

**FAMILY DAYCARE FACILITIES
LICENSED BY THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES**



These facilities are classified as Group R, Division 3 in the 1997 Uniform Building Code, **Dwellings, dwellings used for large family daycare homes (as defined Section 205) and lodging houses.**

Chapter 2, Section 205 Daycare Home, Large Family is a provider's own home licensed to provide daycare for periods less than 24 hours per day seven (7) to twelve (12) persons, including children under the age of 10 years who reside at the home.

This division may include a maximum of four non-ambulatory clients (children age two (2) or younger are considered non-ambulatory).

These facilities require a fire clearance authorization and approval by the authority having jurisdiction (your local fire department). After an application requesting licensing is received by the Department of Social Services, they send a fire clearance request to your local Fire Department.

When the Fire Department receives the fire clearance request, they will send you a letter along with this brochure outlining pre-inspection code requirements for your facility classification. You should use the brochure guidelines to conduct your own facility inspection. When you have met all the requirements outlined in the brochure, you are responsible for contacting the Fire Prevention Bureau to schedule your fire clearance inspection. An inspection of your facility will be conducted each year.

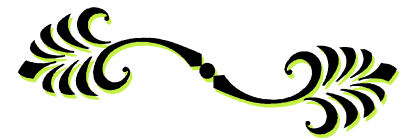
The Napa and Solano County Fire Department's are proud to provide you with this information brochure to assist with making your Large Family Day Care a safe place for everyone.

This brochure is designed to provide pre-inspection information and code requirements to follow when preparing for your inspection. We have identified many of the most common areas we will be inspecting. We are not able to include all code regulations that may exist.

We hope our assistance has made opening your Large Family Daycare Facility a smooth process.

You can request further information by contacting the Fire Department in your area.

**Napa & Solano
County Fire
Department's**



**LARGE FAMILY
DAYCARE
FACILITY
INFORMATION
BROCHURE**

THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS MUST BE MET PRIOR TO RECEIVING A FIRE CLEARANCE APPROVAL:

A Large Family Daycare may require a permit or business license from your City or County Fire Department. It is your responsibility to contact your local Fire Department to ensure this requirement has been met.

EXITS – A minimum of two exits are required, and may include one sliding glass door. Exits cannot be obstructed by drapes or furniture. Vertical blinds are acceptable.

GATE(S) – A child safety gate must be installed across the bottom of every stairway leading to the second floor.

Exit doorways shall be of a size to permit installation of a door not less than 32 inches clear width and not less than 6 feet, 8 inches clear height.

When basements are used for daycare purposes, one of the two required exits shall open directly to the exterior of the building without entering the first floor.

Where daycare is permitted above the first story [as defined in T-24, Section 310.51], an exit shall be provided from that floor or area to the exterior of the building: For the purpose of this section, the first story shall be designated as the floor used for residential occupancy closest to street level that provides primary building access. This exit to the exterior of the building must be an approved fire escape.

Door leading from the house into the garage shall be a solid core door with self-closing hinges. (This is not considered an exit door.)

Exit paths from the backyard to a front public street shall not be blocked or obstructed. A minimum of 32” clear width must be maintained. Side yard gates shall operate freely and easily.

LOCKS OR LATCHES – Exit doors shall be operable from the inside without the use of a key or any special knowledge or effort. This means you cannot have any additional locks on your exit doors. If your front door is a required exit, you may have a single cylinder deadbolt lock. Deadbolts must open from the inside by a thumb throw latch, not a key.

ELECTRICAL – Extension cords shall not be used in place of permanent wiring, including garage door openers.

SECOND LEVEL – Rooms located above the first floor shall not be used for daycare purposes unless your home has automatic sprinklers.

EVACUATION PLAN – All Large Family Daycare Facilities are required to post an exit evacuation plan. It is recommended that you discuss and practice home fire drills.

PREMISE IDENTIFICATION – Home address shall have 3” numbers, contrasting in color, and clearly visible from a front public way.

SMOKE DETECTORS – A State Fire Marshal listed and approved smoke detector shall be installed at a point centrally located in the corridor or area giving access to sleeping areas. Smoke detectors shall be installed on every story. The number and placement of additional smoke detectors shall be determined by the enforcement authority. Buildings constructed before August 14, 1992 may have smoke detectors that use batteries as their sole power supply. A log of testing and battery replacement must be maintained quarterly. Detectors shall be tested every three months. Change the batteries once each year.

TEST YOUR DETECTOR FOR LIFE

SPRINKLERS – Sprinklers are not required for single family homes. Buildings that are more than two (2) stories or if non-ambulatory (children age 2 or younger) are above the first floor, require sprinklers per NFPA 13.

STOVE EXHAUST SCREEN – The stove exhaust screen shall be cleaned of all grease.

FIRE ALARM – A device suitable for sounding a fire alarm is required. The device shall be attached to the structure and may be any type acceptable to the enforcing agency, provided they are distinct in tone and are audible throughout the structure. **EXAMPLES:** Large bell or triangle.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER – A minimum of one 2A10BC extinguisher must be mounted, 3’ to 5’ from the floor in a centrally located area. Fire extinguishers must be serviced and tagged once every year.

SPECIAL HAZARDS

- ◆ Make sure your chimney and heating appliances are in good working condition. We recommend having your chimney inspected and cleaned at least once a year. Your chimney must have a spark arrestor installed.
- ◆ The storage of gasoline, fuel oil and other flammable liquids is restricted to a maximum of 5 gallons inside the garage. **No storage is allowed if the garage is used for children.**
- ◆ Every enclosed gas-fired water heater or furnace that is within the area used for childcare purposes shall be protected in such a way as to prevent children from making contact with appliances.

All garage conversions, patio enclosures, room additions or other structural changes must be permitted, approved and finalized by the City Building Department prior to change.

All Large Family Daycare Facilities located within Solano and Napa Counties shall conform with all Federal, State and Local regulations, including the California Fire Code, California Building Code, Title 19, Health & Safety Code and any Municipal Codes.