

Florida's Child Care Resource and Referral Services

Fact Sheet for Families



Are you a parent with questions about child care in Florida? If so, the statewide Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) network can help. The services are free for any family living in or moving to Florida.

Child care is an important part of helping parents manage their responsibilities. In Florida, the Office of Early Learning works at the state level and partners with 30 regional early learning coalitions to help families connect with resources. Each coalition has a local CCR&R team that provides services to families, child care providers, employers and their communities.

What does the local CCR&R program do for families?

- Shares detailed information about valuable community and state resources.
- Keeps a database of all legally operating child care providers to help families select an early learning program that best meets their needs.
- Talks with families about a child's basic needs, financial assistance, community resources and other agencies that support families' well-being.
- Connects families to specialists and resources for supporting children with special needs.
- Helps families with the school readiness or voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) application process.
- Shares resources that support the needs of military families.
- Offers assistance to foster families and homeless families.



Florida's Child Care Resource and Referral Services can help your family by providing



A customized list of local child care options from trained child care resource and referral specialists.



Information about quality child care and early learning programs.



Financial assistance strategies and opportunities.



Referrals to other community resources and programs.

How does the local CCR&R program help child care providers?

- Connects families to child care providers that meet their individual needs.
- Offers new child care providers free start-up information and technical assistance.
- Provides access to resources to promote quality early childhood education.
- Offers free professional development and technical assistance opportunities for child care providers and their staff.
- Distributes information about best practices in operating a child care program, engaging families, child development, consumer information, local and statewide initiatives, and resources for teachers, children and families.

How do I receive CCR&R assistance?

To find out more, contact your early learning coalition. Visit www.floridaearlylearning.com for a map of the 30 coalitions. You may also call the state office on their toll-free family line at 866-357-3239.



What services does the state CCR&R office provide?

- Provides oversight, guidance, training and technical assistance to coalitions and their CCR&R staff.
- Operates a toll-free call center for families and providers.
- Maintains information and access to all early learning programs in Florida.
- Develops educational materials and other resources for coalitions, families and child care providers.
- Collaborates with different agencies, community partners and national experts to improve the state's child care services as well as access to child care.
- Provides objective information for planning and policy development to the public and private sectors.
- Works with federal, state and local entities to provide emergency services during and after natural disasters.



CCR&R helps families locate quality child care programs in their communities.



In the 2016-2017 school year, CCR&R staff served more than 242,698 families.



Coalition CCR&R staff provide information about financial help for child care for eligible families.



Every family in Florida has access to CCR&R services.



Coalition CCR&R staff provide info about resources for children who may have learning or health problems.