

Outdoor Space

State	Regulatory Agency	Manual/Code	Required by Code	Direct Access	Square Footage	Natural Features	Sensory-Rich	Planned Classrooms
<p>Outdoor Space This analysis examines the similarities and variations in how states regulate outdoor spaces in ECE licensed centers namely proximity, accessibility, and square footage of space per child. The analysis also included state regulations that reference elements of outdoor space like natural features, sensory-rich materials, and outdoor learning/planned classrooms. By looking at the highlighted cells, you can get a sense of the range of different kinds of regulation in this category.</p>								
Alabama	Department of Human Resources, Child Care Services Division	Child Care Licensing and Performance Standards	For centers licensed, permitted, or approved after January 22, 2001 , an off-street area for loading/unloading children shall be provided. For centers licensed, permitted, or approved after January 22, 2001 , these regulations for outdoor play:	Outdoor play areas shall adjoin , or be safely accessible to, the indoor area . Outdoor play areas on the premises shall be enclosed by a fence or wall at least 4 feet in height	In centers with a licensed, permitted, or approved: capacity of less than 60 children , there shall be at least 60 square feet of outdoor play area for each child; capacity of 60 or more children , there shall be at least 60 square feet of outdoor play area for each child for at least one-half of the center's licensed, permitted, or approved capacity .	Shade structure and sun areas shall be provided		
Alaska	Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Assistance, Child Care Program Office	Title 7 Alaska Admin Code Chapter 57 Child Care Facilities Licensing	A child care facility must have indoor and outdoor space to accommodate the physical and developmental needs of children in care. Outdoor recreation space is not available at a child care center or a child care group home, the facility may use a park or other outdoor location that is easily accessible if a plan for transportation to and from and for use of this alternative outdoor location is approved by the department	If necessary to ensure the safety of adults or children in care, the department will require that an outdoor recreation area be enclosed with landscaping, a fence, or another effective barrier that prevents or deters access to a busy roadway or other potential hazard	A child care center and a child care group home shall provide at least 75 square feet of outdoor recreation space per child for the maximum number of children playing outside at any one time			
Arizona	Arizona Department of Health Services, Child Care Facilities Licensing	Arizona Administrative Rules and Arizona Revised Statutes for Child Care Facilities		A licensee shall not permit an enrolled child to cross a driveway or parking lot to access an outdoor activity area on the facility premises or a school campus unless the licensee obtains written approval. A licensee shall ensure that an outdoor activity area is enclosed by a fence	Outdoor activities are scheduled to allow not less than 75 square feet for each enrolled child occupying the facility's outdoor activity area	A licensee shall provide a shaded area for each enrolled child occupying an outdoor activity area at any time of day		
Arkansas	Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Child Care Licensing	Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers	The use of public playgrounds and other play environments away from the facility is not recommended as these environments may not meet acceptable safety standards	There shall be an outside exit from the play area . The play area or outdoor learning area shall be fenced or otherwise enclosed	The play area or outdoor learning area shall provide at least 75 square feet per child present on the playground at any time	A shady area shall be provided where children can get out of direct sunlight		
California	California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, Child Care Program Office	Title 22, Division 12, Chapter 1, Article 7 Child Care Center Physical Environment		The outdoor activity space shall be situated to permit children to reach the outdoor activity space safely . The playground shall be enclosed by a fence to protect children and to keep them in the outdoor activity area	There shall be at least 75 square feet per child of outdoor activity space based on the total licensed capacity	The outdoor activity space shall be situated to provide a shaded rest area for the children		
Colorado	Department of Human Services, Colorado Office of Early Childhood	7.702 Rules Regulating Child Care Centers (Less than 24-hour care)	The play area must be designed so that it is easily supervised	Readily accessible gross motor play space and access to outdoor space must be provided . The play area must be fenced or have natural barriers , such as hedges or stationary walls at least 4 feet high, to restrict children from unsafe areas	The outdoor learning environment for preschool age and older must provide a minimum of 75 square feet of space per child for a group of children using the total play area at any one time. The total outdoor play area for toddler age groups must be a minimum of 750 square feet if licensed for 10 toddlers and 1,050 square feet if licensed for 14 or more toddlers . In the infant program , the outdoor play area must be a minimum of 400 square feet	A minimum of one 150 square feet of shaded area in the fenced play area must be provided	Some sand or equivalent dry material or water play should be offered to children 18 months of age or older , indoors or outdoors, at least monthly and year-round	

Outdoor Space

Connecticut	Connecticut Office of Early Childhood	Statutes and Regulations for Licensing Child Day Care Center and Group Day Care Homes	Access to outdoor space could include parks, school yards, parking areas or elevated or roof top play areas	The outdoor area shall be fenced or protected for safety	There shall be access to a minimum of 75 square feet per child of outdoor space for the number of children using the space at any one time		indoor and outdoor physical activities which provide opportunities for fine and gross motor development; problem-solving experiences that facilitate concept formation, language development and sensory discrimination	
Delaware	Delaware Department of Education, Office of Child Care Licensing	DELACARE Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers	A licensee shall ensure the outdoor play area is on-site, next to, or within a close safe walking distance of the center	A licensee shall ensure the center's outdoor play areas are fenced	A licensee shall ensure children have access to an outdoor play area with at least 75 square feet for each child for the maximum number of children who will use the playground at one time A licensee shall ensure a center licensed before January 1, 2007, has access to an outdoor play area with at least 50 square feet for each child for the maximum number of children who will use the playground at one time	This play area must have a shaded rest area for children		
District of Columbia	District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Learning	Chapter 1, Child Development Facilities: Licensing, of Title 5-A DCMR	Child Development Centers shall provide, or have access to, a suitable age-appropriate outdoor play space, this play space shall be an enclosed area, including a yard or playground, on the Facility's premises; nearby park or playground; or a rooftop play space that meets the requirements of this chapter	A Licensee shall provide at least 2 exits from each outdoor play space, at least one of these exits shall be remote from the Facility building(s) A Licensee utilizing an outdoor play space at the Facility premises shall enclose the outdoor play space with a fence or natural barrier	Child Development Centers shall provide, or have access to, a minimum of 60 square feet of outdoor play space per child , based on the maximum number of children scheduled to play outdoors at any one time			
Florida	Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Child Care Regulation	Child Care Facility Handbook	Children benefit from being outside as much as possible , and it is important to provide sufficient outdoor space to accommodate them The outdoor area must be designed to allow child care personnel to clearly see children while playing on all equipment	These areas must have at least two exits, with at least one being remote from the buildings If an outdoor play area was approved for usage by the Department prior to October 25, 2017, no new exits are required to be added to meet this standard The facility's outdoor play area must have adequate fencing or walls as required by local ordinances	There must be a minimum of 45 square feet of usable, safe, and sanitary outdoor play area per child, one year of age and older At a minimum, the outside play area must be able to accommodate one-half of the licensed capacity of the program	The outdoor play area must provide shade Shade may be provided by trees, buildings, or structures		
Georgia	Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, Bright From the Start	Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers		Playgrounds shall be adjacent to the Center or in an area which can be reached by a safe route or method approved by the Department Playgrounds shall be protected from traffic or other hazards by a four (4) foot or higher secure fence or other barrier approved by this Department	Playground Occupancy: At least 100 square feet shall be available for each child occupying the outside play area at any one time	Except in School-age Centers, the playground shall have shaded areas		
Hawaii	Department of Human Services, Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division, Child Care Licensing Program	Title 17: Chapter 892.1 Licensing of Group Child Care Center and Group Child Care Homes		The outdoor space shall be fenced or shall have natural barriers	1,065 square feet for 11 children plus 65 square feet per child thereafter up through 30 2,360 square feet for 31 children plus 60 square feet per child thereafter up through 50 3,555 square feet for 51 children plus 55 square feet per child thereafter up through 100			
Idaho	Idaho Department of Health & Welfare	16.06.02 Rules Governing Standards for Child Care Licensing	Outdoor play areas must be designed so that all parts are always visible and are easily supervised by a staff member	If any part of the play area is adjacent to hazardous areas the play area must be enclosed with a fence				

