

Children First: Safe and Secure



Section III—Parent's Corner

Searching for Child Care

Touching a child's hand opens a parent's heart. Knowing that same child's needs are met when we are not around keeps our hearts whole. Entrusting someone else with our child's well-being and distinct needs weighs heavily on us.

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services' Child Care Licensing Web site makes finding the right child-care provider a bit easier. Search Texas Child Care offers expanded information about provider services in your area such as:

- ◆ special-needs services;
- ◆ child care centers that accept subsidies (offered by Texas Workforce Commission);
- ◆ the type of care offered, such as after-school, half-day, etc.; and
- ◆ geographic location.

The site offers parents a search for facilities by type of care and by zip code. The minimum standards for facilities are also listed on the Web. How well a child-care provider meets those minimum standards will be posted only after the facility has the opportunity to appeal inspection and investigation citations and the results are final. When child-care operations correct citations, we will post that information.

We encourage parents to visit the child-care locations and talk with the staff members before making a final decision. Minimum standards are simply that, minimum. Search for Texas Child Care is only a simple way to focus your search to licensed or registered professionals who provide the services that meet your child's needs.

Go to www.txchildcaresearch.org for more information about child care.

