

Child Care Programs in Lake, Obion, and Weakley Counties

Background Information

Child Care in Tennessee

Child Care in the United States is regulated by state governments. In Tennessee, the Department of Human Services (DHS) is responsible for child care licensing and regulation. The quality of child care has a direct impact on children's abilities to learn and develop healthy relationships. State regulations identify minimum standards for those caring for 5 or more children more than 3 hours a day. State statutes are the basis for the regulations which are explained in the DHS Child Care Rules and Regulations. All child care providers in Tennessee undergo a criminal background check through the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation before beginning work. In addition to meeting licensing standards, child care programs can participate in the Star Quality Program, which is a quality rating system. Child care programs are evaluated once a year, receiving a report card which must be posted for parents in the facility and is available for the public on the DHS website. Those participating in the Star Quality Program receive a star rating of 0 to 3 stars (3 stars is the highest rating) based on assessment with standardized rating scales. Details about the report card and rating program are available at:

<https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/article/child-care-report-card-star-quality-program>

Tennessee regulates four types of care:

Child Care Centers provide care for 13 or more children.

Family Child Care Homes provide care for at least five but not more than seven unrelated children. Up to 5 additional children related to the primary caregiver may also receive care in family child care homes.

Group Child Care Homes provide care for at least 8 but not more than 12 children. Up to 3 additional school age children may receive care before and after school, on school holidays, on snow days, and during summer vacation.

Drop-In Centers provide care for 15 or more children not to exceed 14 hours per week and for not more than 7 hours per day for any individual child during regular working hours, Monday - Friday 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Drop-in centers can also provide up to 6 additional hours of care per week during evening (after 6 PM) and weekend (until 10 PM on Sunday) hours, as long as the total number of hours per week does not exceed 20 hours for any individual child, exclusive of snow days.

Additional Note: The number and ages of children present determine the number of adult staff required in a child care facility.

Costs of child care vary by location. Generally urban areas have higher costs than rural areas, and infant care is more expensive than care for older children. According to the current cost study published on the DHS website (2015), in the "second market" category (counties not among most expensive), the average cost of care per week in Tennessee is: \$114 for infants, \$111 for toddlers, 103 for children over 2 years, \$78 for school-age care when schools are out, and \$52 for school-age care during school days.

Child care providers make anywhere from \$7.25-\$10.00 per hour. According to Child Care Aware, a national organization for parents and care providers, child care providers in

centers in Tennessee average income in 2013 was \$20,140. Again, there is great variation in pay by location and type of care.

The following list of providers was created using the listing on the DHS website under the heading "Find Child Care". Head Start Programs were not included because they do not provide year-round, full-time care. Programs in Lake, Obion, and Weakley Counties are listed by type of child care. Note there are 3 programs in Weakley County open in the evening hours (pages 8 and 11).

Lake County

Child Care Center (13 or more children)

Reelfoot Rural Ministries Tiptonville Day Care
325 Kentucky Street
Tiptonville, TN 38079
731-253-8004
Director: June Fickle
Capacity: 50
Ages 1-5 years
7:30 am -5:00 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program
Sliding fee schedule based on income

Obion County

Child Care Centers (13 or more children)

Black Oak After School
365 Shawtown Road
Hornbeak, TN 38232
731-538-2271
Contact: Jennifer Quinton
Capacity: 150
5-11 years
3:00-6:00 pm (during school year)

Boys and Girls Club of Northwest TN
1015 College Street
Union City, TN 38261
731-885-0883
Director: Tracy Boucher
Capacity: 250
6-18 years
8:00 am – 9:00 pm

Children's Corner
1411 Oak Street
Union City, TN 38261
731-885-1992
Contact: Lori Riley
Capacity: 85
6 weeks-5 years
6:15 am - 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

First Friends (First United Methodist Church)
420 E. Main Street
Union City, TN 38261
731-885-9813
Director: Pamela Whitlow
Capacity: 73
6 weeks – 6 years
7:00 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Kare Bear (First Baptist Church)
500 E. Church Street
Union City, TN 382261
731-885-9211
Director: Taylor Edwards
Capacity: 160
6 weeks – 12 years
7:00 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Little Lambs Learning Center I
2215 E. Reelfoot Ave.
Union City, TN 38261
731-885-0290
Director: Charity Johnson
Capacity: 99
6 weeks – 12 years
6:00 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Little Lambs Learning Center II
718 E. Vine Street
Union City, TN 38261
731-886-8650
Director: Charity Johnson
Capacity: 43
6 weeks – 5 years
7:00 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Ridgemont Elementary School ESP
1258 N. Highway 45 Bypass
Union City, TN 38261
731-536-5171
Contact: Betty Davis
Capacity: 200
5 – 14 years
3:00 – 5:30 pm (during school year)

Small World Child Care
1733 Old Rives Road
Union City, TN
731-885-8870
Director: Judy Campbell
Capacity: 52
1 – 5 years
6:30 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

South Fulton Elementary School ESP
209 Highway 45 Bypass East
South Fulton, TN 38257
Contact: Virginia Franklin
Capacity: 125
5 – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:30 pm (during school year)

The Pumpkin Patch
1811 Old Troy Road
Union City, TN 38261
731-884-1005
Director: Kathy Gockley (and Susie Wise)
Capacity: 99
6 weeks – 5 years
6:00 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

The Pumpkin Patch II Day Care
308 Broadway
South Fulton, TN 38257
731-271-2094
Director: Kathy Gockley (and Susie Wise)
Capacity: 50
6 weeks – 5 years
6:00 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Union City Elementary School
1100 Miles Avenue
Union City, TN 38261
731-885-1632
Contact: Gloria McClendon
Capacity: 60
4 – 11 years
2:45 or 3:00 – 5:30 pm (during school year)