Outdoor Space

Illinois	Illinois Department of Children and Family Services	Part 407: Licensing Standards for Day Care Centers	The outdoor play area shall be arranged so that all areas are visible to staff at all times	All play space shall be fenced or otherwise enclosed or protected from traffic and other hazards	There shall be a minimum of 75 square feet of safe outdoor area per child for the total number of children using the area at any one time	There shall be a shaded area in the summer to protect children from excessive sun exposure Equipment with smooth metal surfaces, such as slides, shall be in an area that is shaded during the summer or shall be placed in a north/south alignment		
Indiana	Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning	470 IAC 3-4.7 Rule 4.7 Child Care Centers; Licensing	The outdoor caregivers will interact with children in all areas of the playground and ensure that all children are visible at all times	The outdoor play area shall be directly accessible from the indoor child care center The outdoor play area shall be safely enclosed, fenced, or protected from traffic by other natural barriers	The outdoor play area shall contain at least 75 square feet for each child outdoors at any one time			The playground shall be considered to be an outdoor classroom and an extension of the learning environment that meets curricular objectives by encouraging child-initiated, teacher-supported play activities
Iowa	Iowa Department of Human Services	Chapter 109: Child Care Centers		Adequate indoor and outdoor program space that is adjacent to the center is provided	Centers shall have a safe outdoor program area with at least sufficient square footage to accommodate 30 percent of the enrollment capacity at any one time at 75 square feet per child	The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and an area of shade		
Kansas	Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Child Care Licensing Program	Regulations for Licensing Preschools and Child Care Centers	The play area shall be arranged so that staff can provide close supervision at all times	The boundaries of outdoor play space shall be enclosed with a fence not less than four feet high	There shall be at least 75 square feet of outdoor play space on the premises for each child using the space at a given time The total outdoor space shall accommodate not less than one-half of the licensed capacity , or shall include a minimum of 750 square feet, whichever is greater	The outdoor play space shall be located to provide both sunshine and shade		
Kentucky	Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Division of Child Care	922 KAR 2:120 Child Care Facility Health and Safety Standards	An outdoor play area shall be visible to staff at all times	An outdoor play area shall be located on the premises of a public or state-accredited nonpublic school, fenced for the safety of the children	An outdoor play area shall be a minimum of 60 square feet per child			
Louisiana	Louisiana Department of Education	Bulletin 137 - Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations		Outdoor play space shall be available through a direct exit from the center into the outdoor play space or shall be attached to the center in a manner that ensures children are continuously protected by a permanent fence or other permanent barrier while going to and from the center to the outdoor play space Children shall not enter or exit the center through the kitchen	A minimum of 75 square feet of outdoor play space per child using the play space at any one time shall be available The minimum outdoor play space shall be available for at least one third of the licensed capacity			
Maine	Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services, Children's Licensing and Investigation Unit	Child Care Facility Licensing Rule	The facility must have access to an outdoor play area , with sufficient space for safe play for all Children	There must be an exit from the playground other than through a building	In Child Care Facilities serving 13 or more Children, groups of Children may occupy a play area at the same time when: The Child Care Facility has a written policy regarding outdoor play, which includes: The maximum number of Children that may be present at one time	Outdoor play areas must provide shade		
Maryland	Maryland State Department of Education, Division Early Childhood, Office of Child Care Licensing Branch	COMAR 13A.16 - Child Care Center	A center shall have an outdoor activity area on the premises of, adjacent to, or near and safely accessible to the center that provides adequate usable play space for the approved capacity of the center		A center for which a notice of intent is received by the office on or after January 1, 2009 , shall have an outdoor activity area that provides at least 75 square feet of usable play space for: one half of the approved capacity of the center; or each child , if the center has an approved capacity of 20 or fewer children			

Outdoor Space

Massachusetts	Department of Early Education and Care	606 CMR 7.00: Standards for the Licensure or Approval of Small Group and School Age and Large Group and School Age Child Care Programs		The play area must be accessible to children with disabilities	The licensee must maintain, or have access to, an outdoor play area of at least 75 square feet per child who is outside at any one time	The outdoor play area must provide for both direct sunlight and shade		
Michigan	Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Child Care Licensing Bureau	Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers		If outdoor space is not available adjacent to the center , then a center may use a park or other outdoor facility	A center operating with children in attendance for 3 or more continuous hours a day shall have an outdoor play area that has at least 1,200 square feet More than 1,200 square feet of outdoor play area may be required when the minimum amount is not adequate for the number of children for which the center is licensed	There must be a shaded area to protect children from excessive sun exposure , when necessary		The outdoor play area is considered an outdoor classroom and an extension of the learning environment
Minnesota	Minnesota Department of Human Services, Licensing Division	Chapter 9503 Licensing Requirements for Child Care Center	In no case, however, shall the outdoor activity area be farther than one-half mile from the center	An outdoor activity area used daily by children under school age must be within 2,000 feet of the center or transportation must be provided by the license holder	A center must have an outdoor activity area of at least 1,500 square feet , and there must be at least 75 square feet of space per child within the area at any given time during use			
Mississippi	Mississippi State Department of Health, Child Care Facilities Licensure Branch	Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities	The child care facility shall be equipped with an outdoor playground area that is no farther than 1/8 mile (660 feet) from the child care facility The outdoor playground area shall be well arranged so that all areas are visible to staff at all times	The child care facility shall be equipped with an outdoor playground area that directly adjoins the indoor facilities or that can be reached by a route free of hazards The outdoor playground area shall be enclosed with a fence	The outdoor playground area shall comprise a minimum of 75 square feet for each child using the outdoor playground area at any one time The total outdoor playground area shall accommodate at least 33 percent of the licensed capacity at one time	Sunlit areas and shaded areas shall be provided by means of open space and tree plantings or other cover in outdoor spaces Outdoor spaces shall be laid out to ensure ample shaded space for each child		
Missouri	Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of Childhood	Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers		A fenced outdoor play area shall be available on or adjoining the day care property	A minimum of 75 square feet of outdoor play area per child at the time of use shall be provided A sufficient area shall be available to accommodate 1/3 the licensed capacity of the facility at one time, with no less than 750 square feet			
Montana	Department of Public Health and Human Services, Early Childhood and Family Support Division, Early Childhood Services Bureau	Licensing Requirements for Child Day Care Center	Outdoor play areas shall be designed so that all parts are always visible and easily supervised by staff	Outdoor play areas at the facility must be surrounded by a fence that is at least four feet high	A day care center must have sufficient indoor and outdoor space for the number and ages of children in care	Provision shall be made for both sunny and shady activity areas		
Nebraska	Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Licensure Unit	Chapter 3 - Child Care Center		The outdoor play area must directly adjoin the center or have a department approved plan The licensee must ensure that a fenced outdoor play area is available	Accommodate at least 25 percent of the center's licensed capacity at one time when in use, have at least 50 square feet per child of age-appropriate play space			
Nevada	Department of Health and Human Services, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Child Care Licensing	Chapter 432A Services and Facilities for Care of Children		The play area of each facility must be fenced or enclosed in a manner that prevents the unsupervised departure of children from the area	At least 37 1/2 square feet of outdoor play space for each child , as determined by the maximum number of children stated on the license for the facility	Provide during the months of April through September, a shade area or shade areas that are at least equal in size to the product of 5 square feet multiplied by the total number of children in the outdoor play area		
New Hampshire	New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Licensing Unit	Part He-C 4002 NH Child Care Program Licensing Rules		Programs shall be equipped with an outside play area, which directly adjoins the indoor space of the facility The play area shall be accessible to children with disabilities	The play area shall contain a minimum of 50 square feet of outdoor play area for each child based upon the program's license capacity	The play area shall provide for both direct sunlight and shade		

