

# NAFCC Accreditation

The Benefits and Overview of the Process

*Presenter's Handbook*



# NAFCC

## **About the *NAFCC Accreditation Presentation***

This presentation is designed to give an overview of the benefits of accreditation and the accreditation process.

- **Presenter's Handbook** is designed with notes for each slide of the presentation
- **Presentation** is available as a PowerPoint Slide Show. If you are having difficulty opening the file please email us at [accreditation@nafcc.org](mailto:accreditation@nafcc.org)
- **Handouts** are provided with instructions for use. Please see the next page
- **Brochures** are available for you to print. Fliers are available to be mailed to you. Please submit your request with an appropriate shipping address in writing to [accreditation@nafcc.org](mailto:accreditation@nafcc.org).

## About the Handouts for “NAFCC Accreditation” Presentation

**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 continuous of professional development and quality improvement. There are 6 components to the process:

**First Steps**

1. Get started on the path to quality as a provider.
2. Become a member of NAFCC, either as an individual or as an organization.
3. Download a Self-Study Document from our website at nafcc.org.
4. GET STARTED when you receive your self-study kit.

**Fees**

Member	Non-Member
\$100	\$400
\$200	\$750
\$300	\$1,100
\$400	\$1,450
\$500	\$1,800

**Anatomy of the Accreditation**

**Self-Study Enrollment**  
During self-study, you evaluate your program using the Quality Standards for NAFCC Accreditation and meet quality requirements.

**Application**  
NAFCC assesses your eligibility. This, among other things, includes verification of CPR and First Aid certification, background checks, and family child care space setting.

**Observation**  
NAFCC trained observers conduct an observation of you and your program. The observer gathers information based on the Quality Standards for Accreditation. Accreditation is not a one-time event. After your observation visit, you will complete the Self-Study Document to show your findings and answer the observer's questions.

**Decision**  
NAFCC review documentation from the observer and yourself, as well as data from the parent survey. 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 access annual update information 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 during the year.

**Re-accreditation**  
You display an ongoing commitment to the profession of family child care when you pursue re-accreditation. Re-accreditation indicates that high quality family child care is a high-priority issue for parents and connected to the community.

**Flowchart:** Self-Study → Update → Application → Decision → Observation → Re-Accreditation

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**WHY PROVIDERS LIKE ACCREDITATION**

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.

### The Accreditation Process

This is an overview of the process to be handed out at the beginning of the session. Refer participants to this handout at slide #9 in the PPT.

### Why Providers Like Accreditation

Refer participants to this handout at slide #15 in the PPT.

**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.

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### Optional: Eligibility Requirements

Refer participants to this handout at slide #11 in the PPT. This information is available at nafcc.org and using it during the presentation is optional.