

# Child Care Lookup Tool

## Disclaimer and Glossary of Terms

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### Disclaimer

This site is designed to provide information to the public regarding licensed and approved child care programs in Alberta. It includes:

- The name of the program
- The category of the program (for example, daycare, preschool, family day home, etc)
- The address of the program
- The capacity of the program
- The accreditation status of the program
- Results of inspections of the program.

Information posted here on inspections conducted by Children Services' child care licensing staff. Each program is inspected by Children's Services child care licensing staff for compliance with the *Child Care Licensing Act* and Child Care Licensing Regulation. Where violations are identified, a program is required to take corrective action. Follow-up inspections are done to make sure all violations are corrected.

The information on this site is updated every working day and remains on the site for 18 months. Inspection results are usually entered within 5 working days of the inspection. License holders must display their inspection reports in a prominent and visible place on the premises.

The information on this site is solely provided for the user's information and convenience and, while thought to be accurate and functional, it is provided without warranty of any kind. It is the responsibility of the user to scrutinize, examine, interpret, and apply the information properly for any intended purpose. The Crown, its agents, employees or contractors will not be liable to the user for any damages, direct or indirect, arising out of use of the information contained in this document.

While every effort is made to keep the information on this website up-to-date and accurate, Children's Services cannot guarantee that all information is accurate, complete or current at all times.

No endorsement of any program is expressed or implied by any information, material or content included on this website.

If you discover a discrepancy in the information pertaining to a program please email us at [cs.childcare@gov.ab.ca](mailto:cs.childcare@gov.ab.ca) with the name and address of the program and the specifics of your concern.

# Glossary

## Terms used in the Child Care Lookup Tool

**Accreditation** - The Alberta Child Care Accreditation program establishes standards that exceed those legislated by the province. These higher standards have been developed by members of the child care sector and Children’s Services. An accreditation agency works with accredited programs to ensure that these standards are followed. This voluntary program is the only one of its kind in Canada. Currently licensed daycare, out-of-school care, and contracted family day home agencies can participate in the Accreditation Program.

**Daycare program** – a licensed child care program provided to infants, preschool children, and kindergarten children for 4 or more consecutive hours in each day the program is provided.

**Family day home program** – a program where Children’s Services has entered into an agreement with a family day home agency to coordinate and monitor the provision of child care in the private residence of one or more child care providers. Family day home programs do not provide care to more than 6 children in each private residence.

**Group family child care program** – a licensed child care program provided in the private residence of the license holder to infants, preschool children, kindergarten children, and school-aged children.

**Infants** – defined for the purposes of the Child Care Lookup Tool as children under 19 months of age.

**Inspection** – Children’s Services licensing staff inspect licensed child care programs at least twice per year. Additional inspections also may occur to investigate critical incidents, to respond to complaints about the program, and to ensure that corrective action was taken in response to identified violations of the legislation. Inspections are coded on the Child Care Lookup Tool as follows:

Inspection or visit type	Program type	Purpose
Incident Report	Licensed Child Care Contracted Approved Family Day Home Agency	Approved Family Day Home Agencies and Licensed Child Care programs are required to complete incidents reports. An investigation will occur. Any non-compliances as a result of the incident will be listed and enforcement actions.
Initial License Inspection	Licensed Child Care	Conducted to determine the eligibility of an applicant for an initial license.
Complaint Investigation	Licensed Child Care Contracted Approved Family Day Home Agency	An inspection/visit conducted in response to a complaint about a child care program. The inspection is typically done as part of the investigation into the complaint.

Renewal License Inspection	Licensed Child Care	An inspection conducted to determine the eligibility of an applicant for a renewal license.
Consultation	Licensed Child Care Approved Family Day Home Agency	An inspection conducted to provide consultation on improving practices or to provide information to a program and its staff.
Follow-up to Enforcement Action/ Non-Compliance	Licensed Child Care Approved Family Day Home Agency	An inspection conducted to determine if a program has complied with an enforcement action.
Provider Review	Approved Family Day Home Agency	A visit to a Family Day Home provider by the Family Day Home Agency Consultant to determine if the provider is complying with provincial standards
Agency Review	Approved Family Day Home Agency	A visit to a Family Day Home Agency by regional licensing staff to determine if the agency is complying with provincial standards.

Out-of-school care program – a licensed child care program provided to kindergarten and school-aged children in any or all of:

- before-and-after school
- during the lunch hour
- or when school is closed.

**Enforcement action** – when Children’s Services identify a program that is in violation of the *Child Care Licensing Act* or Child Care Licensing Regulation, they may:

- Issue an order that ensures a license holder takes measures specified in the order within a certain time limit;
- Impose conditions on a license for a specified period of time;
- Vary license provisions including the category of program offered, the location, the maximum number of children that may be cared for in the program, or the term of the license;
- Suspend a license and issue a probationary license, the term of which cannot exceed three months; and
- Cancel a license.

**Preschool children** – defined for the purposes of the Child Care Lookup Tool as children between three and four-and-a-half years of age.

**Preschool program** – a licensed child care program provided to preschool children and kindergarten children for four hours per child in each day that the program is provided.

**School-aged children** – defined for the purposes of the Child Care Lookup Tool as children in Grades 1 to 6.

**Toddlers** – defined for the purposes of the Child Care Lookup Tool as children between 19 months and 3 years of age.