Outdoor Space

New Jersey	State of New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Office of Licensing	N.J.A.C. 3A:52 Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers	The center shall provide daily outdoor activities at an outdoor play area, park or playground, or on a walk	Centers that provide outdoor space shall maintain all fencing in proper condition	When more than five children are using such a space at one time, there shall be 30 square feet of net outdoor space for each additional child in addition to the required minimum of 150 square feet New and relocating centers licensed on or after September 1, 2013, shall provide a minimum of 350 square feet of net outdoor space When more than 10 children are using such a space at one time, there shall be an additional 35 square feet of net outdoor space for each additional child in addition to the required minimum of 350 square feet			
New Mexico	New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department	Title 8 Social Services, Chapter 16 Child Care Licensing, Part 2, Child Care Centers	A program must have an outdoor activity space Outside play areas must be on the premises and approved by the licensing authority	A center will enclose the outdoor play area with a fence at least four feet high and with at least one latched gate available for an emergency exit	75 square feet of outdoor activity space for each child using the area at onetime The center will post on the doors to the playground the maximum capacity of the playground	Children shall be protected from the sun during outdoor play by providing shade		
New York	Office of Children and Family Services, Division of Child Care Services	Part 418 - 1: Child Day Care Center	Daily supervised outdoor play is required for all children in care Outdoor space may include public parks, school yards or public play areas	Readily accessible outdoor play space which is adequate for active play must be provided				
North Carolina	North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education	Chapter 9: Child Care Rules	The outdoor area shall be designed so that staff is able to adequately supervise the entire area	The outdoor play area shall be protected by a fence	The outdoor play area shall be no smaller than 75 square feet for each child using the outdoor learning environment at any one time	The outdoor play area shall provide an area that is shaded by a building, awnings, trees, or other methods Children shall not be allowed to play on outdoor equipment that is too hot to touch	The learning environment consists of the indoor and outdoor area which encourages child initiated and teacher supported activities	
North Dakota	North Dakota Department of Human Services, Early Childhood Services	Child Care Center, Early Childhood Services Chapter 75-03-10		The operator shall ensure that exterior play areas in close proximity to busy streets and other unsafe areas are contained or fenced, or have natural barriers to restrict children from those unsafe areas	Adequate space must include a minimum of 75 square feet [6.97 square meters] of play space per child outdoors			
Ohio	Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Early Learning and Development	Chapter 5101:2-12 Licensing of Child Care Centers		The center shall have an on-site outdoor space The outdoor space shall be located away from traffic or protected from traffic or animals by a continuous fence in good condition with functioning gates or a continuous natural barrier or a combination of fence and natural barrier	Provides at least 60 square feet of usable space per child using the area at one time	Provides a shaded area , the shade may be naturally occurring from trees, building, or overhangs		
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Child Care Services	Requirements for Child Care Centers	The outdoor play areas are situated to allow the children to reach them safely and supervision of areas where children cannot be easily seen	The outdoor play area(s) has at least one exit that remains unlocked during the hours of operation and is away from the building The outdoor play areas are enclosed by a building or fence	When the licensed capacity is for 23 or fewer children there is at least 75 square of outdoor play area per child for the licensed capacity When the licensed capacity is for 24 or more children there is at least 75 square of outdoor play area per child for at least one-third of the licensed capacity or 1800 square feet , whichever is greater	The outdoor play areas have shade accessible to children when outdoors		
Oregon	Oregon Department of Education, Early Learning Division	Rules for Certified Child Care Centers	There shall be an outdoor activity area which the children can reach safely	The outdoor activity area of a center serving children not yet attending kindergarten shall be enclosed by a barrier (fence, wall, or building) at least four feet high	There shall be at least 75 square feet of outdoor space for each child using the area at one time			

Outdoor Space

Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Child Care and Early Learning	Chapter 3270 - Child Day Care Center		If unsafe areas or conditions are in or near an outdoor play space, fencing or natural barriers are required to restrict children from those unsafe areas or conditions	Outdoor or indoor play space shall be measured at 65 square feet per child			
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Department of Human Services, Office of Child Care	Child Care Center and School Age Program Regulations for Licensure		The outdoor play area is required to be surrounded by a permanent structure	Each program has an outdoor play area with at least 75 square feet of usable outdoor space per child for at least fifty percent (50%) of the licensed capacity of the program or with at least 75 square feet of usable outdoor space per child , as designated by a schedule of use, subject to approval by the Department			
South Carolina	South Carolina Department of Social Services, Division of Early Care and Education	Regulations for the Licensing of Child Care Centers		Children shall be restricted from unsafe areas and conditions such as traffic, parking areas, ditches, and steep slopes by a fence or natural barrier	The director shall provide at least 75 square feet of outdoor play space per child	Outdoor metal equipment that is uncoated shall be located in shaded areas or otherwise protected from the sun and teachers shall check the temperature by touch prior to children playing on it		
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Social Services, Child Care Services	Chapter 67:42:11 Environmental Health Standards		Day care program shall enclose playground areas with a fence	The playground area for day care programs must have at least 50 square feet of play area for each child each scheduled recess time			
Tennessee	Tennessee Department of Human Services, Child Care Services	Chapter 1240-4-1 Licensure Rules for Child Care Agencies	Each child care agency shall develop simple playground rules that use positive language	The child care agency shall not be located in a building that would prohibit outdoor play The outdoor play area shall be enclosed by a fence or barrier	Outdoor play areas shall contain a minimum of 50 square feet of usable play space for each child using the area at any one time			
Texas	Texas Health and Human Services, Child Care Regulation	Chapter 746: Minimum Standard Rules for Licensed Child-Care Centers		A fence or wall at least four feet high must enclose the outdoor activity space Each fenced yard must have at least two exits, an entrance to the building may count as one exit, but one exit must be away from the building	You must have 80 square feet of outdoor activity space for each child using the outdoor activity area at one time You must have enough square footage in the outdoor activity space to equal at least 25% of your licensed indoor capacity	Exposure to sun is needed, but children should be protected from excessive exposure so shaded areas should be provided by means of open space and tree plantings or other cover in outdoor spaces		
Utah	Utah Department of Health, Child Care Licensing	R381-100 Child Care Centers		The provider shall ensure that there is an outdoor area that is safely accessible to children The provider shall ensure that the outdoor area is enclosed within a fence, wall, or solid natural barrier	The provider shall ensure that the outdoor area has at least 40 square feet of space for each child using the area at one time The provider shall ensure that the total square footage of the outdoor area accommodates at least one-third of the approved capacity at one time or is at least 1600 square feet	The provider shall ensure that there is shade available to protect the children from excessive sun and heat when children are in the outdoor area		
Vermont	Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families, Child Development Division	Child Care Licensing Regulations: Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program		The play area shall be fenced or otherwise protected from traffic and other hazards	There shall be a safe outdoor play area with a minimum of 75 square feet per child	The outdoor play area shall include a provision for shade		
Virginia	Virginia Department of Education, Office of Child Care Licensing	Chapter 780. Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers		Playgrounds shall be located and designed to protect children from hazards	When children are on the outdoor play area, at least 75 square feet of space per child shall be provided at any one time	A shady area shall be provided on playgrounds during the months of June, July, and August		
Washington	Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families	Chapter 110-300 WAC Foundational Quality Standards for Early Learning Programs		Outdoor play areas must have two exits that must not be partially or entirely blocked, at least one of the two exits must not lead back into licensed indoor space Licensed outdoor play areas must be enclosed with a fence or barrier	Outdoor play space must contain a minimum of 75 square feet of licensed usable space per child accessing the play space at any given time	An early learning program must have shaded areas in outdoor play space provided by trees, buildings, or shade structures		Section of State code dedicate to: Gardens in outdoor early learning program space

Outdoor Space

<p>West Virginia</p>	<p>West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Early Care and Education</p>	<p>Title 78, Series 1, Child Care Center Licensing</p>	<p>A center shall provide an outdoor activity area that is on its premises or immediately adjacent to its premises</p>	<p>A center shall ensure that the outdoor activity area for a child under school age is enclosed on all sides by a natural barrier or secure fence and if it is attached to a building, the barrier or fence provides at least two exits from the play area, including one exit that is at a distance from the building</p>	<p>A center shall provide an outdoor activity area that includes a minimum of 75 square feet of space per child</p>			
<p>Wisconsin</p>	<p>Wisconsin Department of Children and Families</p>	<p>DCF 251 Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Centers</p>	<p>The outdoor play space shall be on the premises of the center</p>	<p>The boundaries of the outdoor play space shall be defined by a permanent enclosure</p>	<p>There shall be at least 75 square feet of outdoor play space for each child 2 years of age or older using the space at a given time There shall be at least 35 square feet of outdoor play space for each child under 2 years of age using the space at a given time The total outdoor play space of a center shall accommodate not less than 1/3 of the number of children for which the center is licensed or shall be a minimum of 750 square feet, whichever is greater</p>			
<p>Wyoming</p>	<p>Wyoming Department of Family Services</p>	<p>Chapter 4 General Requirements</p>		<p>The outdoor play area shall be enclosed with a fence</p>	<p>35 square feet for each child birth to 18 months of age 50 square feet for each child 18 months to 24 months of age 75 square feet for each child over the age of 24 months of age There shall be a minimum of 75 square feet of outdoor play space for each child when ages of children are combined</p>	<p>Some shaded areas shall be provided in the outdoor play area</p>		

