

DO YOU NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE?

The Illinois Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) makes it possible for families who qualify to receive financial assistance to pay for child care. To qualify, parents must meet the State of Illinois' income and family size guidelines. Illinois Action for Children can help you determine your CCAP eligibility and complete the application.

Our walk-in locations are currently by appointment only.

CONTACT US FOR YOUR FREE CHILD CARE CONSULTATION TODAY!

Child Care Consultation Hours
Monday–Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

312.823.1100
referrals@actforchildren.org
actforchildren.org

For more information,
scan the QR Code below.



FIRST STEPS

CHILD CARE OPTIONS FOR YOUR FAMILY

Illinois Action for Children's Child Care Consultants can help you find the child care solution that meets your needs.



WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Even though it can be challenging for many parents to find quality, convenient, and affordable child care, we're here to help!

From child care centers and family child care homes, to in-your-home child care, Illinois Action for Children's (IAFC) Child Care Referral Database has thousands of child care providers who can create a safe and nurturing environment for your child.

IAFC's team of child care consultants are ready to help you find the best option for your family.

While we don't provide specific recommendations, we do supply you with a list of customized referrals and encourage you to visit potential providers to select one that best suits your needs.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

With so many options, it can be difficult to determine the best solution for your family. Below are key questions to consider during this process:

- Does the child care arrangement meet my needs?
- What does the child care environment provide?
- How qualified are the child care providers?
- How much will the child care cost?
- What is the schedule of closures and holidays?



UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD CARE OPTIONS

Child Care Centers

Child care centers provide care for groups of children. There are two types of child care centers, "licensed" and "license-exempt" each includes:

- Daily planned activities
- Opportunities for building social skills
- Staff trained in child development, CPR, and first aid

Family Child Care

Family child care is offered in the child care provider's home. There are three types of family child care, "licensed home," "group home," and "license-exempt homes," that includes:

- A home environment
- Flexible schedules
- Mixed ages of children

In-Home Child Care

An in-home child care provider cares for your child in your home. This caregiver could be a nanny, a relative, or an au pair. This type of care is not regulated by DCFS licensing standards. As a parent, you are the employer of the caregiver, which means:

- Children are in their own home
- Individualized care
- Potential costs savings for families with several children requiring care