



Start-up Costs for a Child Development Home

For persons looking to start their own home child care business, below please find suggested items and up-front expenditures that may be needed to get started. All costs are an estimate for a Child Development Home. Actual costs and quantities needed will vary depending on individual circumstances.

Registration Requirements	Est. Cost
Fingerprints Rolled – for household members 18 and older	\$20
CPR First Aid Certificate – must use DHS approved curriculum	\$75
Smoke Detector – 1 unit per child occupied room	\$90
CO Detector - if using fuel burning heat or appliances	\$20
Fire Extinguisher – 1 per child occupied floor (2A10BC)	\$90
Outlet Caps – child proof covers for outlets	\$10
Safety Gate – at top and bottom of stairs	\$70
First Aid Kit – for home, outside & car if providing transportation	\$30
Disposable Tweezers – DHS requires disposable tweezers	\$15
Fencing for Yard – only required if home is located by busy thoroughfare or other hazards such as water	\$1,000
Toys and Books – developmentally appropriate for a variety of ages	\$200
	\$1,620
For Infant Care	Est. Cost
Certified Crib – if providing infant care, 1 per child	\$200
Crib Sheets – tight fitting sheets designed for size of crib mattress	\$24
	\$224
Optional Supplies	Est. Cost
Sleep Cots and Bedding – cots are preferred as they raise children up off the floor	\$220
Sleep Sack – 1 per infant	\$30
High Chair – easy to clean and meets current CPSC safety standards	\$50
Child-sized Table and Chairs – appropriate for a variety of ages	\$300
Dishes and Feeding Supplies – sturdy, unbreakable and suitable for a variety of ages	\$50
Shelving – low, sturdy and stable from tip-over	\$300
Diaper Changing Table – smooth, non-porous and easy to disinfect	\$200
Cleaning and Disinfecting Supplies – child-safe disinfectant used according to manufacturer directions, paper towels, disposable gloves, etc.	\$50
Stroller – double if needed for 2 infants	\$125
Outdoor Toys or Play Equipment – jump rope, balls, riding toys, helmet, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, etc.	\$150
	\$1,475
Estimated Complete Start-Up Cost	
	\$3,319