Crowding

State	Regulatory Agency	Manual/Code	Square Footage	Occupancy/Capacity	Groupings of Children	Room Layouts/Space Connections
<p>Crowding This analysis examines the similarities and variations in how states regulate crowding and indoor spaces in ECE licensed centers. The analysis centered on state regulations of square footage of indoor space per child, center capacity, and classroom layout specifications. The analysis also included states regulations that specify different square footage requirements for different age groups. By looking at the highlighted cells, you can get a sense of the range of different kinds of regulation in this category.</p>						
Alabama	Department of Human Resources, Child Care Services Division	Child Care Licensing and Performance Standards	There shall be at least 32 square feet of indoor activity space for each child			For each group of children, indoor equipment and furnishings shall be arranged in an orderly manner , in designated activity areas
Alaska	Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Assistance, Child Care Program Office	Title 7 Alaska Admin Code Chapter 57 Child Care Facilities Licensing	35 square feet of usable indoor space per child			A child care facility shall maintain a well-organized environment, arranged so that children have reasonable freedom of action without recurrent accidents and collisions and infants may explore safely and freely, to crawl, stand, and learn to walk
Arizona	Arizona Department of Health Services, Child Care Facilities Licensing	Arizona Administrative Rules and Arizona Revised Statutes for Child Care Facilities	At least 35 square feet of indoor activity space for each infant and 1-year-old child At least 25 square feet of indoor activity space for each child who is not an infant or 1-year-old child When 1-year-old children are grouped together with children older than 1-year-old children in the same activity area, at least 35 square feet of indoor activity space for each child			
Arkansas	Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Child Care Licensing	Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers	35 square feet per child of usable floor space shall be required for indoor activities			
California	California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, Child Care Program Office	Title 22, Division 12, Chapter 1, Article 7 Child Care Center Physical Environment	There shall be at least 35 square feet of indoor activity space per child based on the total licensed capacity			
Colorado	Department of Human Services, Colorado Office of Early Childhood	7.702 Rules Regulating Child Care Centers (Less than 24-hour care)	There must be open, indoor play space of at least 30 square feet of floor space per child, including space for movable furniture and equipment	maximum number of children allowed in one room is 10 infants, 20 toddlers younger than 3, 28 toddlers 3+	In the infant program, the minimum indoor space per infant for sleep and activities is 50 square feet In a combination sleep/activity rooms, the sleep area must be separated by a sturdy divider from the area used for activities	Indoor play areas must be uncluttered, safe, and allow for freedom of movement
Connecticut	Connecticut Office of Early Childhood	Statutes and Regulations for Licensing Child Day Care Center and Group Day Care Homes	A facility licensed prior to January 1, 1986 , shall provide a minimum of 30 square feet per child of total indoor usable space A facility licensed after January 1, 1986 , shall provide a minimum of 35 square feet per child of total indoor usable space	The total licensed capacity shall be determined on a room-by-room basis measuring from interior wall to interior wall		There shall be open program space available which allows for freedom of movement by the children

This information was compiled from carefully researched, publicly available information, but it has not been verified with each public agency. If you are aware of any discrepancies or are able to provide updated information, please contact childcare@lisc.org.

Crowding

Delaware	Delaware Department of Education, Office of Child Care Licensing	DELACARE Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers	A center must have at least 35 square feet of usable floor space for each child in each area or room used by children			This space must be arranged to allow each child adequate space for free movement and active play
District of Columbia	District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Learning	Chapter 1, Child Development Facilities: Licensing, of Title 5-A DCMR	A minimum of 45 square feet of program space per infant A minimum of 35 square feet of unencumbered program space per toddler and child			A Licensee shall ensure that interior space designated for the use of children is available to children is arranged to allow each child adequate space for free movement and active play
Florida	Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Child Care Regulation	Child Care Facility Handbook	A child care facility that had a valid license on October 1, 1992 must have a minimum of 20 square feet of usable indoor floor space for each child A child care facility that did not hold a valid license on October 1, 1992 and seeks approval to operate as a child care facility must have a minimum of 35 square feet for each child	Square footage per child and room capacity are determined on a room-by room basis		
Georgia	Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, Bright From the Start	Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers	Center must have 35 square feet of usable space per child	A Center's License capacity is based upon its size		
Hawaii	Department of Human Services, Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division, Child Care Licensing Program	Title 17: Chapter 892.1 Licensing of Group Child Care Center and Group Child Care Homes	There shall be 35 square feet per child of unencumbered instructional or play area In rooms used for sleeping , there shall be 50 square feet per child			
Idaho	Idaho Department of Health & Welfare	16.06.02 Rules Governing Standards for Child Care Licensing	Sufficient indoor and outdoor recreational space is needed so the number of children in care can participate in a wide range of physical and individual activities			
Illinois	Illinois Department of Children and Family Services	Part 407: Licensing Standards for Day Care Centers	There shall be a minimum of 35 square feet of activity area per child in centers for children 2 years of age and older The amount of space required for infants and toddlers shall be determined according to the use of the space for sleep and play purposes			
Indiana	Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning	470 IAC 3-4.7 Rule 4.7 Child Care Centers; Licensing	Each child care room/area shall have a minimum of 35 square feet of usable indoor play space per child at all times			
Iowa	Iowa Department of Human Services	Chapter 109: Child Care Centers	The program room size shall be a minimum of 80 square feet of useable floor space or sufficient floor space to provide 35 square feet of useable floor space per child	The licensing consultant shall determine center capacity		

Crowding

Kansas	Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Child Care Licensing Program	Regulations for Licensing Preschools and Child Care Centers	The designated area for children's activities shall contain a minimum of 35 square feet of floor space per child Facilities enrolling children who use walkers or wheelchairs shall have 50 square feet of space for each physically handicapped child	License capacity shall be determined by age of children, available space, program director qualifications, and number of self-contained units per facility		
Kentucky	Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Division of Child Care	922 KAR 2:120 Child Care Facility Health and Safety Standards	There shall be a minimum of 35 square feet of space per child			
Louisiana	Louisiana Department of Education	Bulletin 137 - Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations	Effective June 1, 2022 , a minimum of 35 square feet of usable indoor space shall be available per child for children ages birth to 4 For children ages 4 and above , a minimum of 25 square feet of usable indoor space shall be available per child If any child in a space is less than age 4 , a minimum of 35 square feet of usable indoor space shall be available for every child in the space			
Maine	Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services, Children's Licensing and Investigation Unit	Child Care Facility Licensing Rule	The Child care Facility must provide a minimum net area of 35 square feet of usable space per Child			
Maryland	Maryland State Department of Education, Division Early Childhood, Office of Child Care Licensing Branch	COMAR 13A.16 - Child Care Center	A minimum of 35 square feet of floor space shall be provided for each child in care A minimum of 30 square feet of floor space shall be provided for each child in a child care center licensed before December 1, 1971	An office shall determine the capacity of the center		
Massachusetts	Department of Early Education and Care	606 CMR 7.00: Standards for the Licensure or Approval of Small Group and School age and Large Group and School Age Child Care Programs	The licensee must provide a minimum of 35 square feet of activity space per child			The licensee must ensure that space is arranged to provide clear pathways for movement from one area to another and to allow visual supervision by educators
Michigan	Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Child Care Licensing Bureau	Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers	50 square feet of indoor space per child required for infants and toddlers 35 square feet of indoor space per child required for preschoolers and school-agers			
Minnesota	Minnesota Department of Human Services, Licensing Division	Chapter 9503 Licensing Requirements for Child Care Center	A minimum of 35 square feet of indoor space must be available for each child in attendance	The licensed capacity of the center must be limited by the amount of indoor space		
Mississippi	Mississippi State Department of Health, Child Care Facilities Licensure Branch	Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities	A minimum of 35 square feet of usable indoor space per child			
Missouri	Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of Childhood	Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers	At least 35 square feet of usable floor space shall be provided for each infant, toddler, preschool and school-age child coming into the facility for day care			

