



Comparison of Certified and Licensed Family Child Care



Certified Family

Licensed Family

The Process

Attend a three hour orientation and receive application for Certification process.
Orientation Hotline: 262-446-7800

Download/Print and read through the License Inquiry Packet at:
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cclicensin g/startcc>

Ratio

Maximum of six children at any one time. No more than 3 children under the age of 7 who are unrelated.

Maximum of eight children at any one time. (Depending on ages of children in care at any one time)

Indoor Space

The required space indoors is 35 square feet per child. (Minimum of 280 square feet for eight children).

Outdoor Space

No fence is required.

The required space outdoors is 75 square feet of enclosed play space. (Minimum of 600 square feet for eight children).
Fence IS required.

Second Exit

A second exit is required. The exit can be a door or window, which measures 20 inches in width and 24 inches in height but is not more than 46 inches above the floor. See rule book, DCF 202.08(2)(a)5.

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Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors are required on each level of home and in areas used by the children for nap and rest time.

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Radon Test

Radon test not required

Beginning March 1, 2023, DCF requires licensed family and group child care providers in Wisconsin to test for radon and mitigate radon if needed.