



Helpful Links and Resources
(Updated as of August 2016)

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Regulatory Compliance: Licensing, Fire and Public Health

Licensing

Department of Social Services/Community Care Licensing Division: Regulates child care programs in California. Child care center and family child care home regulations are included in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 12. Information on licensing and the regulations is available from the internet at www.cclcd.ca.gov

Within Los Angeles County, there are two regional child care offices, each serving a specific geographic area.

Los Angeles East Regional Office
1000 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 200B, MS:29:15
Monterey Park, CA 91754
(323) 981-3350

Los Angeles Northwest Regional Office
6167 Bristol Parkway, Suite 400, MS:29-13
Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 337-4333



Fire Department Contacts for Los Angeles County

County of Los Angeles Fire Department: Serves the unincorporated areas of the County and 45 cities contracted with the County for fire protection services. Information is available on the website at www.fire.lacounty.gov/fire-prevention-division/. In addition, you can contact one of the following Fire Prevention Division, Special Units between 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday–Friday:

- Schools and Institutions Unit - South
7733 Greenleaf Street
Whittier, CA 90602-2195
(310) 696-2034
- Fire Department Institutions Unit North
14425 Olive View Drive
Sylmar, CA 91342
(818) 362-5472

Public Health License

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health, Environment Health Division: All child care centers providing care for seven or more children throughout Los Angeles County (excluding Long Beach, Pasadena, and Vernon) are required to obtain a Public Health License from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division upon initial operation and annually thereafter. For additional information call (626) 430-5590.

City of Pasadena: For information about the City of Pasadena requirements, call (626) 744-6004.

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (R&Rs) give families referrals to a range of licensed child care and development programs for children from birth to 12 years old. In addition, the R&Rs provide resources and referrals to low-income families eligible for child care subsidies. Many also offer written materials on several topics, including selecting a child care and development program that is right for you, as well as brochures on child development topics, such as separation, toilet training, discipline, and more. Additionally, support services are available to help local child care and development programs enhance the quality of their services by offering trainings and resources. Connect to your local R&R by calling the *LA County R&R Consumer Education Line* at 1-888-922-4453. A map of the eight R&Rs providing families with referrals to child care and development services throughout Los Angeles County is available by clicking on the “Parent” tab at www.ccala.net.

Assessing and Enhancing the Quality of Child Care and Development Programs

Frank Porter Graham (FPG) Child Development Institute: Devoted to the study of children from birth to eight years old and their families with a focus on parent and family support; early care and education; child health and development; early identification and intervention; equity, access and inclusion; and early childhood policy. Among its many projects is the development of four Environment Rating Scales: Infant/Toddler (ITERS), Early Childhood (ECERS), Family Child Care (FCCERS), and School-age Care (SACERS). The Environment Rating Scales are commonly used by researchers to assess the quality of different types of child care settings, serving different age groups and by programs to determine areas where improvement is needed. For additional information on the Environment Rating Scales and other FPG projects visit www.fpg.unc.edu/~ecers/.

National AfterSchool Association (NAA): Dedicated to the development, education, and care of children and youth during out-of-school hours. Project areas include a membership association, accreditation, public policy, and advocacy. For additional information, visit www.naaweb.org or call (617) 298-5012.

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC): Dedicated to improving the well-being of all young children, with particular focus on the quality of educational and developmental services for all children from birth through age eight. The NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation administers a national, voluntary accreditation system to help raise the quality of all types of preschools, kindergartens, and child care centers. Additional information is available at www.naeyc.org.

National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC): A nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting quality child care by strengthening the profession of family child care. Among the goals of NAFCC is to promote a professional accreditation program which recognizes and encourages quality care for children. Additional information is available at www.nafcc.org.

The Right Choice for Kids: Created by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) to inform families about the importance of high-quality early childhood education programs for young children. The new site features information about what NAEYC Accreditation is and why it is important, a brand new NAEYC Accreditation of Programs for Young Children search feature; updated articles for families (*new ones will be available on a bi-monthly basis*); videos for viewing regarding the promotion of NAEYC Accreditation; resources for families and the field; and NAEYC's Early Learning News to keep families informed about the field and accreditation. Sometime in 2010, NAEYC will begin releasing a newsletter for parents and families. To visit, click on www.rightchoiceforkids.org.

