 275 7th Avenue, 15th Fl
 New York, NY 10001
(212) 929-4999

Day Care Council of
 New York, Inc.
 12 West 21st Street, 3rd Fl
 New York, NY 10010
(212) 206-7836

Child Development
 Support Corporation
 1213 Fulton Street
 Brooklyn, NY 11216
(718) 398-6738

10. Suggested information to leave with babysitter
- It is great that you can find a sitter for your child, but make sure that the sitter knows the following in order to ensure the well-being of your child during your absence:
 - a. Special information about child such as allergies, favorite food, medications, favorite activities.
 - b. Emergency numbers such as child's doctor, mother's contact, father's contact, hospital, police, fire and poison control.
 - c. Make sure outlets are covered, cleaning supplies are out of children's reach, smoke detectors and a fire extinguisher are in the house.
 - d. Discuss with the sitter about outdoor play, television programs, what happens when child does not behave, and homework completion.

11. What is Universal Pre-Kindergarten and is my child eligible?
- Universal Pre-Kindergarten is an early childhood program for 4-year-olds. Most programs are 2 ½ hours a day during the school year. These programs are located in

New York City Public Schools or community based child care and early education programs.

- There is no income eligibility requirement. If your child will be 4 years old before December 31, you may apply for him/her to enter pre-kindergarten in September.
- To apply, visit your local school for information about the “Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program Application Period.”

12. What is child support and how do I apply?

- All parents are required to pay child support until their children reach age 18 and up to age 21 under certain circumstances.
- The [Office of Child Support Enforcement](#) (212) 226-7125 help families ensure that non-custodial parents provide financial support for their children and will help you locate absent parents; establish paternity and support obligations; collect, account, and disburse support payments and enforce court orders for child support.