

Finding a Preschool or Child Care Program for your Child

You can search for a preschool or child care provider near you by clicking on this link. It allows you to search for sites near your home. You can learn about the types of early childhood programs available in your area (e.g., Head Start, Community Preschools, Pre-K Counts, Day Care), and addresses, hours and contact information per program. You can find out if the site participates in Pennsylvania's quality rating system (PA KEYS).

Once you get to the site, click "Find a Provider". Then you can search for what interests you.

<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/compass.web/ProviderSearch/pgm/PSWEL.aspx>

How to Select a Quality Early Childhood Program

A how-to Select Quality Child Care booklet from the PA Department of Public Welfare:

http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/p_034503.pdf

Information plus web links to information on how to choose a quality early childhood program:

<http://papromiseforchildren.com/choose-a-quality-program/>

Information for families about the benefits of Inclusion and suggestions for including young children with disabilities in typical early care programs:

http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dms/epqc/birth3/files/de_maps_inclusion.pdf

Financial Assistance for Child Care

Child Care Works is Pennsylvania's Subsidized Child Care Program. Find out if you qualify for assistance and how to apply by clicking on the link below.

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/forchildren/childcareearlylearning/childcareworkssubsidizedchildcareprogram/index.htm>

Types of Early Childhood Programs

Click on the link below for definitions of types of early childhood programs in PA (for example: *Head Start / Early Head Start, PA Pre-K Counts, Keystone Stars, Early Intervention....*)

<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/compass.web/ProviderSearch/pgm/PSHLP.aspx>

...and how these programs are regulated

<http://papromiseforchildren.com/choose-a-quality-program/how-programs-are-regulated/>

Pennsylvania's Promise for Children

Click on the link below for lots of useful information about how to support your child's growth and development. This includes useful information about 1) Why the First Five Years Matter, 2) Tips of Helping Your Child Grow, 3) Choosing a Quality Program for your Child, 4) Making Ends Meet, and 5) Becoming a Children's Champion.

<http://papromiseforchildren.com/>

More Resources for Parents

Includes information about and links to Parent to Parent, Children's Health Insurance Program, Special Kids Network, etc.

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/forchildren/childcareearlylearning/otherwebresourcesforparents/index.htm>

Informational Publications for Parents of Young Children

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/forchildren/childcareearlylearning/publicationsforparents/index.htm>

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Consider - Watch me Grow – link?

Learn about the PA Department of Public Welfare's Child Care & Early Learning System

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/forchildren/childcareearlylearning/index.htm>