Family Home Care (7 or fewer children)

Melinda's Playhouse
106 Barbara Street
South Fulton, TN 38257
731-479-0542
Contact: Melinda Brimm
Capacity: 7
6 weeks – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:00 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Group Home Care (8-12 children)

Angela's Little Angels
509 Jolley Street
South Fulton, TN 38257
731-796-0523
Contact: Angela Eaves
Capacity: 12
6 weeks – 6 years
6:30 am – 5:15 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Miss Ann's GDCH
508 Oliver Drive
South Fulton, TN 38257
731-479-3327
Contact: Ann Boaz
Capacity: 12
6 weeks – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:00 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Weakley County

Child Care Centers (13 or more children)

Ben's Club House
1133 Cypress Creek Road
Martin, TN 38237
731-587-2138
Contact: Julie Lovelace
Capacity: 21
3 – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:50 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Central Christian Academy Before/After
801 Harrison Road
Martin, TN 38237
731-587-9877
Contact: Kim Mccaleb
Capacity: 45
4 – 10 Years
6:30 am – 5:30 pm (during school year)

Christian Wee Learn Center
123 University Street
Martin, TN 38237
731-587-5823
Director: Pam Fletcher
Capacity: 97
6 weeks – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Crossroads Teen Center
406 Jackson Street
Martin, TN 38237
731-587-3186
Contact: Kristy Robinson
Capacity: 86
11 – 18 years
2:30 - 6:30 pm (during school year)

Cuddles and Crayons
10060 Highway 22
Dresden, TN 38225
731-364-5437
Contact: Sandra Taylor
Capacity: 24
6 weeks – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Gingerbread Junction
384 Linden Street
Dresden, TN 38225
731-364-3462
Contact: Ginger Randolph
Capacity: 66
6 weeks – 10 years
6:30 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Kid Kastle
747 N. Lindell Street
Martin, TN 38237
731-587-2713
Director: Elizabeth Gipson
Capacity: 44
6 weeks – 12 years
5:30 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Main Street Munchkins
587 E. Main Street
Dresden, TN 38225
731-364-5188
Director: Brittany Robinson
Capacity: 95
12 months – 13 years
6:30 am – 5:15 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Main Street Too
585 E. Main Street
Dresden, TN 38225
731-364-5188
Contact: Rhonda Morgan
Capacity: 24
4 – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Martin Housing Authority After School
120 Manley Street
Martin, TN 38237
731-587-3186
Contact: Kristy Robinson
Capacity: 40
5 – 12 years
2:30 – 5:30 pm

Noah's Ark
434 Evergreen Street
Dresden, TN 38225
731-364-5365
Director: Melanie Cravens
Capacity: 34
12 months – 13 years
5:00 am – 11:00 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Pierce's Pooh Bears
304 N. Cedar Street
Gleason, TN 38229
Contact: April Hester
Capacity: 24
6 weeks – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Professional Child Care
115 Hyndsver Road
Martin, TN 38237
731-587-6229
Contact: Shelby Moore Jackson
Capacity: 57
6 weeks – 12 years
5:45 am – 6:00 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Stepping Stones Christian Center
1133 Cypress Creek Road
Martin, TN 38237
731-587-2138
Contact: Julie Lovelace
Capacity: 24
6 weeks – 5 years
6:30 am – 5:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

UT Martin Margaret N. Perry Children's Center
120 Pat Head Summitt Drive
University of Tennessee at Martin
Martin, TN 38238
731-881-7715
Director: Leanne Snider
Capacity: 99
6 weeks – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:20 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Family Home Care (7 or fewer children)

First Stages FDCH
571 N. Ezell Street
Sharon, TN 38255
731-332-0712
Contact: Lynda Sue Brewer
Capacity: 7
6 weeks – 6 years
7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Tons of Fun
283 Brandon Road
Martin, TN 38237
731-587-4135
Contact: Sherrie Scott
Capacity: 7
6 weeks – 12 years
5:45 am – 11:59 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Group Home Care (8-12 children)

Aunt Tracey's Daycare
2698 Ralston Road
Martin, TN 38237
731-514-1417
Contact: Tracey Toney
Capacity: 12
6 weeks – 13 years
5:30 am – 11:30 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Belles and Beaus
724 Denning Road
Gleason, TN 38229
731-648-5883
Contact: Alicia Verdell
Capacity: 12
6 weeks – 12 years
7:00 am – 5:00 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

MeMe's Daycare
319 Summer Street
Martin, TN 38237
731-514-6700
Contact: Anita Williams
Capacity: 12
6 weeks – 12 years
6:30 am – 5:00 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Miss Penny's Playhouse
105 N. Faxon
Greenfield, TN 38230
Contact: Penny Henry
Capacity: 12
6 weeks – 10 years
7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Tiny Tots Child Care
703 West Street
Gleason, TN 38229
Contact: Beth Ivy
Capacity: 12
6 weeks – 12 years
6:00 am – 5:00 pm
Accept Child Care Assistance Program

Footnote: Tennessee's Child Care Assistance Program is a part of Families First in Tennessee which utilizes federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funds to provide child care assistance to low-income families who meet eligibility guidelines.



PRO-KIDS

Prepared for the Obion County Chamber of Commerce Child Care Committee by Cathy Waggoner, Teena Jarmon, and Marti Herndon of the Promethean Foundation. The Promethean Foundation is a non-profit foundation from the vision of Robert E. and Jenny D. Kirkland Foundation which provides scholarships to at-risk Obion County children to attend quality child care programs. These programs provide an academic curriculum to prepare children for school and a character development curriculum to prepare them for future excellence. June 1, 2017