

## 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

The National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education

University of Colorado College of Nursing

Education II North

Campus Mail Stop F541

13120 E. 19th Avenue

Aurora, CO 80045

Phone: 1-800-598-5437

Email: [info@nrckids.org](mailto:info@nrckids.org)

Website: <http://nrckids.org>

### Training for CCHC Trainers

#### National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants

Department of Maternal and Child Health

Gillings School of Global Public Health

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

135 Dauer Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Rosenau Hall

Campus Box #7445

Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7445

Phone: 919-966-3780

Email: [nti@unc.edu](mailto:nti@unc.edu)

Website: <http://nti.unc.edu>

### 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](mailto:childcare@aap.org)

Website: [www.healthychildcare.org](http://www.healthychildcare.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, the American Academy of Pediatrics' Early Education and Child Care Initiatives office or state Chapter Child Care Contact.

*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?

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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?

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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, NTI graduates train child care health consultants to serve child care programs.

## What knowledge should a Child Care Health Consultant have?

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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;
- Day-to-day operations of child care facilities;
- State child care licensing and public health requirements;
- Recognition and reporting requirements for infectious diseases;
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EDSDT) screening recommendations and immunizations schedules for children;
- Injury prevention for children;
- Staff health, including adult health screening, occupational health risks, and immunizations;
- Oral health for children;
- Nutrition and age-appropriate physical activity recommendations for children, including feeding of infants and children, the importance of breastfeeding, and the prevention of obesity
- Inclusion of children with special health care needs and developmental disabilities in child care;
- Recognition and reporting requirements for child abuse and neglect/child maltreatment;
- Community health and mental health resources.\*

In addition to these 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?

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

- Assessing caregivers'/teachers' knowledge of health, development, and safety, and offering training as indicated;;
- Assessing parents/guardians' health, development, and safety knowledge, and offering training as needed;
- Consulting collaboratively on-site and/or by telephone or electronic media;
- Developing or updating policies and procedures for child care facilities;
- Reviewing health records of children;
- Providing community resources and referral for health, mental health and social needs, including assessing medical homes, children's health insurance programs (CHIP), and services for special health care needs;
- Consulting with a child's primary care provider about medications as needed, in collaboration with parents/guardians;
- Interpreting standards, regulations and accreditation requirements related to health and safety, as well as providing technical advice, separate and apart from an enforcement role of a regulation inspector or determining the status of the facility for recognition.\*

*\* American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care & Early Education. Caring for our children national health and safety performance standards: Guidelines for early care and education programs. 3rd ed. Elk Grove Village, IL; Washington, DC; Denver, CO: AAP, APHA, NRC; 2011.*

