

APPENDIX D:

DEFINITION OF CHILD CARE PROVIDER AND PROGRAM TYPES

The following definitions are used in this analysis for child care providers and programs.

Family Child Care Homes

Family child care homes are licensed by the state’s Community Care Licensing to provide care in the caregiver’s residence for periods of less than 24 hours per day while parents are away. Family child care homes are allowed by right in any residence.

Small Family Child Care Homes:

- Licensed for 8 or fewer children, including the providers’ own children under the age of 10.
 - Six children may be under 6 years, an additional, optional two may be 6 or older under certain conditions.

Large Family Child Care Homes:

- Licensed for 14 or fewer children: no more than twelve under age 6, with additional two over 6 years.
- Must be licensed as Small FCC Home for one year or have additional qualifications.
- Must employ an assistant.

Licensed Child Care Centers

Child Care Centers are state–licensed group care and/or education operating for less than 24 hours. Centers can be licensed to care for infants (0 through 23 months), preschoolers (2.5 through 5-year olds), and school age (5 through 12-year olds). Infant and preschool centers can add a “toddler component” to serve 18- to 30-month-olds.

Legally License-Exempt Programs

License-exempt child care can legally operate without a license if it meets certain criteria, and licensing standards do not apply. Many of the school age providers in this analysis are legally

licensed-exempt programs. Examples of some of the types of providers who are license-exempt are:

- Before and after school programs operated by public/private schools.
- Relatives of a child/children being cared for (i.e., spouses, parents, adult siblings, aunts, etc.)
- Someone providing care for children of only one family in addition to his/her own.
- Cooperative arrangements (Co-Ops) between parents for the care of their children when caregivers do not receive payment for services.
- Public recreation programs.
- Organized Camps as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 18897.
- Certain school parenting programs or adult education child care programs.
- Temporary child care services provided to parents who are on the same premises as the site of the child care program (excluding ski facilities, shopping malls or department stores).
- After School Education & Safety Programs as defined in Education Code Section 8482 – 8484.3.
- Registered Heritage Schools as defined in Education Code Section 33195.