



Licensed Providers and Exempt Providers: What are the Differences?

Licensed Providers	Exempt Providers
<p>Who should become licensed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providers caring for more than six children in a commercial location for pay are licensed as Child Care Learning Centers (CCLC) Residential homes caring for more than two unrelated children for pay are licensed as Family Child Care Learning Homes (FCCLH) <p>What are the benefits of being licensed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public assurance of safe, healthy, nurturing standards Access to other services to benefit the provider and children including CAPS, CACFP, and Quality Rated Legal compliance and more flexibility in services offered to families <p>What are the first steps in starting a CCLC or FCCLH?</p> <p>The first step in applying for an initial license is to review the requirements found at http://dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/StartingACenter.aspx and the Rules and Regulations found at http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx. Next, the provider should participate in the online licensure orientation training applicable to the type of facility they will operate. Participants register for the courses through the Georgia Professional Development System at https://gapds.dec.al.ga.gov</p> <p>Can exempt providers become licensed?</p> <p>Yes. Exempt providers who wish to become licensed will follow the same procedures as initial applicants to begin the licensing process.</p> <p>Are licensed providers monitored?</p> <p>Yes, in addition to the initial licensing visit that is required to obtain official permission to operate, licensed providers are monitored at least twice each year. In addition, providers receive visits when an incident or complaint arises and as a follow up after citations are issued.</p> <p>Do Licensed providers reapply or renew their license each year?</p> <p>The license continues, but there is a fee to renew the license each year. The fee is based on the licensed capacity and is due November 1–December 31.</p>	<p>What is an Exemption?</p> <p>An exemption is an exception to the requirements that a business or a person must be licensed. These providers must adhere to Exemption rules and regulations. Georgia law requires that anyone caring for more than two children for pay must be licensed or obtain exemption approval. The application process and the 14 categories of Exemptions are explained at http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/Exemptions.aspx</p> <p>Who can apply for an exemption?</p> <p>Anyone operating in a commercial location can apply for an exemption. Those operating in residential homes (FCCLHs) cannot apply for exemptions. The Exemption is granted if the provider operates according to the criteria established for an exempt provider.</p> <p>Can exempt providers receive funding from Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), Nutrition Services (CACFP/SFSP), or participate in Quality Rated?</p> <p>Only facilities in Categories 1 (government owned and operated) and 7 (day camps) are eligible to receive CAPS funding. All providers can participate in Nutrition Services programs if they qualify. Exempt providers cannot participate in Quality Rated.</p> <p>Are exempt providers monitored?</p> <p>Yes, exempt providers are monitored and visits are conducted. Providers may receive an initial visit prior to approval. All providers will receive a monitoring visit based on a random sampling percentage of providers visited each year. Providers receiving CAPS funds receive annual visits.</p> <p>Are exempt providers required to renew their exemptions annually?</p> <p>No. As long as the exempt provider remains at the same address and maintains the same owner/operator, the exemption will continue to be active. Exempt providers must comply with all rules set by state and local authorities governing topics such as—but not limited to—zoning, fire safety, and construction.</p> <p>Do administrators and staff of exempt providers have to be fingerprinted?</p> <p>DECAL encourages all exempt providers to require some form of fingerprinting to ensure safe and quality care of children. Exempt and non-exempt providers receiving CAPS funds must comply with DECAL fingerprinting rules.</p>
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