

2021 State Child Care Regulations Benchmark Scores



North Dakota

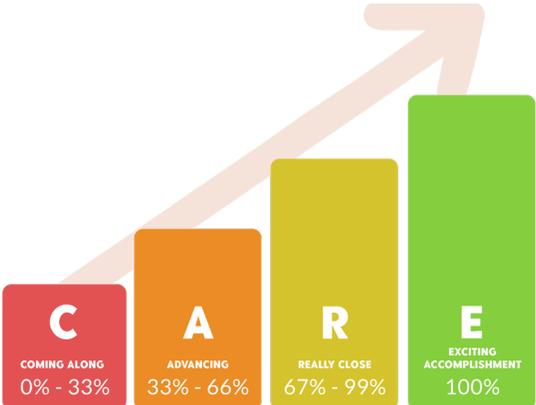
Child Care Aware® of America partnered with experts to develop state reports that rate each state against benchmark criteria. These reports serve as a compass to guide everyone to higher-quality, affordable child care environments for all children. System administrators may use them to promote continuous quality improvement efforts that advance child care quality in their state and the supply of high-quality child care in the U.S. as a whole.

STATE'S TOTAL SCORE

OVERALL SCORE: **80%**

C A **R** E

Oversight Standards <i>All Child Care Settings</i>	80%		
Program Standards	80%	Family Child Care	Child Care Center
		83%	77%



STANDARD LEVELS

*CCDBG: Child Care and Development Block Grant

Level 1 Measures how closely state standards align with CCDBG* requirements	Level 2 Measures if state standards reflect quality improvement beyond CCDBG* requirements
C A R E — 95%	C A R E — 60%

TAKEAWAYS

- State's child care regulations and policies align with **80%** of all benchmark criteria.
- State's regulations align with federal child care and development block grant recommendations most of the time.
- State may effectively advance the quality of state regulations in both family child care and child care settings by focusing on lower-scoring oversight and program standards depicted on the next page.



OVERSIGHT STANDARDS

	Level 1	Level 2		Level 1	Level 2
Licensing			Licensing Staff Qualifications		
Monitoring			Background Check Implementation		
Inspection Reports			Professional Development		
Program/Staff Ratio					

PROGRAM STANDARDS

	Family Child Care Level 1	Family Child Care Level 2	Child Care Center Level 1	Child Care Center Level 2
Background Checks				
Provider Qualifications				
Professional Development				
Health and Safety Policies and Procedures				
Developmental Guidelines and Learning Activities				
Group Size and Ratio				
Family Engagement				

For more information on the regulation benchmark score calculations and data collection process, please visit childcareaware.org/child-care-licensing-benchmark-project.

OVERSIGHT STANDARDS



Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- State regulations require all facilities to be licensed. (This means that there are no exemptions to licensing in the state.)
 - Explanation: Self-declaration providers in North Dakota are classified as CCDF license-exempt providers.



Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- State regulations ensure that inspections conducted for the purpose of investigating a complaint are NOT used to satisfy the annual inspection visits requirement.
- If a program is closed anytime, follow-up visits are conducted.



Level 2 Standard for Which Credit was Not Received:

- State licensing regulations require the ratio to not exceed 50 to 60 programs per one licensing inspector.



Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- State regulations ensure licensing inspectors receive training on the following topics:
 - administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent.
 - Explanation: Licensing Specialists are required to complete Getting Started, North Dakota's basic child care course. The benchmark team reviewed the Getting Started Training Guide and determined standards for parental consent and medication administration is not specified.
 - building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic.
 - Explanation: Licensing Specialists are required to complete Getting Started, North Dakota's basic child care course. The benchmark team reviewed the Getting Started Training Guide and determined standards for the specific protocol for premises safety, protection from hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic are not delineated.
 - handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of biocontaminants.
 - Explanation: Licensing Specialists are required to complete Getting Started, North Dakota's basic child care course. The benchmark team reviewed the Getting Started Training Guide and determined standards for the safe handling and STORAGE of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of biocontaminants are not specified.
 - pediatric first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

OVERSIGHT STANDARDS

- State regulations require licensing inspectors to...
 - have specialized training of health and safety in early care and education settings.
 - have specialized training of cultural and linguistic diversity of caregivers.
- The state requires licensing inspectors to...
 - have at least 50 clock hours of competency-based orientation training.
 - have at 24 annual clock hours of competency-based continuing education.



