



City of Maryville

Child Daycare

Establishing a Child Daycare Center in the City of Maryville



FAQ's

What is a Child Daycare Facility?

The 2006 International Building Code defines a Child Daycare as a facility that provides supervision and personal care for children on a less than 24 hours basis in a location by individuals other than parents or guardians, relatives by blood, marriage or adoption and in a place other than the home of the child cared for. Excluded from this definition are those businesses or religious institutions, which provide incidental day care service for children while the parents or guardians are on the premises.

Child Daycares facilities are classified by the number and ages of persons served as well as the capability of the children for self-preservation (ability to exit the building by themselves with minimal intervention, such as verbal orders from staff members). The building and life safety code requirements are based on these factors.

Can I have a Child Daycare in my home?

You may keep up to 3 children that are not related to you in your home (dwelling unit) without being considered a regulated Child Daycare.

Which zoning districts are Child Daycare facilities allowed?

Child Daycare facilities are permitted in all zoning districts but only with Special Exception approval by the Board of Zones Appeals. Contact the City of Maryville Planning staff at 865-273-3500 for more information.

What is required to operate a Child Daycare?

To operate a Child Daycare facility you must obtain the following from the City of Maryville:

1. A Special Exception approval from the Board of Zoning Appeals (contact the Planning Department at 865-273-3500 for information)
2. A Business License or a Home Occupation Permit from the City of Maryville (contact the Financial Services Department at 865-273-3900)

3. A Certificate of Occupancy and /or Building Permits from the Codes Enforcement Department (contact the Codes Enforcement Department at 865-273-3500 for information)

Other agencies that may have requirements for Child Daycare facilities are: State of Tennessee Department of Human Service (phone 865-981-2350), Business License from Blount County (phone 865-273-5800).

What specific code requirements are there for Child Daycare facilities?

There are many building and life safety code requirements for Child Daycare facilities. Each applicable code classifies Child Daycares facilities by the number, ages of persons served and the capability of the children for self-preservation. Additional requirements concerning the building construction, proximity to property lines, accessibility to persons with physical impairments, etc. also apply. A Tennessee registered Architect is required to prepare plans or other documents to indicate compliance with the codes and regulations. The architect can help you determine what makes best sense to you based on your intended facility while applying the requirements. Some general examples (not an exhaustive list) of issues that may or may not apply are:

- Building size (height and areas for occupancy use),
- Building type of construction,
- Fire-resistance rated construction,
- Interior finishes,
- Fire protection systems (fire sprinkler systems, fire alarms, etc.),
- Means of egress,
- Accessibility for individuals with physical impairments,
- Interior environment,
- Structural adequacy,
- Glazing, and
- Plumbing fixture requirements

The following is a guide to classifying Child Daycare facilities by the International Building Code:

International Building Code Classification Guide

CHILD DAYCARE FACILITIES (less than 24 hour care)			
Age of children	Capability of children	Number of children served	
		1-5	Over 5
2 ½ years or less	Not capable or self-preservation	R-3 or IRC ¹	I-4 ²
Over 2 ½ years	Not capable or self-preservation	R-3 or IRC ¹	I-4
Over 2 ½ years	Capable or self-preservation	R-3 or IRC ¹	E

1. IRC = International Residential Code for One and Two Family Dwellings

2. Child care with more than 5 but no more than 100 children 2 ½ years of age or less with doors directly to the exterior at grade are classified as Group E. Infant care rooms in religious facilities used only during services are part of the main use, Group A-3.