Professional Development

California Commission on Teacher Credentialing: California offers six levels of Child Development Permits, each with its own set of requirements and each allowing the holder of the permit to perform different levels of service in child development programs. The six levels of Child Development Permits are: Assistant, Associate Teacher, Teacher, Master Teacher, Site Supervisor, and Program Director. For additional information on Child Development Permits, visit www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/CREDS/child-dev-permits.html. For technical assistance, see the Child Development Training Consortium also listed in this section.

California Early Childhood Mentor Program: Provides training to experienced child care professionals interested in becoming mentors to new practitioners. Interested candidates may submit applications to a local Mentor Selection Committee, who reviews each candidate's professional qualifications and conducts a quality review of the candidate's classroom. Selected Mentors receive a paid stipend for continuing in-service training and supervision of student teachers assigned to the Mentors' classrooms. Candidates selected as Director Mentors are paid stipends for guiding and offering practical help to protégé directors or site supervisors. For additional information about the Mentor Program and to locate community colleges that participate visit www.ecementor.org.

California Preschool Instructional Network (CPIN): Provides professional development and technical assistance to preschool teachers and administrators to ensure preschool children are ready for school. The Networks are organized into 11 regions of the state; Los Angeles County belongs to Region 11 and is hosted by the LACOE. For additional information and a schedule of upcoming trainings, visit www.cpin.us.

Child Development Institute (CDI): CDI provides families and other caregivers with guidance in building consistent and responsive relationships and creating natural and healthy environments for children with a range of developmental challenges. CDI offers an array of programs and services to families and those that serve them, including mental health therapy, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, social skills groups, Relationship-based Behavioral Therapy, Early Learners, Teacher Support Services, and Parent Support Services. **Teacher Support Services** enables preschool teachers to identify and understand developmental progression, including individual sensory, temperament and learning differences. It provides essential instruction in classroom collaboration and relationship development. Teachers learn to develop inclusion strategies for children with special needs. In addition, CDI has an **Assessment Clinic** to help parents by providing developmental assessments and diagnostic evaluations. Upon completion of an assessment, families receive treatment recommendations, education and support to navigate and make the most of the resources available in their community; and a **Feeding Clinic**, which offers a nurturing place for families to learn effective feeding strategies in a therapeutic environment. For more information, visit www.childdevelopmentinstitute.org or call (818) 888-4559.

Child Development Training Consortium (CDTC): Funded by the California Department of Education/Child Development Division (CDE/CDD), promotes high quality early education to children and families by providing financial and technical assistance to child development students and professionals. Services include:

Community College Program: Funds specific education costs at specified community colleges for eligible students pursuing careers in child care/development.

Child Development Permit Stipends: Pays application processing fees for first time, renewing, and upgrading on the six levels of the Child Development Permit Matrix. In addition, reimburses first-time permit applicants \$56 for the Live Scan fingerprinting processing fee.

Career Incentive Grants: Reimburses eligible students pursuing careers in child care/development for the cost of tuition, books, and other enrollment fees.

Professional Growth Advisors: Provides training and support to new and previously trained professional growth advisors and maintains a registry of advisors. To renew a Child Development Permit, a permit holder (except Associate Teacher who must follow separate requirements) must follow five-year renewal cycle requirements per the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing's The California Professional Growth Manual for Child Development Permits.

For additional information on CDTC services, visit www.childdevelopment.org or call (209) 572-6080. In addition, the Child Development Permit Matrices may be downloaded from www.childdevelopment.org/cs/cdtc/print/htdocs/services_permit.htm.

Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Child Care Training Institute (CCTI): Offers training on a range of topics for licensed and license-exempt providers countywide. Trainings are offered in English and Spanish. Persons who have completed multiple sessions are eligible for start-up kits, which include children's books, mats, manipulatives, etc. For additional information, call (562) 922-8931 or toll-free at (888) 310-1161.

WestEd: Program for Infant-Toddler Caregivers (PITC): A project of the Center for Child and Family Studies, PITC is committed to increasing the availability and quality of child care for all children under the age of three, disseminating information that increases the practice of responsive, respectful and relationship-based infant-toddler care, and influencing national, regional and local policies and practices so that the needs of infants, toddlers and their families are the foundation for all curriculum development and program activity. For additional information, visit www.pitc.org.