Level 1 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- State regulations require states to coordinate with other states to have in effect requirements, policies, and procedures for conducting criminal background checks for all child care staff members. Note: All child care staff also includes prospective child care staff members of all licensed, regulated, or registered child care providers that are eligible to services for which assistance is provided under CCDBG.
- State regulations require states to coordinate with other states to have in effect requirements, policies, and procedures for conducting criminal background checks that are as expeditiously as possible in order to accommodate the 45 day timeframe.

Level 2 Standard for Which Credit was Not Received:

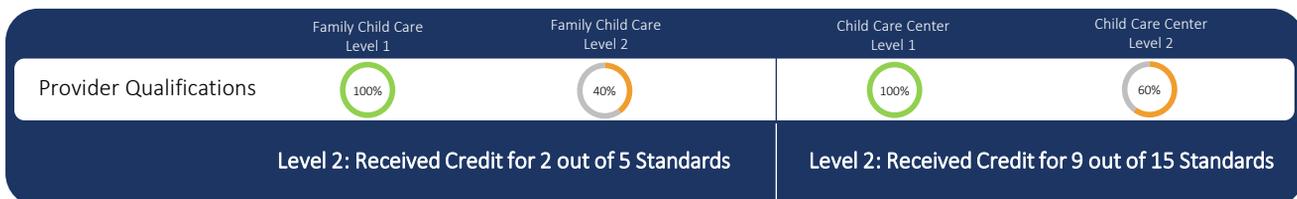
- State regulations require background checks to be verified by state licensing agency through a statewide background check "clearinghouse" system.



Standard for Which Credit was Not Received:

- State licensing regulations require the framework/plan to be developed in consultation with the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care.

PROGRAM STANDARDS



FCC Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- Family child care (FCC) provider/caregiver qualifications require:
 - a high school diploma/equivalency (at a minimum).
 - additional credentials.
 - experience and skills.

PROGRAM STANDARDS

CCC Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- Lead teacher qualifications require:
 - a high school diploma/equivalency (at a minimum).
 - additional credentials.
 - experience and skills.
- Assistant teacher qualifications require:
 - a high school diploma/equivalency (at a minimum).
 - additional credentials.
 - experience and skills.



FCC Level 1 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- Training topics address the following:
 - Building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic.
 - Explanation: Child care providers are required to complete Getting Started, North Dakota's basic child care course. The benchmark team reviewed the Getting Started Training Guide and determined standards for the specific protocol for premises safety, protection from hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic are not delineated.
 - Handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of biocontaminants.
 - Explanation: Child care providers are required to complete Getting Started, North Dakota's basic child care course. The benchmark team reviewed the Getting Started Training Guide and determined standards for the safe handling and STORAGE of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of biocontaminants are not specified

FCC Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- The state requires a minimum of 40 hours of pre-service training for FCC providers/caregivers.
- The state requires a minimum of 24 hours of annual training for FCC providers/caregivers.
- The state requires a minimum of 16 hours of annual training for FCC providers/caregivers to be focused on early learning and child development.
- The state requires a minimum of 8 hours of annual training for FCC providers/caregivers to be focused on health and safety.

