



## Opening a center-based child care program

Thank you for your interest in opening a center-based child care program. Below are some resources to help guide you through the planning process. Important steps to consider are:

- ❖ What are the child care needs in your community?
- ❖ What ages do you wish to serve?
- ❖ Do you have a location in mind?
- ❖ Will you rent or buy?
- ❖ Will you be for-profit or non-profit?
- ❖ Obtain a copy of licensing regulations

The Department of Early Education and Care is the licensing agency for child care programs in Massachusetts. Please visit their website at [www.eec.state.ma.us](http://www.eec.state.ma.us) to view and download licensing regulations and technical assistance papers. You can also contact their Southeastern MA regional office in Taunton at 508-828-5025.

Financial resources include: South Eastern Economic Corporation: [www.seedcorp.com](http://www.seedcorp.com), Internal Revenue Service: [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), and Child Care Capital Investment Fund: [www.cccif.org](http://www.cccif.org).

When planning your early childhood environment and curriculum some helpful sites to consider are:

- Community Playthings at [www.CommunityPlaythings.com](http://www.CommunityPlaythings.com)
- Exchange Magazine at [www.ChildCareExchange.com](http://www.ChildCareExchange.com)
- Lakeshore Learning Materials at [www.lakeshorelearning.com](http://www.lakeshorelearning.com)
- Redleaf Press at [www.redleafpress.org](http://www.redleafpress.org)

Early Education and Care professional organizations include the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) at [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org) and PACE Child Care Works at [www.paceccw.org](http://www.paceccw.org).

Please feel free to contact this office at 508-999-9930 x 109 if we can be of further assistance. Good luck!

Sincerely,  
Pam Hagberg  
Training Manager