Data, Research and Policy

California Budget and Policy Center: Engages in independent fiscal and policy analysis and public education with the goal of improving public policies affecting the economic and social well-being of low- and middle-income Californians. For additional information, visit <http://calbudgetcenter.org/>.

California Child Care Resource & Referral Network: Provides leadership and vision for the continuous development and improvement of resource and referral services statewide, helping to build, support, and advocate for a quality child care system that supports the diversity of families and children in every community in California. Among its projects is the publication of the Child Care Portfolio, a biennial series of statewide and county-by-county statistical reports about child care costs, supply, and demand. For additional information, visit www.rnetwork.org.

California Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO): Provides fiscal and policy advice to the Legislature and conducts analyses of the state budget. The LAO is overseen by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC), a 16-member bipartisan committee. The office currently has a staff of 43 analysts and approximately 13 support staff. Among the subject areas of its analytical staff are K-12 Education (inclusive of early care and education), Health, and Social Services. For additional information, visit www.lao.ca.gov.

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP): A national nonprofit that works to improve the lives of low-income people. CLASP conducts research, provides policy analysis, advocates at the federal and state levels, and offers information and technical assistance on a range of family policy and equal justice areas on a range of topics including child care and early education. For additional information, visit www.clasp.org.

Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP): Strives to help states and localities implement creative and effective strategies that strengthen disadvantaged communities and families and ensure that children grow up healthy, safe, successful in school, and ready for productive adulthood. Among CCSP's major community building initiatives is Strengthening Families through Early Care & Education, which uses early childhood programs to build evidence-based protective factors for children and their families. Strengthening Families' protective factors approach helps parents who might be at risk for abuse and neglect to find resources, supports, or coping strategies that allow them to parent effectively, even under stress. The presence of the protective factors appears to reduce the likelihood of child mistreatment. Using a logic model for reducing child abuse and neglect through early care and education, the approach builds upon parent and child resiliency rather than reducing risk. For additional information on CCSP, the Strengthening Families approach, and their other initiatives, visit www.cssp.org.

ChildCareExchange.com: Promotes the exchange of ideas among leaders in early childhood programs worldwide through its magazine, books, training products, training seminars, and international conferences. For additional information, visit www.childcareexchange.com.

Children Now: A national organization for people who care about children and want to ensure that they are the top public policy priority. Early care and education is among their top priority issues. For additional information, visit www.childrennow.org.

Children's Defense Fund: The Children's Defense Fund's Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a healthy start, a head start, a fair start, a safe start, and a moral start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For additional information, visit www.childrensdefense.org.

Early Edge California: Works to ensure all children have the early experiences necessary to be successful learners by the end of 3rd grade, setting them on a path to college and career readiness. Policy development and advocacy focuses on the earliest and most foundational steps on the path to college and careers – from birth to 3rd grade. For additional information, visit www.earlyedgecalifornia.org/.

HealthyCity: Provides access to a data base of community resources, demographic/health data, and GIS mapping technology. Visit www.healthycity.org to access a variety of data on such topics as demographics, housing, economic/employment, birth/prenatal/child health, and more.

Kids Count: A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the United States. Interactive data bases allow visitors to create free, customized geographic and demographic data reports at national, state, and local levels. Visit www.aecf.org/MajorInitiatives/KIDSCOUNT.aspx

Kidsdata.org: A project of the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, Kidsdata.org offers more than 200 indicators on the health and well-being of children in communities across California. Visitors are encouraged to use the data for research, reports and other work and may reproduce tables, graphs or maps with permission to cite. Visitors also may sign up for e-alerts to learn about current data as it becomes available. For more information, click on www.kidsdata.org.

Los Angeles County Education Coordinating Council (ECC): Created by the Board of Supervisors, the ECC is charged with raising the educational achievement of foster and probation youth throughout Los Angeles County. For additional information, visit www.educationcoordinatingcouncil.org or call (213) 974-5967.

National Women's Law Center: Conducts advocacy on the issues that cut to the core of women's and girls' lives in education, employment, family economic security, and health - with special attention given to the needs of low-income women and their families. Issues addressed include child care and early education on which the National Women's Law Center is working to improve the quality, affordability, and accessibility of child care, with a special emphasis on ways to expand public and private financing of the changes needed to achieve these goals. For additional information, visit www.nwlc.org.

