

Thank you for contacting NewMexicoKids to explore your Early Childhood Services options. We hope you had a pleasant experience and a successful search for programs. If you would like further assistance, such as exploring your child care options, learning about home visiting programs, or connecting with other early childhood services, please contact us at **1-800-691-9067** statewide. We encourage you to visit the website at www.NewMexicoKids.org for more information on early care and education programs, state regulations, inspection reports, and the FOCUS Program (New Mexico's quality rating system).

Families should contact the early childhood options they are considering and ask questions pertaining to issues that are important to them. Visit the program as many times as you need to feel comfortable making a final decision. Review [inspection reports](#) on licensed child care programs to help you make the best decision for your family. Please utilize this checklist [Selecting Child Care](#) to help with decisions or use the [Parent Guide](#) for more guidance. For questions regarding your young child's development, please see this [Milestones Guide](#).

Do you need help paying for child care?

ECECD Child Care Assistance Services provides help with the cost of child care. Payments are issued and mailed in the form of a check to the approved child care program or provider if the provider is licensed or registered by the state of NM. Your co-payment is based on the size of your family and your family's income. Consider using the [Am I Eligible Survey](#) to see what program/s you may qualify for or directly apply here: <https://eligibility.ececd.state.nm.us/>. You may also call (505) 841-4801 to find your local office.

Information regarding NM's FOCUS Quality Rating System: (Star Ratings are issued only by the State of NM)

- No Rating/Registered: Family Child Care Home Providers are certified by ECECD but are not licensed. Registered Home Providers are regulated by a food program sponsor through the Family Nutrition Bureau.
- 1-STAR (Basic Licensure) Provider has met basic licensing criteria by ECECD and **does not accept** child care assistance.
- 2-STAR (Basic Licensure) Provider has met basic licensing criteria by ECECD and **accepts child care assistance (CCA)**.
- 3-STAR Provider has met basic licensing requirements, additional 3 STAR NM FOCUS criteria, and **accepts CCA**.
- 4-STAR Provider has met basic licensing requirements and additional 3 & 4 STAR NM FOCUS criteria, and **accepts CCA**.
- 5-STAR Provider has met basic licensing requirements and additional 3 – 5 STAR NM FOCUS criteria, and **accepts CCA**.

NewMexicoKids Resource and Referral Services

NewMexicoKids Resource and Referral believes that parents/guardians are best able to choose and evaluate services for their children because they know their family's needs best and are encouraged to act on their own knowledge and feelings as they select from options regarding child care or other early care and education services. NewMexicoKids Resource and Referral R&R does not discriminate in providing referrals and/or support services on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, ancestry, age, disability, medical condition, sexual preference, or other protected status. NewMexicoKids Resource and Referral is not a regulatory entity, and therefore does not investigate complaints regarding programs, agencies, or providers. However, should we receive a complaint against any program the complaint will be documented and forwarded to the proper authorities, agency, child care licensing and/or food program/child care sponsors. Any action taken by NewMexicoKids staff will reflect NewMexicoKids commitment to safeguard children and provide families with the service options that best meet their needs. There is no charge for the service.

DISCLAIMER: Our goal is to assist families in finding the widest range of available service options. The Office of Child Development, the State of New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Dept, the University of New Mexico, and the NewMexicoKids Resource and Referral are not responsible for inaccuracies in either the data contained in or disseminated from the referral database, nor are they responsible for action taken in reference to information provided from the referral database. The above agencies are also not responsible for finding, securing, or ensuring continued services for families nor are they responsible for evaluating the quality of the services.

Thank you for your time in seeking support for your healthy family. Your referral results are below.