The 2008 Child Care Licensing Study

Prepared by the
National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center
and the
National Association for Regulatory Administration

May 2010

Table of Contents

Part 1: Introduction 1

1.1 History of the Child Care Licensing Studies 1
1.2 Methodology 2
1.3 Format of the Report 4
1.4 Final Thoughts 6

Part 2: State Licensing Programs and Policies 7

2.1 Licensed Facilities 7
2.2 Licensing Staff 9
2.3 Types of Inspections 13
2.4 Frequency of Inspections 15
2.5 Frequency of Licensing Renewal 16
2.6 Inspections and Monitoring 17
2.7 Complaint Investigations 23
2.8 Enforcement Actions 27
2.9 Licensing Information on the Internet 28
2.10 Licensing Fees 29
2.11 Licensing Staff Requirements 31
2.12 Quality Initiatives and Resources for Formulating Regulations 36

Part 3: Child Care Center Licensing Regulations in 2008 39

3.1 Licensing Regulations 39
3.2 Licensed and Exempt Child Care Centers 40
3.3 Staff Roles and Age Requirements 44
3.4 Staff Qualifications and Ongoing Training Requirements 46
3.5 Staff Hiring Requirements 57
3.6 Additional Staff Training Requirements 64
3.7 Child-staff Ratios and Group Size 67
3.8 Supervision of Children 72
3.9 Care of Children 80
3.10 Facility Requirements 93

Part 4: Small Family Child Care Home Licensing Regulations in 2008 121

4.1 Licensing Regulations 121
4.2 Licensed Small FCC Homes 123
4.3 Provider Roles and Age Requirements 125
4.4 Provider Qualifications and Ongoing Training Requirements 127
4.5 Provider Hiring Requirements 133
4.6 Additional Provider Training Requirements 141
4.7 Number of Children Allowed With One Provider 143
4.8 Supervision of Children 143
4.9 Care of Children 151
4.10 Facility Requirements 164

Part 5: Large/Group Family Child Care Home Licensing Regulations in 2008 187

5.1 Licensing Regulations 187
5.2 Licensed Large/Group FCC Homes 188
5.3 Provider Roles and Age Requirements 191
5.4 Provider Qualifications and Ongoing Training Requirements 193
5.5 Provider Hiring Requirements 201
5.6 Additional Provider Training Requirements 207
5.7 Child-staff Ratios 209
5.8 Supervision of Children 209
5.9 Care of Children 217
5.10 Facility Requirements 229

State Licensing Agency Contact Information 253