Official California Legislative Information: The official site for California legislative information, including links to bill information, California laws, the legislature, and publications. To access this site, visit www.leginfo.ca.gov.

Policy Analysis for California Education (PACE): An independent research center that aims to enrich education policy debates with sound analysis and hard evidence. From preschool, to K-12, to higher education, PACE is dedicated to carefully defining issues and assessing the effectiveness of policies and programs. For additional information, visit <http://pace.berkeley.edu>.

RAND Corporation Child Policy: Conducts research on children's issues from prenatal to 18 years old intended to help improve policy and decision making. For additional information, visit www.rand.org/research_areas/children/.

Zero to Three: A national nonprofit multidisciplinary organization that supports the healthy development and well-being of infants, toddlers and their families by informing, educating and supporting the work of professionals and parents. For additional information visit their Website at www.zerotothree.org or call their Western Office at (213) 481-7279.

Financing, Funding, and Technical Assistance

Building Child Care (BCC) Project: Provides a centralized clearinghouse of information and services to increase the California child care sector's understanding of the facilities development process and access to facility development resources. For additional information, visit www.buildingchildcare.org.

California Food Policy Advocate/Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP): Addresses nutrition for children in the child care setting, where increasing numbers of children receive most of their daily nourishment. Child care providers who participate in CACFP are reimbursed for two meals and one snack per day, with higher reimbursements for children living at or below 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Line. For additional information, visit <http://cfpa.net/> or call (415) 777-4422.

Child Care Law Center: A legal resource on child care issues in California, providing information and training to nonprofit child care centers, family child care providers and others. Issues addressed include children with disabilities, child care subsidies, facilities and supply of child care, and licensing and regulation of child care. For additional information visit www.childcarelaw.org or call their Information and Referral Line at (415) 394-7144 between 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

Constructing Connections, Los Angeles: Constructing Connections assists child care projects through the facilities development process from planning through construction by providing technical assistance and resources. The lead agency for Constructing Connections, Los Angeles is Public Counsel's Early Care and Education Law Project (ECE Law Project). The ECE Law Project was established in 1986 to both increase child care capacity in low-income communities and to improve the quality of care. For additional information call 213.385.2977, ext. 300.

First 5 California: Created by Proposition 10, the California Children and Families First Act (the Act) and funded by tobacco tax funds, First 5 California Commission is the lead agency and statewide coordinator of the Act. First 5 California is dedicated to improving the lives of California's young children and their families through a comprehensive system of education, health services, childcare, and other crucial programs. For additional information, visit www.cfc.ca.gov.

First 5 LA: First 5 LA, in partnership with others, strengthens families, communities, and systems of services and supports so all children in L.A. County enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and life. First 5 LA is increasing its emphasis on systems change, collaboration and public policy. This transition supports the organization's goal of maximizing positive outcomes for children prenatal to age 5. For additional information about First 5 LA projects and funding opportunities, visit www.first5la.org.

Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF): Works to ensure access to high quality child care spaces for all families, particularly those living in low income neighborhoods, by providing financing and other assistance programs for the creation, expansion, improvement and preservation of child care facilities throughout California. For additional information, visit www.liifund.org/PROGRAMS-NEW/CHILDCARE/ChildCareOverview.htm or call (415) 772-9094.

- Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF) - Affordable Buildings for Children's Development, with a new source of funding for Los Angeles County, has a comprehensive child care facilities initiative to make loans specifically to child care facilities in Los Angeles County. For more information, click on and read the [ABCD Fund Overview](#) and the [LIIF-ABCD Child Care Facilities Initiative Handout](#).

Public Counsel Law Center: A public interest law office providing free legal and social services to low-income people throughout Los Angeles County. The Early Care and Education Law Project provides free legal assistance to existing and prospective state licensed family child care providers and nonprofit child care centers. Visit www.publiccounsel.org or call (213) 385-2977 for additional information.

Spaces for Children: Founded in 1990 by early childhood educator [Louis Torelli](#) and architect [Charles Durrett](#), focuses on developmentally-appropriate environments: rich places of learning that are child directed and teacher efficient. The Website has articles and resources on design and its impact on young children, selecting an architect, sample floor plans, and more. For more information, visit www.spacesforchildren.com.

