
Glossary

Definitions and explanations for terms used in this report. Note that other organizations or researchers may define these terms differently.

- **Low-income Working Family**

Family with young child (6 months to 6 years) with annual household income below \$35,000 per year (approximately 200% of federal poverty level or below). At least one adult head of household is engaged in paid employment, school, or job training for a total of 20 hours or more per week.

- **Infant**

Children 6 months to 12 months of age.

- **Toddler**

Children 13 to 35 months of age.

- **Preschooler**

Children 36 to 60 months of age.

TYPES OF CHILD CARE

- **Licensed Child Care Center**

Non-residential building where at least one child receives care by paid non-relative provider. Indiana child care center licensing requirements include requirements for staff training, health, safety, nutrition, appropriate discipline, and child development curriculum. Director must have at least an associate degree with coursework in Early Childhood Education/Child Development (ECE/CD) and 3 years experience. Lead caregivers must be at least 18 yrs, high school graduates, and have a CDA credential OR take ongoing training in ECE/CD. Child care licensing consultants make a minimum of one visit to licensed facilities each year. There were only five preschools (part-day programs) included in the study, and they were included in this categorization.

- **Registered Child Care Ministry**

License exempt center-based program in Indiana, an extension of a church or ministry that is a tax-exempt religious organization. In 1991 an Indiana statute was passed recognizing ministries as license exempt, having only to meet general sanitation and fire safety rules. No regulations for staff, group sizes, ratios, or program apply to registered

ministries. There were less than 100 registered ministries at this time. The mid- to late-1990s saw a dramatic increase in ministries. Indiana had over 650 registered ministries in December, 2004. A child care ministry that is exempt from licensing must clearly state in all of its paid promotional advertising that the child care ministry is providing child care as an extension of the ministry's church or religious ministry.

- **Head Start**

A national comprehensive preschool program in the United States. Head Start serves children prenatal to 6 years and their families. The program provides comprehensive education, health, nutrition, and parent involvement services to low-income children, prenatal to 5 years, and their families. Sponsoring organizations in local communities apply for competitive grants to operate local Head Start programs under national guidelines, the Head Start Performance Standards. These standards meet or exceed the standards for licensed child care centers in Indiana.

- **Licensed Family Child Care**

Indiana requires home-based child care providers to be licensed if they care for more than six children. A provider's own children are only counted in group size limits if they are under the age of 8 years. A Class I child care home serves any combination of full time or part time children not to exceed at any one time 12 children, plus 3 school age children. A maximum of 15 children under 11 yrs. may be in a class I home at any one time. Class II child care homes have 2 or more providers, with more than 12 but not more than 16 children at any one time. Licensing does not guarantee high quality, but it does set minimum standards for health, safety, and caregiver training that must be maintained. Licensed family child care homes are inspected by the state once per year.

- **Unlicensed Family Child Care**

Family care providers that are not licensed, legally caring for fewer than six children non-relative children in Indiana. Licensing is not required for a child care home if the pro-

vider is not paid; cares for only relative children; cares for less than 6 children, not including own children; or serves migrant children.

- **Relative Care**
Relatives caring for children in the relative's home. Indiana does not regulate care provided by relatives.

CAREGIVER TRAINING AND EDUCATION

- **Child Development Associate Certification (CDA)**
A national competency-based credentialing program for early childhood education providers.
- **Montessori**
A comprehensive early education program based on the philosophy of Italian educator Maria Montessori, with a structured approach to environment and learning.
- **High/Scope**
A curriculum for early childhood education and child care that emphasizes child-initiated learning, based on the theory of Jean Piaget by the High/Scope Education and Research Foundation, Ypsilanti, Michigan.
- **West Ed**
The Program for Infant Toddler Caregivers (PITC), a training program for caregivers that targets high quality services for infants and toddlers. The program was developed by the West Ed, LaJolla, California.
- **Project Construct**
A program that provides training in pre-literacy and language following the philosophy of Jean Piaget.
- **Creative Curriculum**
A comprehensive developmental curriculum for young children developed by Teaching Strategies, Inc.
- **CPR and First Aid**
Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and first aid, basic safety and emergency response training programs.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION & CHILD CARE ORGANIZATIONS

- **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)**
NAEYC is a national organization dedicated to improving the well-being of all young children, with particular focus on the quality of educational and developmental services for children from birth through age 8. It is the world's largest organization working on behalf of young children with more than 100,000 members, and a national network of nearly 450 local, state, and regional Affiliates.
- **Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children (IAEYC)**
IAEYC is the state affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. IAEYC serves as a resource to early childhood professionals and parents as well as providing advocacy for issues regarding the quality care and education of young children.
- **National Academy of Early Childhood Programs (NAECP)**
NAECP administers a national, voluntary, professionally sponsored accreditation system for all types of preschools, kindergartens, child care centers, and school-age child care programs. It is generally acknowledged that the quality standards for programs accredited by NAECP are higher than for state licensing.
- **T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) Scholarships**
The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® INDIANA project serves as an umbrella for educational scholarship opportunities for people working in licensed, registered or legally exempt child care centers and homes in Indiana. T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® INDIANA covers partial costs to help with the costs of college tuition, books and travel. In return for receiving a scholarship, each recipient must complete a certain amount of education, in the form of college coursework, during a prescribed contract period. All scholarship recipients receive increased compensation in the form of a bonus or raise, after completing a certain amount of coursework following the contract period. Recipients make a commitment to remain in the sponsoring child care program or the field of early childhood for 6 months to one year beyond the contract period, depending on the scholarship model.



- **Paths to Quality**

Paths to QUALITY is a voluntary system for child care providers who are willing to go beyond the minimum state requirements of licensing to provide a higher level of care. It is offered by the Early Childhood Alliance Child Care Resource and Referral, a non-profit United Way Partner agency

that supports families and child care providers in Allen, DeKalb, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, and Whitley Counties. Paths to QUALITY helps child care providers learn new ways to improve the quality of their care and give parents more choices when selecting quality child care.