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Crowding

Montana	Department of Public Health and Human Services, Early Childhood and Family Support Division, Early Childhood Services Bureau	Licensing Requirements for Child Day Care Center	A minimum of 35 square feet of usable floor space per child that will be in the room at any one time			
Nebraska	Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Licensure Unit	Chapter 3 - Child Care Center	Have at least 35 square feet of activity space per child	Licensed capacity will be determined by the Department based on available space and the capacity authorized by the State Fire Marshal or delegated authority		
Nevada	Department of Health and Human Services, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Child Care Licensing	Chapter 432A Services and Facilities for Care of Children	At least 35 square feet of indoor space for each child			
New Hampshire	New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Licensing Unit	Part He-C 4002 NH Child Care Program Licensing Rules	There shall be a minimum of 40 square feet of floor space per child, measured wall-to-wall, inside the rooms used by children There shall be a minimum of 35 square feet of floor space per child for programs licensed before November 23, 2008			The department shall determine the license capacity by adding the number of children each room can accommodate based on 40 square feet per child, exclusive of common space, and in accordance with local fire, health and zoning approvals
New Jersey	State of New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Office of Licensing	N.J.A.C. 3A:52 Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers	30 square feet of usable activity indoor floor space for each child if center began operating prior to July 1, 1989 and/or began operating on or after July 1, 1989 and serve fewer than 16 children 35 square feet of usable activity indoor floor space for each child	For early childhood programs, the following shall apply for infants (under 18 months of age) and toddlers (18 months to 2½ years of age) more than 12 infants or 20 toddlers For early childhood programs, the following shall apply for children 2 ½ years of age and older maximum of 20 children Occupying an individual room or occupying a specific area within a large room		The area shall be defined by a visible barrier, partition, or any other room divider or separation having a height above the eye level of the children who use that area.
New Mexico	New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department	Title 8 Social Services, Chapter 16 Child Care Licensing, Part 2 Child Care Centers	35 square feet of indoor activity space			
New York	Office of Children and Family Services, Division of Child Care Services	Part 418 - 1; Child Day Care Center	Infants, toddlers, preschool, and school-aged children must be accommodated in rooms having a minimum of 35 square feet for each child			

Crowding

North Carolina	North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education	Chapter 9: Child Care Rules	No room may be occupied by more than one child per 25 square feet of floor space, provided that a room may be occupied by a larger group of children for special activities so long as such occupancy does not violate the State fire code	The Division shall calculate the total area of the Primary Space by measuring the Primary Space or by reviewing current drawings of the space that have been signed and sealed by an architect or engineer licensed to practice in the State of North Carolina		
North Dakota	North Dakota Department of Human Services, Early Childhood Services	Child Care Center Early Childhood Services Chapter 75-03-10	Adequate space must include a minimum of 35 square feet [3.25 square meters] of space per child indoors			
Ohio	Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Early Learning and Development	Chapter 5101:2-12 Licensing of Child Care Centers	There shall be at least 35 square feet of usable wall-to-wall indoor floor space for each child the center is licensed to serve			Dividers may be used to divide a room into smaller spaces to serve additional groups of children, provided the center ensures that the space maintains the indoor space square footage requirement
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Child Care Services	Requirements for Child Care Centers	There is at least 35 square feet of floor space per child for routine use by children New construction, existing space not previously licensed for child care, or programs licensed after November 1, 2016 are required to have 40 square feet of floor space per infant in rooms occupied only by infants			
Oregon	Oregon Department of Education, Early Learning Division	Rules for Certified Child Care Centers	There shall be a minimum of 35 square feet of indoor activity area per child			In a room used by more than one group of children not yet attending kindergarten , the area occupied by each group shall be defined by use of portable or permanent room dividers or program equipment that stand above the eye level of the children who use the area
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Child Care and Early Learning	Chapter 3270 - Child Day Care Center	Outdoor or indoor play space shall be measured at 65 square feet per child			
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Department of Human Services, Office of Child Care	Child Care Center and School Age Program Regulations for Licensure	Each Infant and/or Toddler classroom must maintain a minimum of 45 square feet of usable floor space for each child Each Preschool classroom must maintain a minimum of 35 square feet of usable floor space for each child			Movement of classroom dividers requires permission from the Department and may result in the re-measurement of space
South Carolina	South Carolina Department of Social Services, Division of Early Care and Education	Regulations for the Licensing of Child Care Centers	The director shall provide at least 35 square feet of indoor play space per child, measured by Department staff from wall to wall	Department staff shall determine the total number of children to be cared for in each room by measuring and computing the rooms separately		
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Social Services, Child Care Services	Chapter 67:42:11 Environmental Health Standards	The program's facility must contain not less than 35 square feet of play space indoors for each child present			

Crowding

Tennessee	Tennessee Department of Human Services, Child Care Services	Chapter 1240-4-1 Licensure Rules for Child Care Agencies	A minimum of 30 square feet of usable indoor play space shall be provided for each child			
Texas	Texas Health and Human Services, Child Care Regulation	Chapter 746: Minimum Standard Rules for Licensed Child-Care Centers	You must have at least 30 square feet of indoor activity space for each child that you are licensed to serve, unless the child-care center is exempt based on criteria specified in this division			
Utah	Utah Department of Health, Child Care Licensing	R381-100 Child Care Centers	The provider shall ensure that there is at least 35 square feet of indoor space for each child in care, including the provider's and employees' children			
Vermont	Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families, Child Development Division	Child Care Licensing Regulations: Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program	The licensee shall ensure that interior space licensed for use by children shall provide a minimum of 35 square feet of safe useable space per child for the maximum number of children using the space at one time			
Virginia	Virginia Department of Education, Office of Child Care Licensing	Chapter 780. Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers	Effective June 1, 2008 , applicants must have 35 square feet of indoor wall-to-wall space per child Current licensees and subsequent licensees at currently licensed facilities may continue to provide 25 square feet per child New additions shall have 35 square feet of indoor wall-to-wall space per child effective June 1, 2008			
Washington	Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families	Chapter 110-300 WAC Foundational Quality Standards for Early Learning Programs	There must be at least 35 square feet of licensed, accessible indoor space for each child included in the total capacity There must be an additional 15 square feet of licensed, accessible indoor space for each infant or toddler included in the total capacity			
West Virginia	West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Early Care and Education	Title 78, Series 1, Child Care Center Licensing	A center shall provide a minimum of 35 square feet per child of usable indoor space that is approved by the Secretary for daily program activities			
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Department of Children and Families	DCF 251 Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Centers	The space used by children shall be no less than 35 square feet of usable floor space for each child			
Wyoming	Wyoming Department of Family Services	Chapter 4 General Requirements	The indoor area designated for the children's use while in care shall include a minimum of 35 square feet of usable play space per child, and this space shall be available to the children on a continual basis	The licenser shall determine total capacity for each facility		

Lighting Variations

State	Regulatory Agency	Manual/Code	Required	Natural Light	Artificial Light	Ability to See Outside
<p>Lighting Variations This analysis examines the similarities and variations in how states regulate lighting in ECE licensed centers. The analysis evaluated state requirements for light sources and light intensity levels in classrooms and indoor active play spaces. The analysis also included regulations that reference natural light and the ability to see outside. By looking at the highlighted cells, you can get a sense of the range of different kinds of regulation in this category.</p>						
Alabama	Department of Human Resources, Child Care Services Division	Child Care Licensing and Performance Standards	Lighting shall be maintained at a level that will enable the children to participate in center activities			
Alaska	Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Assistance, Child Care Program Office	Title 7 Alaska Admin Code Chapter 57 Child Care Facilities Licensing				
Arizona	Arizona Department of Health Services, Child Care Facilities Licensing	Arizona Administrative Rules and Arizona Revised Statutes for Child Care Facilities			Except when an enrolled child is napping or sleeping, each room used by an enrolled child is maintained at a minimum of 30 foot candles of illumination	
Arkansas	Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Child Care Licensing	Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers	All parts of the center used by the children shall be well heated, air conditioned, lighted , ventilated, and maintained at a comfortable temperature			
California	California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, Child Care Program Office	Title 22, Division 12, Chapter 1, Article 7 Child Care Center Physical Environment	The licensee shall provide lamps or lights as necessary in all rooms and other areas to ensure the comfort and safety of all persons in the child care center			
Colorado	Department of Human Services, Colorado Office of Early Childhood	7.702 Rules Regulating Child Care Centers (Less than 24-hour care)				
Connecticut	Connecticut Office of Early Childhood	Statutes and Regulations for Licensing Child Day Care Center and Group Day Care Homes			Child day care centers and group day care homes shall have at least 50 foot candles of light per square foot in rooms used by children for reading, painting and other close work . There shall be at least 30 foot candles of light in other work or play areas	All spaces occupied by people, equipment within buildings, approaches to buildings and parking lots shall have a minimum of 1 foot candle of lighting per square foot