Professional Associations and Collaborating Bodies

California Child Care Coordinators Association (CCCCA): Serves as a forum for sharing knowledge and information and provides leadership and resources in identifying and addressing key issues. Acts as a voice for communicating those issues; identifies training and technical support needs; promotes the professional development, education and training of its members; identifies opportunities for joint projects and collaborative efforts; and assists Local Planning Councils in meeting state mandates. For more information, visit www.california-childcare-coordinators.org/.

California Child Development Administrators Association: A membership organization of publicly-funded child development program administrators that advocates on behalf of the children, families and programs that serve them. Activities include taking positions on and sponsoring state legislation and working to impact the state budget. For additional information, visit www.ccdaa.org.

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC): Dedicated to improving the well-being of all young children, with particular focus on the quality of educational and developmental services for all children from birth through age eight. For additional information, visit www.naeyc.org or call (800) 424-2460.

National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC): A nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting quality child care by strengthening the profession of family child care. For additional information, visit www.nafcc.org or call (801) 269-9338.

National AfterSchool Association: Dedicated to the development, education and care of children and youth during out-of-school hours. Project areas include a membership association, accreditation, public policy, and advocacy. For additional information, visit www.naaweb.org or call (617) 298-5012.

Family Child Care Associations

California Association for Early Childhood Education

Lakewood, CA
(562) 728-5979
sandfcc@aol.com

Family Child Care Educators Association

P.O. Box 6288

Altadena, CA 91003

(626) 588-1290

(626) 398-4700

fcceassocoffice@onebox.com

www.FCCEA.com

Family Day Care Association of the Santa Clarita Valley

P.O. Box 802232

Santa Clarita, CA 91354-2232

(661) 250-4238

www.angelfire.co/ok3/familydaycareassoc/

Greater Long Beach/Lakewood Family Child Care Association, Inc.

Long Beach, CA

(562) 423-1086

www.childcarelb.com

Hispanic Child Care Provider Association

Los Angeles, CA 90019

(323) 935-4035

HCCPALA@aol.com

Los Angeles Family Child Care Association

Los Angeles, CA 90035

(323) 939-3764

AuntieRoxs@worldnet.att.net

Infant Development Association of California (IDA): A multi-disciplinary organization of parents and professionals committed to optimal developmental, social and emotional outcomes for infants, birth to three, with a broad range of special needs, and their families. Advocates for improved, effective prevention and early intervention services and provides information, education and training to parents, professionals, decision makers and others. For additional information, visit www.idaofcal.org or call (916) 453-8801.

Connecting Families to Community Resources

211 LA County: Dedicated to providing guidance, advocacy, and 24 hour seven days per week access to a range of human services to the people of Los Angeles County. For more information or to access their services, visit www.infoline-la.org or call 211.

Adolescent Family Life Programs (AFLPs): Provide case management services to pregnant and parenting teens including: ensuring teens are able to meet their educational and career goals; promoting healthy family relationships; and assisting teens and their children with access to health and social services, including resources for finding and selecting a child care and development program. The AFLPs located in Los Angeles County are:

- **Youth Services Division/ALTAMED Health Services Corporation**
Monterey Park: (323) 278-4245
Lynwood: (310) 605-0339
- **Teen Family Services/El Nido Family Centers**
Los Angeles: (213) 384-1600
Inglewood: (310) 677-6014
- **Foothill Family Services**
Pasadena: (626) 564-1613
West Covina: (626) 338-9200
El Monte: (626) 442-8391
- **Project NATEEN/Children’s Hospital Los Angeles**
Los Angeles: (323) 669-5981

California School Age Families Education (Cal-SAFE): The Cal-SAFE Program is designed to support the academic success of pregnant and parenting teens and provide child care and development services to their children.

