

How To Start A Day-Care Biz In Your Home

By BB Lee

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BB Lee
smallbiz@angelfire.com

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How To Start A Day-Care Center In Your Home
by BB Lee (C)2001

Many parents across the country need some form of child care at different stages of their child's development. This might only be for a short term service, a one time event, or for several months. This is where your service will easily fit-in to provide the needed care for their children. This would be an excellent home business for a single mom and/or stay at home mom looking for a good solid income. Why? Because of the relatively low startup cost and the moms get to stay home with their own children!

Duties:

You will care for your clients children in your home. Be sure to check the laws in your state before opening your Day Care Center.

Skills:

Experience working with small groups of children.
Able to work under all kinds of pressure.
Know basic first aid procedures.
Studied early childhood development.
Or use experience raising your own children.
A kind, considerate, patient, understanding, personality.
Be able to communicate with children on their level.
Must really love working with children.

Equipment:

A large open childproof area to keep charges.
A good selection of educational toys, books, games, crafts.
Child size furniture.
Plenty of storage equipment.
Outside safe area for children to play.
Clean dining area.

Business telephone line.
Record keeping books.

Start-up costs:

Several hundred dollars for play equipment, books, games, toys.
Funding to childproof the center.
Money for liability and medical insurance.
Funds for advertising and licensing fee's.

Estimated Income:

National rates for child care vary. Rates are considerably higher in urban markets compared to smaller rural towns. Also, how much you will earn will be limited by the number of charges you are allowed to have enrolled in your day-care center. Many states have a limit (typically 4 or 5) under one adults supervision. At this writing the typical day care provider in an urban setting could reasonably expect to earn around \$20,000 and up working full time, year around.

Advertising Strategies:

Place ads, flyers, and brochures in community centers, local shops. Advertise in local area papers. Word of mouth is the most powerful advertising.
If your first clients are satisfied with your service they will surely tell their friends, family, neighbors.

Additional Information:

Books:

Start Your Own at Home Child Care Business
by Patricia C. Gallgher

How to Start a Home Based Day-Care Business
by Shari Steelsmith-Duffin

Books available at Barnes And Noble.

Internet Sources:

The Daycare Provider's Home Page

<http://www.icomm.ca/daycare/>

Links to everything from activity guides to legal and insurance information sites.

National Network for Child Care

<http://www.nncc.org/>

Includes articles on starting and running a child-care service.

Organizations:

National Association for Family Day Care
725 15th Street, NW
Suite 505

Washington, DC 20005
(800) 359-3817

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mailto:smallbiz@angelfire.com

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