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Lighting Variations

Delaware	Delaware Department of Education, Office of Child Care Licensing	DELACARE Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers	A licensee shall ensure a center has enough lighting to allow for the supervision of children in areas where children's activities occur			Outdoor areas that are used while it is dark have appropriate lighting
District of Columbia	District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Learning	Chapter 1, Child Development Facilities: Licensing, of Title 5-A DCMR		Windows protected with guards that do not block natural lighting		
Florida	Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Child Care Regulation	Child Care Facility Handbook	Lighting must be sufficient to allow for adequate supervision and safe entering and exiting of the room		All areas of the facility must have lighting that provides adequate illumination and comfort for facility activities , a minimum of 20 foot-candles of lighting is required For reading, homework, painting and other close work areas , 50 foot-candles at the work surface is required	
Georgia	Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, Bright From the Start	Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers		Except in School-age Centers, child care rooms shall have outside windows which receive natural sunlight and equal not less than 5% of the floor area in each room , unless central heating and air conditioning are provided	A Center shall be lighted with a minimum of 25 foot candles of illumination except during scheduled nap or rest periods	A Center shall provide outside lighting at entrances and exits used by children when the Center provides evening or night-time care
Hawaii	Department of Human Services, Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division, Child Care Licensing Program	Title 17: Chapter 892.1 Licensing of Group Child Care Center and Group Child Care Homes	The facility shall be well lighted an ventilated	The facility shall have a sunny exposure		
Idaho	Idaho Department of Health & Welfare	16.06.02 Rules Governing Standards for Child Care Licensing	A daycare facility must have adequate heat, light and ventilation			
Illinois	Illinois Department of Children and Family Services	Part 407: Licensing Standards for Day Care Centers	All areas of the center shall receive sufficient light		Areas for reading, painting, puzzles or other close work shall be illuminated to at least 50 to 100 foot candles on the work surface Areas for general play , such as housekeeping and block building , shall be illuminated to at least 30 to 50 foot candles on the surface	Stairways, walkways, landings, driveways and entrances shall be illuminated to at least 20 foot candles on the surface

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Lighting Variations

<u>Indiana</u>	<u>Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning</u>	<u>470 IAC 3-4.7 Rule 4.7 Child Care Centers; Licensing</u>	All light intensity measurements shall be at the level of work	When natural light is insufficient , it shall be supplemented by artificial light so that the following minimum levels of illumination are maintained	Desks, table top work areas, reading areas , locked medication storage areas, and art rooms shall have a minimum of 50 foot-candles Gymnasiums, large muscle equipment areas, bathrooms, locker rooms, and diaper changing areas shall have a minimum of thirty 30 foot-candles	
<u>Iowa</u>	<u>Iowa Department of Human Services</u>	<u>Chapter 109: Child Care Centers</u>	Sufficient lighting shall be provided to allow children to adequately perform developmental tasks without eye strain			
<u>Kansas</u>	<u>Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Child Care Licensing Program</u>	<u>Regulations for Licensing Preschools and Child Care Centers</u>	Any child care facility subject to the provisions of this act shall be properly heated, plumbed, lighted and ventilated		Each room occupied by children shall have a minimum of 20 foot candles of light in all parts of the room	
<u>Kentucky</u>	<u>Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Division of Child Care</u>	<u>922 KAR 2:120 Child Care Facility Health and Safety Standards</u>	The building shall be constructed to ensure the building is well lit , including clean light fixtures			
<u>Louisiana</u>	<u>Louisiana Department of Education</u>	<u>Bulletin 137 - Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations</u>	Areas used by children shall be lighted in such a way as to allow visual supervision of the children at all times			the center's entrance and drop off zones shall be well lighted during hours of operation
<u>Maine</u>	<u>Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services, Children's Licensing and Investigation Unit</u>	<u>Child Care Facility Licensing Rule</u>	Every room used by Children must be properly lighted to allow safe movement through the space	Natural light is required in any room used by Children for more than four hours per day		
<u>Maryland</u>	<u>Maryland State Department of Education, Division Early Childhood, Office of Child Care Licensing Branch</u>	<u>COMAR 13A. 16 - Child Care Center</u>	There shall be sufficient natural and artificial lighting in all approved areas of the center to allow proper child supervision and help ensure the safety of each child, employee, and visitor to the center			An operator shall provide adequate outdoor lighting to ensure the safety of persons entering and leaving the center when it is dark outside
<u>Massachusetts</u>	<u>Department of Early Education and Care</u>	<u>606 CMR 7.00: Standards for the Licensure or Approval of Small Group and School age and Large Group and School Age Child Care Programs</u>	The indoor space must be clean, safely maintained, well-ventilated and well-lit , of sufficient size for the children served, and must encourage play and learning			

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Lighting Variations

<u>Michigan</u>	<u>Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Child Care Licensing Bureau</u>	<u>Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers</u>				
<u>Minnesota</u>	<u>Minnesota Department of Human Services, Licensing Division</u>	<u>Chapter 9503 Licensing Requirements for Child Care Center</u>				
<u>Mississippi</u>	<u>Mississippi State Department of Health, Child Care Facilities Licensure Branch</u>	<u>Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities</u>	All parts of the child care facility used by children shall be lead-safe, well lighted , ventilated, and free of hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions			
<u>Missouri</u>	<u>Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of Childhood</u>	<u>Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers</u>	Artificial or natural lighting shall supply at least 10 footcandles of light throughout each room used for child care			
<u>Montana</u>	<u>Department of Public Health and Human Services, Early Childhood and Family Support Division, Early Childhood Services Bureau</u>	<u>Licensing Requirements for Child Day Care Center</u>				
<u>Nebraska</u>	<u>Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Licensure Unit</u>	<u>Chapter 3 - Child Care Center</u>	Heating, ventilation, and lighting in all rooms used for child care must be adequate to protect the health of children			
<u>Nevada</u>	<u>Department of Health and Human Services, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Child Care Licensing</u>	<u>Chapter 432A Services and Facilities for Care of Children</u>				
<u>New Hampshire</u>	<u>New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Licensing Unit</u>	<u>Part He-C 4002 NH Child Care Program Licensing Rules</u>	Child care staff shall ensure that the indoor space is well-lit to allow for the supervision of children and for child care staff and children to move about safely			
<u>New Jersey</u>	<u>State of New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Office of Licensing</u>	<u>N.J.A.C. 3A:52 Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers</u>	During program activities, at least 20 foot-candles of natural or artificial light shall be provided in all rooms used by the children			

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Lighting Variations

<u>New Mexico</u>	<u>New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department</u>	<u>Title 8 Social Services, Chapter 16 Child Care Licensing, Part 2 Child Care Centers</u>	All areas will have sufficient glare-free lighting with shatterproof or shielded bulbs	Activity areas for children must have windows or skylight area of at least one-twentieth of the floor area Natural lighting received from an adjacent room will not meet the natural lighting requirements		
<u>New York</u>	<u>Office of Children and Family Services, Division of Child Care Services</u>	<u>Part 418 - 1: Child Day Care Center</u>	Areas that will be used by the children must be well-lighted and well-ventilated Heating, ventilation and lighting equipment must be adequate for the protection of the health of the children			
<u>North Carolina</u>	<u>North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education</u>	<u>Chapter 9: Child Care Rules</u>				
<u>North Dakota</u>	<u>North Dakota Department of Human Services, Early Childhood Services</u>	<u>Child Care Center Early Childhood Services Chapter 75-03-10</u>	The operator shall ensure adequate heating, ventilation, humidity, and lighting for the comfort and protection of the health of the children		If the lighting of the child care center appears questionable , the department may require the operator to obtain additional lights so that a minimum of 65 foot-candles of light is used in the areas generally used for children's activities	
<u>Ohio</u>	<u>Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Early Learning and Development</u>	<u>Chapter 5101:2-12 Licensing of Child Care Centers</u>				
<u>Oklahoma</u>	<u>Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Child Care Services</u>	<u>Requirements for Child Care Centers</u>	The lighting levels are bright enough for comfort and safety , including observing children's facial features			
<u>Oregon</u>	<u>Oregon Department of Education, Early Learning Division</u>	<u>Rules for Certified Child Care Centers</u>	All rooms used by staff and children shall have adequate lighting			
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	<u>Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Child Care and Early Learning</u>	<u>Chapter 3270 - Child Day Care Center</u>	Rooms, hallways, stairways, outside steps, porches and ramps shall be lighted by artificial or natural light			