The following school districts offer Cal-SAFE Programs:

ABC Unified School District	(562) 926-7136
Baldwin Park Unified School District	(626) 962-3311
Bassett Unified School District	(626) 931-3005
Charter Oak Unified School District	(626) 966-8331 x215
Covina Valley Unified School District	(626) 974-7000 x2072
Glendale Unified School District	(818) 247-4805
Hacienda La Puente Unified School District	(626) 933-6540
Long Beach Unified School District	(562) 595-5366
Los Angeles County Office of Education	(562) 940-1873
Los Angeles Unified School District	(213) 482-1648
Montebello Unified School District	(323) 887-7929
Paramount Unified School District	(562) 602-6033
Rowland Unified School District	(626) 913-0376
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District	(310) 399-5865
Walnut Valley Unified School District	(909) 468-5208
West Covina Unified School District	(626) 931-1810 x7
Whittier Union High School District	(562) 698-8121 x1201

Child Development Institute (CDI): CDI provides families and other caregivers with guidance in building consistent and responsive relationships and creating natural and healthy environments for children with a range of developmental challenges. CDI offers an array of programs and services to families and those that serve them, including mental health therapy, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, social skills groups, Relationship-based Behavioral Therapy, Early Learners, Teacher Support Services, and Parent Support Services. In addition, CDI has an **Assessment Clinic** to help parents by providing developmental assessments and diagnostic evaluations. Upon completion of an assessment, families receive treatment recommendations, education and support to navigate and make the most of the resources available in their community; and a **Feeding Clinic**, which offers a nurturing place for families to learn effective feeding strategies in a therapeutic environment. For more information, visit www.childdevelopmentinstitute.org or call (818) 888-4559

County of Los Angeles Public Library: The County libraries offer a variety of programs, services, and resources targeted to children and youth from birth on up and their families and the child care and development programs that serve them. Depending on the library, programs include Read & Play Together Storytime Kits, Family Place, Live Homework Help, and more. For information about library offerings and to locate your local county library, visit www.colapublib.org.

Early Head Start and Head Start Programs: Early Head Start Programs are free comprehensive programs for low-income pregnant women, infants, and toddlers from ages birth to three years old, including young children with disabilities. Services may be provided in the home of the family, a licensed family child care home, and/or a center. Comprehensive services include helping families get health, nutrition, and social services. Head Start Programs are free part-day (3½ hours) comprehensive child development programs for low-income and disabled preschoolers ages three to five years old living in the local community. Head Start generally operates from September through June. Families most in need, including families at risk and/or in crisis, four year old children, and children with disabilities, receive priority for enrollment. Comprehensive services include social services, health, mental health, nutrition, and parent involvement. To locate a local Head Start Program, visit <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/HeadStartOffices> or contact your local child care resource and referral agency.

HealthyCity: Provides access to a data base of community resources, demographic/health data, and GIS mapping technology. Visit www.healthycity.org to find a variety of health and social services by zip code.

LACountyHelps.org: A web-based system to help families determine their eligibility to a variety of public health and human services-related programs, including: CalWORKS; Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI); Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP); Food Stamps; Medi-Cal, Healthy Families or Healthy Kids; Women, Infant and Children Services (WIC); and more. To learn more, visit www.LACountyHelps.org.

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.: The national non-profit organization dedicated to child passenger safety. Several California laws contain provisions to protect children while riding in cars, including requiring children to ride in the back seat and properly buckled up in safety or booster seats depending on their age and size. Information on these laws, guidelines for child care providers, tools for parents and more is available at their Website at www.carseat.org. The Website also contains information on helmet laws for children under 18 who are skating or riding on a bicycle, scooter, or skateboard.

Other Resources

Books and Music for Young Children: For a list of recommended resources intended to help early educators select books and music that are developmentally appropriate to children of all ages, expose them to a variety of topics and genres, and are reflective of different cultures and abilities, visit http://cao.lacounty.gov/ccp/pdf/Book_Music%20Feb08.pdf.

California Childcare Health Program: Multidisciplinary team supports program staff in achieving healthy and safe practices in child care settings. In addition to preventing injuries and the spread of infectious diseases, committed to creating the best possible environments in which children can learn and grow. For more information, visit www.ucsfchildcarehealth.org or call (800) 333-3212.

Healthy Child Care America: A project of the American Academy of Pediatrics provides information and links that address the health and safety of children in child care and development settings. For additional information, visit www.healthychildcare.org.

reDiscover: A non-profit, community resource that promotes creativity in early childhood and elementary education while encouraging environmental responsibility. Recycles everyday discards donated by businesses, such as plastic, fabric, wire, wood, metal, glass, and more and give them new purpose as hands-on learning materials. For more information, visit www.rediscovercenter.org or call (310) 393-3636.