

# Child Care Centers in Idaho

**Overall Score: 17/150 (11%)**

**Rank\*: 52**

	Score	Percent	Rank
Oversight	2/50	4%	52
Regulation	15/100	15%	51

## Child Care Center Costs in 2009

Average annual fees paid for an infant in a center	\$5,954
Average annual fees paid for a 4-year-old in a center	\$5,159

## Child Care Center Oversight

Benchmarks for Ranking	Meets
1. All centers and family child care homes caring for unrelated children for a fee are licensed.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Child care centers are inspected at least four times a year, including visits by licensing, health and fire personnel. Some visits are unannounced.	<input type="radio"/>
3. Programs to licensing staff ratio does not exceed 50:1.	<input type="radio"/>
4. Licensing staff have a bachelor's degree in ECE* or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Online inspection and complaint reports are available to parents.	<input type="radio"/>



## Child Care Center Regulations

Benchmarks for Ranking	Meets	Benchmarks for Ranking	Meets
1. Staff:child ratios are in compliance with NAEYC** accreditation standards.	<input type="radio"/>	6. Lead teachers are required to have 24 hours or more of annual training.	<input type="radio"/>
2. Group size requirements are in compliance with NAEYC accreditation standards.	<input type="radio"/>	7. Background checks require use of fingerprints to check state and FBI records and checks of state child abuse registry and sex offender registry.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
3. Center directors are required to have a bachelor's degree or higher in ECE or a related field.	<input type="radio"/>	8. Programs are required to address six developmental domains.***	<input type="radio"/>
4. Lead teachers are required to have a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or an associate degree in ECE or related field.	<input type="radio"/>	9. Programs are required to address 10 basic regulations of health and safety standards.**** Corporal punishment is not allowed.	<input type="radio"/>
5. Lead teachers have initial training, including orientation and training in fire safety and other health and safety issues. One staff member on duty must be certified in first aid and CPR.	<input type="radio"/>	10. Programs are required to encourage parent involvement, communicate with parents daily or on an ongoing basis and allow parental visits.	<input type="radio"/>

### Key



Fully Meets



Substantially Meets



Partially Meets



Marginally Meets



Does not meet

N/A = Not Available

\*Out of 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Department of Defense. \*\*Early childhood education \*\*National Association for the Education of Young Children. \*\*\*Six developmental domains are language/literacy, cognitive/intellectual, social, emotional, physical and cultural. \*\*\*\*Ten areas are immunizations, guidance/discipline regulations, diapering and handwashing, fire drills, medication administration, incident reporting, placing infants on backs to sleep, hazardous materials, playground surfaces under outdoor equipment and emergency preparedness.

Source for cost information: National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies. *Parents and the High Cost of Child Care: 2010 Update* - based on 2009 data.

All WCDB data is sourced from a survey of state licensing directors conducted by the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies in December 2010. Note: Information was also verified against state regulations.

# Child Care Centers in Idaho

## Strength

- ✓ Center staff are required to undergo a comprehensive background check that includes using fingerprints to check state and federal criminal records and checks of child abuse and neglect registry and sex offender registry.

## Recommendations

- Increase frequency of inspections of child care centers.
- Require some monitoring inspections be unannounced.
- Require center directors to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.
- Increase the education requirements for lead teachers to a CDA credential or an associate degree in early childhood education or a related field.
- Require center staff to have training in orientation, fire safety and health topics before caring for children.
- Require that at least one person be in the program at all times who is certified in CPR and first aid.
- Increase the annual training requirements for teachers to 24 hours including CPR and first-aid renewal.
- Require programs to address all six of the developmental domains in offering activities.
- Require programs to address all health and safety standards.
- Prohibit corporal punishment under all circumstances.
- Require parent involvement and daily/frequent communication with parents.
- Make both inspection and complaint reports available online.
- Fund licensing inspectors and require licensing staff to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related field.

## Weakness

- X Child care inspections are only conducted once every two years.
- X Unannounced monitoring inspections are not required.
- X Neither center director nor lead teacher education requirements meet NACCRRRA's recommended standard.
- X Center staff are not required to have initial orientation, fire safety or other health and safety training.
- X Centers are not required to have a person trained in first aid present when children are in care.
- X Center staff are required to complete only four hours of annual training.
- X Staff:child ratios are not in compliance with NAEYC accreditation standards for seven age groups.
- X Programs are not required to address any of the six developmental domains (language/ literacy, cognitive/ intellectual, physical, social, emotional and cultural).
- X Only addresses three of 10 basic standards. Does not address address guidance/discipline, fire drills, medicine administration, placing the infants on their backs to sleep, emergency preparedness, playground surfaces under outdoor equipment, or incident reporting.
- X Allows corporal punishment.
- X Does not specifically address parent involvement or daily/frequent communication with parents.
- X Neither complaint nor inspection reports are online.
- X Licensing is a shared responsibility of multiple staff and contractors. There is one dedicated state position in which licensing is the primary function.
- X Child care licensing staff are not required to have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field.