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Lighting Variations

Rhode Island	Rhode Island Department of Human Services, Office of Child Care	Child Care Center and School Age Program Regulations for Licensure		Each Infant, Toddler, or Preschool classroom, has natural light through a window, windowed door, or skylight (either directly into the classroom or from a shared space), enough to provide supervision of the entire classroom without the use of artificial lighting	Each classroom and activity space has artificial lighting that is intact and in good working order	
South Carolina	South Carolina Department of Social Services, Division of Early Care and Education	Regulations for the Licensing of Child Care Centers	Rooms, hallways, interior stairs, outside steps, outside doorways, porches, ramps, and fire escapes shall be lighted			
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Social Services, Child Care Services	Chapter 67:42:11 Environmental Health Standards				
Tennessee	Tennessee Department of Human Services, Child Care Services	Chapter 1240-4-1 Licensure Rules for Child Care Agencies	Adequate natural and/or artificial lighting shall be provided throughout the facility			
Texas	Texas Health and Human Services, Child Care Regulation	Chapter 746: Minimum Standard Rules for Licensed Child-Care Centers	Keeping all parts of the child-care center used by children well heated, lighted , and ventilated			
Utah	Utah Department of Health, Child Care Licensing	R381-100 Child Care Centers	The provider shall ensure that rooms and areas have adequate light intensity for the safety of the children and the type of activity being conducted			
Vermont	Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families, Child Development Division	Child Care Licensing Regulations: Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program	The licensee shall ensure that the CBCCPP has sufficient natural and artificial lighting in all areas where care and education is provided to allow children to see clearly to reduce the risk of injury and allow staff to supervise the children visually			The licensee shall ensure that parking areas, pedestrian walkways, and other exterior portions of the premises used by children, parents and staff members after dark are illuminated
Virginia	Virginia Department of Education, Office of Child Care Licensing	Chapter 780. Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers				Outside lighting provided at entrances and exits used by children before sunrise or after sundown
Washington	Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families	Chapter 110-300 WAC Foundational Quality Standards for Early Learning Programs	Early learning program space must have natural or artificial light that provides appropriate illumination for early learning program activities and supervision			

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Lighting Variations

<u>West Virginia</u>	<u>West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Early Care and Education</u>	<u>Title 78, Series 1, Child Care Center Licensing</u>	Ensure sufficient lighting		Ensure sufficient lighting by providing a minimum of 50 foot-candles of illumination at floor level , in rooms occupied by a child for program activities	Ensure sufficient lighting by providing outdoor lighting at all entrances and exits used by a child when a center operates evening or night time programs
<u>Wisconsin</u>	<u>Wisconsin Department of Children and Families</u>	<u>DCF 251 Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Centers</u>				
<u>Wyoming</u>	<u>Wyoming Department of Family Services</u>	<u>Chapter 4 General Requirements</u>	All rooms used by children shall be adequately heated, cooled, illuminated , and ventilated			

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Facility Quality

<p>Facility Quality This analysis examines the similarities and variations in how states regulate general facility quality in ECE licensed centers. The analysis was focused on state regulations of facility quality, facility age, and facility maintenance.</p>				
<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Department of Human Resources, Child Care Services Division</u>	<u>Child Care Licensing and Performance Standards</u>	The center shall be clean: cleaning shall be done daily	
<u>Alaska</u>	<u>Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Assistance, Child Care Program Office</u>	<u>Title 7 Alaska Admin Code Chapter 57 Child Care Facilities Licensing</u>	The department will renew a biennial license if the department finds that the facility has maintained the facility in good repair	A child care facility shall maintain a well-organized environment
<u>Arizona</u>	<u>Arizona Department of Health Services, Child Care Facilities Licensing</u>	<u>Arizona Administrative Rules and Arizona Revised Statutes for Child Care Facilities</u>	The facility premises, including the buildings, are maintained free from hazards	
<u>Arkansas</u>	<u>Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Child Care Licensing</u>	<u>Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers</u>	All space used by a center shall be kept clean and free of hazardous or potentially hazardous objects	
<u>California</u>	<u>California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, Child Care Program Office</u>	<u>Title 22, Division 12, Chapter 1, Article 7 Child Care Center Physical Environment</u>	The child care center shall be clean, safe, sanitary and in good repair at all times to ensure the safety and well-being of children, employees and visitors	
<u>Colorado</u>	<u>Department of Human Services, Colorado Office of Early Childhood</u>	<u>7.702 Rules Regulating Child Care Centers (Less than 24-hour care)</u>	Buildings must be kept in good repair and maintained in a safe condition	

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Facility Quality

<u>Connecticut</u>	<u>Connecticut Office of Early Childhood</u>	<u>Statutes and Regulations for Licensing Child Day Care Center and Group Day Care Homes</u>	The building, equipment and services shall be maintained in a good state of repair: a maintenance program shall be established that ensures that the interior, exterior and grounds of the building are maintained, kept clean and orderly, free from accumulations of refuse, dampness, stagnant water, dilapidated structures and other health and safety hazard		
<u>Delaware</u>	<u>Delaware Department of Education, Office of Child Care Licensing</u>	<u>DELACARE Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers</u>	A licensee shall keep all areas of the center in a clean and safe condition		
<u>District of Columbia</u>	<u>District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Learning</u>	<u>Chapter 1, Child Development Facilities: Licensing, of Title 5-A DCMR</u>	A Licensee shall ensure that every building or part thereof that is used as a Facility, is constructed, used, furnished, maintained, and equipped in compliance with all applicable requirements established by District and federal laws and regulations with written certification of compliance from the appropriate regulatory bodies governing zoning, building construction and safety, sanitation, and fire safety		
<u>Florida</u>	<u>Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Child Care Regulation</u>	<u>Child Care Facility Handbook</u>	All child care facilities must be clean, in good repair, free from health and safety hazards and from evidence of, or presence of, vermin infestation	It is imperative that the child care environment is conducive to the healthy development of children	
<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, Bright From the Start</u>	<u>Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers</u>	The Center and surrounding premises shall be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair		
<u>Hawaii</u>	<u>Department of Human Services, Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division, Child Care Licensing Program</u>	<u>Title 17: Chapter 892.1 Licensing of Group Child Care Center and Group Child Care Homes</u>	All buildings, building appurtenances, outdoor space, equipment, and all other parts of the facility shall be kept repaired, safe, and sanitary at all times		

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Facility Quality

<u>Idaho</u>	<u>Idaho Department of Health & Welfare</u>	<u>16.06.02 Rules Governing Standards for Child Care Licensing</u>	The indoor play areas must be clean, reasonably neat and free from accumulation of dirt, rubbish or other health hazards Any outdoor play area must be maintained free from hazards such as wells, machinery and animal waste		
<u>Illinois</u>	<u>Illinois Department of Children and Family Services</u>	<u>Part 407: Licensing Standards for Day Care Centers</u>	The building and indoor space shall be maintained in good repair and shall provide a safe, comfortable environment for the children		
<u>Indiana</u>	<u>Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning</u>	<u>470 IAC 3-4.7 Rule 4.7 Child Care Centers; Licensing</u>	The administrator or director is responsible for keeping the building, premises, and equipment in safe repair and structurally sound		
<u>Iowa</u>	<u>Iowa Department of Human Services</u>	<u>Chapter 109: Child Care Centers</u>	The center shall ensure that: the facility and premises are sanitary, safe and hazard-free		
<u>Kansas</u>	<u>Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Child Care Licensing Program</u>	<u>Regulations for Licensing Preschools and Child Care Centers</u>	The premises shall be maintained in good condition and shall be clean at all times		
<u>Kentucky</u>	<u>Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Division of Child Care</u>	<u>922 KAR 2:120 Child Care Facility Health and Safety Standards</u>	The premises shall be suitable for the purpose intended and kept clean and in good repair		
<u>Louisiana</u>	<u>Louisiana Department of Education</u>	<u>Bulletin 137 - Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations</u>	Indoor and outdoor areas shall be free of hazards		
<u>Maine</u>	<u>Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services, Children's Licensing and Investigation Unit</u>	<u>Child Care Facility Licensing Rule</u>	The facility must take immediate steps to correct any condition in the physical building or on the premises, which poses a danger to Children's life, health or safety		

