

Where do I find information and national resources?

Health and Safety Topics and State Regulations **The National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education**

University of Colorado Health Sciences
Center at Fitzsimons
Campus Mail Stop F541, PO Box 6508
Aurora, CO 80045-0508

Phone: 800-598-5437
Email: natl.child.res.ctr@UCHSC.edu
Website: <http://nrc.uchsc.edu>

Training for CCHC Trainers **National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants**

Department of Maternal and Child Health
116-A S. Merritt Mill Road, Campus Box 8126
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8126

Phone: 919-966-3780
Email: nticchc@unc.edu
Website: www.sph.unc.edu/courses/childcare

Pediatrician Involvement in Child Care Programs **American Academy of Pediatrics' Early Education and Child Care Initiatives**

141 Northwest Point Blvd.
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Phone: 888-227-5409
Email: childcare@aap.org
Website: www.healthychildcare.org

National CCHC Registry and Support for State CCHC Initiatives

Healthy Child Care Consultant Network Support Center (NSC)

Email: nsc@edc.org
Website: <http://hccnsc.edc.org>

How do I find and pay for a Child Care Health Consultant?

Because states use a variety of methods to track, support, train, and deploy CCHCs, the pathway for locating a CCHC varies from state to state. For example, in some states, CCHCs are housed in Local Health Departments. In other states, CCHCs are private consultants who market their services for a fee; and in still others, pediatricians provide child care health consulting services. Some states use federal, foundation, or private funds to support child care health consultation. You may want to begin your search for a CCHC by contacting your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency, your Local Health Department, or the American Academy of Pediatrics Early Education and Child Care Initiatives office or state chapter contact. You can also search the National CCHC Registry and view state profiles that describe tracking and funding options on the Healthy Child Care Consultant Network Support Center website: <http://hccnsc.edc.org/registry>.

Choosing a child care health consultant and working together can help achieve the goal of providing a safe, healthy, and developmentally appropriate environment for our nation's young children.



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Child Care Health Consultants and Me: Working Together for Safe and Healthy Children

prepared by
The National Training Institute
for Child Care Health Consultants



- **What is a Child Care Health Consultant?**
- **Who can be a Child Care Health Consultant?**
- **What knowledge should a Child Care Health Consultant have?**
- **What can a Child Care Health Consultant do for my child care program?**
- **Where do I find information and national resources?**
- **How do I find and pay for a Child Care Health Consultant?**

What is a Child Care Health Consultant?

A child care health consultant (CCHC) is a health professional who has an interest in and experience with children, has knowledge of resources and regulations and is comfortable linking health resources with facilities that provide primarily education and social services.*

Who can be a Child Care Health Consultant?

Child care health consultants include health professionals such as nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physicians, health educators, dentists, dental hygienists, sanitarians, medical social workers, mental health professionals and registered dietitians who have:

- knowledge and experience in health and safety practices in child care, and
- received CCHC training.

It is important to follow state regulations which may determine who can be a child care health consultant and whether or not your program is required to have one.

The National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants (NTI) is the national resource for training state and regional-level public health and early childhood education professionals to coordinate and train CCHCs in their communities. In turn, those whom NTI graduates trained as child care health consultants serve child care facilities.

What knowledge should a Child Care Health Consultant have?

Health professionals interested in consulting with child care programs need basic training and ongoing professional development. The knowledge base of the CCHC (personally or by involving other health professionals) should include:

- National health and safety standards for out-of-home care;
- How child care facilities conduct their day-to-day operations;
- Child care licensing requirements;
- Disease reporting requirements;
- Immunizations for children;
- Immunizations for child care providers;
- Injury prevention for children;
- Staff health, including occupational health risks for child care providers;
- Oral health for children;
- Nutrition for children;
- Inclusion of children with special health needs in child care;
- Recognition and reporting requirements for child abuse and neglect;
- Community health and mental health resources.*

In addition to these basic topics, CCHCs should also be aware of emerging trends and new recommendations (e.g., reducing the risk of SIDS in child care and/or emergency and disaster preparedness).

What can a Child Care Health Consultant do for my child care program?

A CCHC can help improve the health and safety of children in your care by:

- Teaching child care providers about health and safety issues;
- Teaching parents/guardians about health and safety issues;
- Assessing the needs of child care providers and parents/guardians for health and safety training;
- Meeting on-site with child care providers about health and safety;
- Providing telephone advice to child care providers about health and safety;
- Providing referrals to community services;
- Developing or updating health policies and procedures for child care facilities;
- Reviewing health records of children and child care providers;
- Helping to manage the care of children with special health care needs;
- Consulting with a child's health professional about medication;
- Interpreting standards or regulations and providing technical advice, separate and apart from the enforcement role of a regulation inspector.*

* American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care. *Caring for our children national health and safety performance standards: Guidelines for out-of-home child care programs*. 2nd ed. Elk Grove Village, IL; Washington, DC; Denver, CO: AAP, APHA, NRC; 2002.