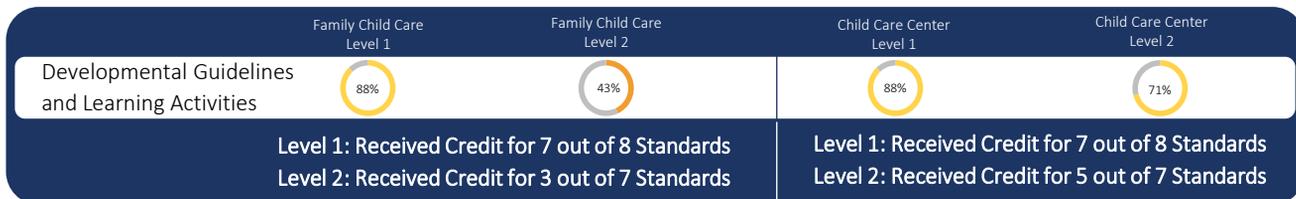
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 - Handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of biocontaminants.
 - Explanation: Child care providers are required to complete Getting Started, North Dakota's basic child care course. The benchmark team reviewed the Getting Started Training Guide and determined standards for the safe handling and STORAGE of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of biocontaminants are not specified

PROGRAM STANDARDS

CCC Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- The state requires a minimum of 40 hours of pre-service training for teachers.
- The state requires a minimum of 40 hours of pre-service training for directors/administrators.
- The state requires a minimum of 24 hours of annual training for teachers.
- The state requires a minimum of 24 hours of annual training for directors/administrators. The state requires a minimum of 16 hours of annual training for:
 - teachers to be focused on early learning and child development.
 - directors/administrators to be focused on early learning and child development.
- The state requires a minimum of 8 hours of annual training for:
 - teachers to be focused on health and safety.
 - directors/administrators to be focused on health and safety.



FCC Level 1 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- The state early learning and developmental guidelines are [required to be] used statewide by child care providers and FCC caregivers.

FCC Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

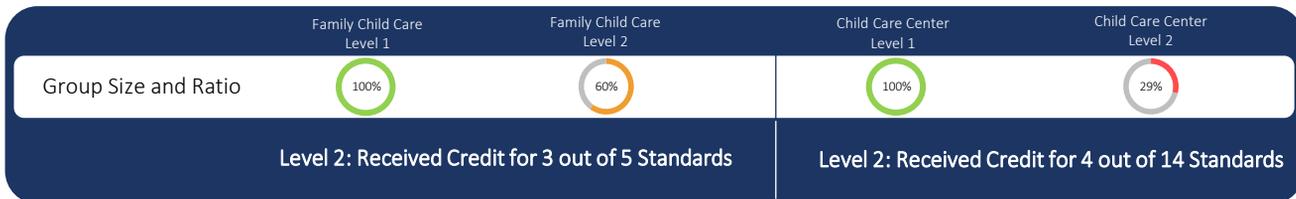
- The state requires all child care providers to have a plan that incorporates state early learning and developmental guidelines.
 - This requirement is stated in the state regulations.
- The state requires all child care providers to have a plan that includes activities that address the individual needs of each child.
- The state requires all child care providers to have a plan that includes activities that are culturally sensitive.

CCC Level 1 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

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CCC Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- The state requires all child care providers to have a plan that incorporates state early learning and developmental guidelines.
 - This requirement is stated in the state regulations.



FCC Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- State regulations for Family Child Care include...
 - that a qualified assistant should be present when there are more than 6 children in care.
 - that when there are 6 or fewer children present, no more than two are under the age of two years old.

PROGRAM STANDARDS

CCC Level 2 Standards for Which Credit was Not Received:

- Ratio:
 - For children 12-23 months, there is a 1:4 staff child ratio.
 - For 5 years old children, there is a 1:10 staff child ratio.
 - For 6 year old or older children, there is a 1:12 staff child ratio.
- Group Size:
 - For children less than 12 months, there is a maximum group size of 8 children.
 - For children 12-23 months, there is a maximum group size of 8 children.
 - For children 24-35 months, there is a maximum group size of 12 children.
 - For 3 years old children, there is a maximum group size of 18 children.
 - For 4 years old children, there is a maximum group size of 20 children.
 - For 5 years old children, there is a maximum group size of 20 children.
 - For 6 year old or older children, there is a maximum group size of 24 children.



FCC Level 2 Standard for Which Credit was Not Received:

- The family engagement plan is linguistically and culturally responsive.