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Facility Quality

<u>Maryland</u>	Maryland State Department of Education, Division Early Childhood, Office of Child Care Licensing Branch	COMAR 13A.16 - Child Care Center	An operator shall provide a building for a center that is: maintained in good repair; free from health and safety hazards as identified by the office; and clean and free from infestation of insects and rodents		
<u>Massachusetts</u>	Department of Early Education and Care	606 CMR 7.00: Standards for the Licensure or Approval of Small Group and School age and Large Group and School Age Child Care Programs	The licensee must ensure that the physical facilities are safe, clean, in good repair and free from hazards and clutter		
<u>Michigan</u>	Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Child Care Licensing Bureau	Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers	The premises must be maintained in a clean and safe condition and must not pose a threat to health or safety	The center shall be located on land that provides good natural drainage or that is properly drained	
<u>Minnesota</u>	Minnesota Department of Human Services, Licensing Division	Chapter 9503 Licensing Requirements for Child Care Center	The indoor and outdoor space and equipment of the center must be clean		
<u>Mississippi</u>	Mississippi State Department of Health, Child Care Facilities Licensure Branch	Regulations Governing Licensure of Child Care Facilities	All child care facilities are to be kept clean and in good repair The grounds, including the outdoor playground area, shall be free of hazardous or potentially hazardous objects		
<u>Missouri</u>	Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of Childhood	Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers	The premises shall be safe and suitable for the care of children		
<u>Montana</u>	Department of Public Health and Human Services, Early Childhood and Family Support Division, Early Childhood Services Bureau	Licensing Requirements for Child Day Care Center	The indoor and outdoor play areas must be clean, reasonably neat, and free from accumulation of dirt, rubbish, or other health hazards		

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Facility Quality

<u>Nebraska</u>	<u>Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Licensure Unit</u>	<u>Chapter 3 - Child Care Center</u>	The center must be designed, constructed and maintained in a manner that is safe, clean and functional for child care The center and grounds must be kept clean, safe, and in good repair		
<u>Nevada</u>	<u>Department of Health and Human Services, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Child Care Licensing</u>	<u>Chapter 432A Services and Facilities for Care of Children</u>	The play area of each facility must: be free of hazards, debris and trash		
<u>New Hampshire</u>	<u>New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Licensing Unit</u>	<u>Part He-C 4002 NH Child Care Program Licensing Rules</u>	Child care staff shall ensure that the indoor space is: safe, clean ,free of clutter and in good repair		
<u>New Jersey</u>	<u>State of New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Office of Licensing</u>	<u>N.J.A.C. 3A:52 Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers</u>	The building, land, walkways, and outdoor play area shall be free from hazards to the health, safety or well-being of the children The building structure shall be maintained to prevent: water from entering; excessive drafts or heat loss; and infestation from rodents and insects		
<u>New Mexico</u>	<u>New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department</u>	<u>Title 8 Social Services, Chapter 16 Child Care Licensing, Part 2 Child Care Centers</u>	A center will keep the premises, including furniture, fixtures, floors, drinking fountains, toys and equipment clean, safe, and in good repair The center and premises will be free of debris and potential hazards		
<u>New York</u>	<u>Office of Children and Family Services, Division of Child Care Services</u>	<u>Part 418 - 1: Child Day Care Center</u>	Buildings, systems and equipment must be kept in good repair and operate as designed		
<u>North Carolina</u>	<u>North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education</u>	<u>Chapter 9: Child Care Rules</u>	A safe indoor and outdoor environment shall be provided for the children in care		

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Facility Quality

<u>North Dakota</u>	North Dakota Department of Human Services, Early Childhood Services	Child Care Center Early Childhood Services Chapter 75-03-10	The operator shall ensure that the child care center's building, grounds, and equipment are located, cleaned, and maintained to protect the health and safety of children		
<u>Ohio</u>	Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Early Learning and Development	Chapter 5101:2-12 Licensing of Child Care Centers	The premises shall be kept clean to prevent an infestation by insects or rodents The center shall be cleaned daily and kept in a sanitary condition at all times		
<u>Oklahoma</u>	Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Child Care Services	Requirements for Child Care Centers	The facility is located in an area that offers minimal hazards to the health, safety, and well-being of children The facility has a structurally sound interior and exterior in good repair		
<u>Oregon</u>	Oregon Department of Education, Early Learning Division	Rules for Certified Child Care Centers	The building, toys, equipment, and furniture shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition		
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Child Care and Early Learning	Chapter 3270 - Child Day Care Center	Floors, walls, ceilings and other surfaces, including the facility's outdoor play space surfaces shall be kept clean, in good repair and free from visible hazards		
<u>Rhode Island</u>	Rhode Island Department of Human Services, Office of Child Care	Child Care Center and School Age Program Regulations for Licensure	Programs are wholly responsible for ensuring that all parts of the licensed facility and program grounds are maintained in a way that ensures health and safety of children, staff, and visitors at all times		
<u>South Carolina</u>	South Carolina Department of Social Services, Division of Early Care and Education	Regulations for the Licensing of Child Care Centers	Clean and sanitary conditions shall be maintained indoors and outdoors, including indoor and outdoor recreational equipment and furnishing		
<u>South Dakota</u>	South Dakota Department of Social Services, Child Care Services	Chapter 67:42:11 Environmental Health Standards	All parts of the facility must be kept clean, neat, and free of litter or rubbish		

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Facility Quality

<u>Tennessee</u>	<u>Tennessee Department of Human Services, Child Care Services</u>	<u>Chapter 1240-4-1 Licensure Rules for Child Care Agencies</u>	The child care agency shall ensure that the physical facilities are: safe; clean; in good repair; and free from hazards and clutter The building shall be kept clean and maintained in good repair, without unsafe cracks, leaks, or plumbing that is in disrepair		
<u>Texas</u>	<u>Texas Health and Human Services, Child Care Regulation</u>	<u>Chapter 746: Minimum Standard Rules for Licensed Child-Care Centers</u>	You must clean, repair, and maintain the building, grounds, and equipment to protect the health of the children		
<u>Utah</u>	<u>Utah Department of Health, Child Care Licensing</u>	<u>R381-100 Child Care Centers</u>	The provider shall maintain buildings and outdoor areas in good repair and safe condition The provider shall keep the building, furnishings, equipment, and outdoor area clean and sanitary		
<u>Vermont</u>	<u>Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families, Child Development Division</u>	<u>Child Care Licensing Regulations: Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program</u>	The licensee shall ensure the physical facilities of the CBCCPP, grounds, equipment, and toys present no hazard to the health, safety, and well-being of the children		
<u>Virginia</u>	<u>Virginia Department of Education, Office of Child Care Licensing</u>	<u>Chapter 780. Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers</u>	Areas and equipment of the center, inside and outside, shall be maintained in a clean, safe and operable condition		
<u>Washington</u>	<u>Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families</u>	<u>Chapter 110-300 WAC Foundational Quality Standards for Early Learning Programs</u>	Early learning program premises and program equipment must be clean and sanitary		
<u>West Virginia</u>	<u>West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Early Care and Education</u>	<u>Title 78, Series 1, Child Care Center Licensing</u>	The center shall: ensure that the premises, furnishings, equipment and supplies are in good repair and present no hazard to the health and safety of the children; ensure the outdoor environment is clear of hazards and all potential hazards		
<u>Wisconsin</u>	<u>Wisconsin Department of Children and Families</u>	<u>DCF 251 Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Centers</u>	The indoor and outdoor premises shall be free of hazards including any recalled products The premises shall be well drained, free from litter, clean, and in good repair		

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Facility Quality

Wyoming	Wyoming Department of Family Services	Chapter 4 General Requirements	The overall condition of the child care facility and grounds, including play areas, equipment, and toys, shall be maintained in a clean, uncluttered, safe condition and free of hazards		
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