Registered Family Day Care

Definition:

South Dakota law defines a Family Day Care Home as providing care and supervision of children from more than one unrelated family, in a family home, on a regular basis for part of a day as a supplement to regular parental care, without transfer of legal custody or placement for adoption. A family day care home may not be registered for care and supervision of more than 12 children at any one-time including children under the age of six who are living in the home.

- Family day care is a service provided in the provider's home.
- Family day care providers are registered rather than licensed.
- Registration is a voluntary process where the applicants declare their intent to provide family day care and agree to comply with standards that have been established by the Department of Social Services.
- A registration certificate is in effect for two years.
- Registration is legally mandated when a provider receives compensation from public funds.
- Providers who are not receiving reimbursement from public funds and caring for 12 or fewer children can choose whether they want to be registered or not.
- A registered family day care provider must be at least 18 years old.

Health and Safety Regulatory Requirements met by a registered family day care provider:

- Administrative Rules of South Dakota (ARSD) 67:42:17 Child Care Licensing
- South Dakota Codified Laws (SDCL) Chapter 26-6 - Children's Homes and Welfare Agencies
- Guidebook to Child Care Licensing Rules and Resources for Family Child Care.

Monitoring and Inspections

Sample Monitoring Form

Background Checks Required

For more information, please visit our Office of Licensing & Accreditation Constituent Portal to start the licensing process.