



FINDING POTENTIAL CHILDCARE FACILITIES

Purpose: Reinvestment Fund, in partnership with Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC), operate the Fund for Quality (FFQ), a program that supports high-quality early childhood education (ECE) providers in expanding to serve more low-income children across Philadelphia (www.fundforquality.org).

Since FFQ's inception in 2014, we have understood that while many ECE providers are interested in expansion, identifying an appropriate facility is a challenge. To that end, we have added additional point-level data to www.childcaremap.org. "Potential Childcare Facilities" is a new resource to help providers investigate locations that may be suitable for an ECE facility. Information will be updated on a quarterly basis, and will eventually provide locations across the city.

Please note, however, that these guidelines are meant solely to assist potential providers in locating an appropriate site for their facilities. As such, you should be aware that we are making no representation or warranty to any potential provider as to the accuracy, completeness, or applicability of any of the information contained herein or within any other source referenced herein. These guidelines are not meant to be a definitive or exhaustive list of available resources, and we invite you to undertake any other research you may deem applicable to your particular plans for expansion.

How-To: Go to www.childcaremap.org.

- Click on the "Map" tab
- Under "Points, Lines, Polygons" there is a sub-category titled "Potential Childcare Facilities"
- Add a dataset to the map by clicking on the title
- Once you add a point dataset, you can filter out a sub-category using the legend
- If you want to see the zoning in the area you are looking at, go to the "Layers" section and look for the "Zoning" sub-category
- Additional resources will continue to be made available

Other Information: Think creatively about the location and utilization of space – are there publicly owned assets that may be appropriate spaces to serve your community? Interested in investigating co-location with recreation centers, district school operations or other City facilities? Reach out to: fundforquality@phmc.org.

In thinking of the appropriate location for your site, consider the following information, some of which are available through www.childcaremap.org:

- Building square footage and access to outdoor space
- Proximity to outdoor public space – such as playgrounds
- Zoning [CMX2 only]
- Public transportation such as train and bus routes
- Estimated demand for high-quality child care

MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS FOR HIGH-QUALITY EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS

This overview of major requirements is drawn from the Pennsylvania Code, Philadelphia Building Code and Philadelphia Department of Public Health requirements. It is not a comprehensive list; check all codes and quality standards including Keystone STARS standards prior to locating child care or pre-k programs.

Space:

Classrooms are limited to 20 children each. To be financially viable programs should have at least three classrooms (although more than three is preferable). Based on 75 square feet (SF) per child (40 SF per child plus hallways, bathrooms, break room for teachers, etc.), buildings should have a minimum of 4,500 SF.

For outdoor space - 65 SF per child is required, or a minimum of 1,300 SF assuming least 20 children are outdoors at once.

Other Requirements:

- Dedicated large motor play space indoors or outdoors
- A break room where staff can plan
- Adequate ventilation and / or air conditioning
- Two exits from all levels where children are in care
- One toilet for every 15 children; one sink for every 25 children at appropriate heights for children
- Adult restroom
- Meet ADA accessibility codes including one handicap accessible entrance and bathroom, at minimum
- Fire alarm
- Certificate of Occupancy
- Zoning (In spaces zoned CMX2 child care is a matter of right. Elsewhere, variances are required)
- Sprinkler system needed if caring for more than 5 children under the age of 2 ½ or if caring for more than 100 children



ABOUT CHILDCARE MAP

Reinvestment Fund, with support from the William Penn Foundation, conducted a spatial analysis of the supply and demand for child care in Philadelphia. Reinvestment Fund's analysis is accessible through www.childcaremap.org, an interactive tool that helps identify the neighborhoods where high-quality care is most scarce and where investments are most needed. Reinvestment Fund's PolicyMap built the tool, which is powered by its data and mapping platform, www.policymap.com