CHILD CARE COST AND ASSISTANCE

Child care costs vary. Financial assistance is available through various subsidies and programs, so explore these options to reduce expenses.

Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (FSA)

Tax advantaged financial account allows an employee to set aside earnings to pay for care. Money deducted from an employee's pay into an FSA is not subject to payroll taxes, resulting in substantial payroll tax savings.

Military Subsidies

You may qualify for child care subsidy assistance if you are an Active Duty military family or Active Duty National Guard (AGR) serving under Title 10 or Title 32, United States Code (U.S.C.).
childcareaware.org for information.

Child Care Assistance

The Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) has funding available to help income eligible families pay for child care in a regulated facility, or by a relative caregiver. Call 1-888-369-4777, visit www.dcf.ks.gov, or visit childcareinkansas.com.

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP

Even after your child is enrolled, it's important to stay involved with their care by volunteering, asking for updates, and checking in with your child about their experience.

- **Pick up your child on time.** If an emergency prevents you from being on time, call.
- **Communicate openly** with your provider about your child and his/her progress, as well as any concerns you may have.
- **Find ways to get involved.** Working together is key to making the partnership work.
- **Follow the agreed upon contract and policies.** Keep a copy for your records. If you feel that the child care provider is not adhering to their own policies, mention it. Small issues can quickly become big issues.
- **Pay on time.** Your child care provider is operating a business and depends on you.

FINDING QUALITY CHILD CARE

Your search begins here!



Contact our knowledgeable Resource Specialists or visit our website for FREE information and a list of local child care providers!

You may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit. Call 1-800-829-1040 or visit **irs.gov** for more information.

Don't forget to check a provider's compliance and license status.
kdhe.ks.gov/386/Facility-Inspection-Results

Some facilities offer discounts for multiple children or sliding fees. Businesses and communities may also have programs to help with child care costs.

Visit the Family Support Center to view all of this information and more online!

FAMILY SUPPORT

877-678-2548

ks.childcareaware.org/childcaresearch

ChildCare Aware® OF KANSAS

Kansas Department for Children and Families

CHILD CARE in KANSAS

Program Funding Partner

Call 877-678-2548 for FREE information and a list of local child care providers!

Finding Child Care...

Choosing child care is one of the most important decisions you will make for your child. Since 1992, Child Care Aware of Kansas has helped families just like yours, understand how to determine the best child care setting for their child. Our statewide network of child care resource and referral (CCR&R) agencies work together to connect families across Kansas to child care in their area.





MAKING A DECISION

Explore: Start your search early. Finding the right child care may take time.

Evaluate: Consider your child's learning style, family needs, and the location and hours of care.

Observe: Visit at least three programs, interview providers, and spend 30 to 60 minutes at each visit.

Decide: Review your notes, trust your instincts, and address any concerns.

Be Involved: Partner with your child care provider. You can visit anytime to monitor the care your child is receiving.

Helpful Websites

ks.childcareaware.org/finding-quality-child-care

childcareinkansas.com

QUESTIONS TO ASK

Are you licensed by the state of Kansas?
Check for a posted Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) license. It will indicate the maximum number of children allowed in care.

How are the children in your program supervised?
Children should be actively supervised at all times, including during naps.

In what ways does your program partner with families?
The facility should permit you to visit your child at any time and respect your family's cultural values. Inquire about family nights and volunteering opportunities.

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