NAFCC Accreditation

At-a-Glance

NAFCC Accreditation is recognized as the highest indicator of quality in a family child care program.

NAFCC’s accreditation process is designed to be a continuum of professional development and quality improvement. There are 6 components to the process:

First Steps

Getting started on the path to quality is easy!!!

1. Become a member of NAFCC online at nafcc.org.
2. Enroll in self-study. Download a Self-Study Enrollment form or enroll online at nafcc.org.
3. GET STARTED when you receive your self-study kit!!

The Accreditation Process

Self-Study Enrollment

During self-study, you evaluate your program using the Quality Standards for NAFCC Accreditation and make quality improvements.

Application

NAFCC assesses your eligibility. This, among others, includes verification of CPR and First Aid certification, background checks, and family child care specific training.

Observation

NAFCC trained observers conduct an observation of you and your program. The observer gathers information based on the Quality Standards and objectively documents what is seen and heard. Prior to your observation visit you will complete the Self-Certified Standards book and families will complete parent surveys.

Decision

NAFCC reviews documentation from the observer and yourself, as well as data from the parent surveys. The Accreditation Commission uses that information to determine your accreditation status. Accreditation is valid for 3 years based on the successful completion of annual updates.

Update

You will assess yourself and your program to ensure continuous compliance with the Quality Standards, verify you continue to meet all eligibility requirements, and report professional development activities and quality improvements you have completed.

Re-accreditation

You display an on-going commitment to the profession of family child care when you pursue re-accreditation. Re-accreditation validates that high quality family child care is a legitimate option for parents and essential to the community.

Fees

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<tr>
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<th>Member</th>
<th>Non-member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-Study Enrollment</td>
<td>$315</td>
<td>$450</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accreditation Application</td>
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<td>$735</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st &amp; 2nd Year Annual Updates</td>
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<td>$240</td>
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<td>Package Fee SAVE $$$ Includes self-study, application and annual updates</td>
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accreditation@nafcc.org ● 801-886-2322 ● www.nafcc.org

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Providers learn from the process

Accreditation increases providers’ self-esteem

Accreditation helps providers feel professional

It gives a more concrete definition of quality in family child care

Accreditation keeps providers excited about their work

It encourages providers to pursue ongoing training and professional development opportunities

Accreditation promotes higher quality than state regulations

Accredited providers become leaders in the field

Accreditation helps some providers earn more

Accreditation is a national recognition that providers offer high quality care

Accreditation is good for providers, for families, and for children

It’s a concept that families understand

Accreditation strengthens the family child care profession

Accreditation helps providers develop important community partnerships
Eligibility Requirements for NAFCC Accreditation

Providers and Co-Providers *

In addition to demonstrating compliance with the Quality Standards for NAFCC Accreditation, a provider must meet the following eligibility requirements to be considered for accreditation by NAFCC:

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Provide care to children for a minimum of 15 hours per week
- Provide care to a minimum of three children in a home environment. At least one child must not reside in the provider’s home
- Be the primary caregiver, spending at least 80% of the operating hours actively involved with the children. Co-providers must spend at least 60% of the time actively involved with the children
- Have at least 12 months experience as a family child care provider before the observation visit. Meet the highest level of regulation to operate a family child care program by the authorized regulatory body
- Be in compliance with all regulations of the authorized regulatory body
- Have a favorable state and federal (FBI) criminal history (*also applies to assistants, substitutes, and other adults living in the family child care home)
- Be in good health in order to provide a nurturing and stable environment for children (*also applies to assistants and substitutes)
- Maintain a current CPR and Pediatric First Aid certification (*also applies to assistants and substitutes)
- Adhere to the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct
- Complete at least 120 clock hours of documented family child care related education/training within the 3 years prior to submitting the accreditation documentation. Please refer to the NAFCC Accreditation training requirements for more information.

*Includes requirements for assistants and other adults in the home WHERE INDICATED.