

Resources for Starting a Childcare Business

The State Department of Human Services (formerly DPW) offers [monthly orientations](#). This class is required in order to legally operate a child care business in PA.

Call 215-560-2541 for next orientation dates and to register.

Prospective child care programs have one year from the date of the workshop to get their license. If prospective program does not receive their license within one year, they must attend the State orientation again.

[The Pennsylvania Keys to Quality](#) is a system of supports for Keystone STARS and other programs including:

- professional development opportunities for early childhood and school-age;
- independent Environmental Rating Scale (ERS) assessments for early learning and school-age programs; and
- community engagement and outreach.

City of Philadelphia Business Services regulates childcare facilities for zoning, building, health and fire code compliance. If you are planning to operate such a facility, you will need to know what type of child care/use group you intend to apply for in order to fill out the appropriate documentation.

- [How to Start a Family Child Care Business](#)
- [Group and Commercial Child Care Centers](#)
- [Child Care Facility License](#)

PHMC Child Development and Family Services helps their partners focus on serving their communities by providing administrative capabilities, and providing resources for early childhood education providers, families and community collaborators.

<https://www.phmc.org/site/programs/child-development-and-family-services/child-development-and-family-services>