

Partnership Roles in the Child Care Licensing System



Child care is a collaborative effort between Child Care Providers, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Local Surveyors and Parents. Each group has a key role in order to be successful. A brief description of their roles is listed below.



Provider's Roles

- Know, understand and follow required regulations and laws to provide a safe and healthy environment for children in out-of-home care.
- Communicate regularly with parents of children in care. Allows for parents to voice concerns and feedback related to the child's condition or the care being provided.
- Voice concerns and feedback to parents related to the condition or the care being provided.
- Adopt a professional demeanor that demonstrates a willingness to work toward the improvement of the quality of care provided to their children.

KDHE's Roles

- Develop and adopt regulations that promote the health, safety and well-being of children as required by K.S.A. 65-508(c).
- Issue or deny licensure for child care (K.S.A. 65-504).
- Inspect child care facilities at least once every 12 months (K.S.A. 65-512) and notify the licensee of the findings of such inspection (K.S.A. 65-513).
- Maintain an online information dissemination system (K.S.A. 65-534).
- Enforce regulations using a progressive policy to protect the health and safety of children.
- Provide training and guidance to local surveyors.

Parent's Roles

- Make the best choice possible for their children and family.
- Contact the Resource and Referral Agency to get referrals for child care.
- Visit the child care provider before enrolling.
- Research online the child care facility history.
- Provide necessary information and complete and return all forms to the child care provider before starting care.
- Communicate regularly with the child care provider.
- Listen to the concerns and feedback from the provider related to the condition or the care being provided.

Local Surveyor's Roles

- Serve as the local expert in child care licensing.
- Provide support, orientation and education to child care providers.
- Provide consultation to child care providers regarding compliance with regulations and laws.
- Conduct onsite child care - initial, annual, compliance and complaint surveys.
- Investigate illegal care.
- Partner and work at the community level to support availability of quality child care.
- Contact KDHE for regulatory clarification regarding child care provider or surveyor questions.