



FAMILY DAY CARE HOME INFORMATION

A Family Day Care Home is defined as a dwelling where day care is provided for children under 18 years of age who are unrelated to the licensee. A Small Family Day Care Home may provide care for up to eight children, and a Large Family Day Care Home may provide care for up to 14 children, as regulated by the California Health and Safety Code. Both limitations include the number of children residing in the dwelling. A Family Day Care Home requires a City business license and a California state license from the Community Care Licensing Division of the Department of Social Services. A Large Family Day Care Home also requires a use permit from the Planning Division. Regular elementary schools and Child Care Centers are subject to different requirements.

A Small Family Day Care is a **permitted use** and a Large Family Day Care is a **conditional use** in the City's Single-Family Residential districts. These districts include R1-10 Single-Family (¼ Acre), R1-H Single-Family (Hillside), R1-20 Single-Family (½ Acre), and R1-40 (1 Acre).

A conditional use requires a use permit that is reviewed and approved by the Planning and Transportation Commission and City Council. The Planning and Transportation Commission meeting is a public hearing and neighboring property owners within a 500-foot radius are notified of the meeting and invited to attend and provide comments. In order to approve a use permit for a Large Family Day Care Home, the Planning Commission and City Council will need to verify that the property of the proposed use is:

1. Providing a minimum of four off-street parking spaces;
2. Providing staggered drop-off and pick-up times in order to minimize traffic impacts;
3. Providing noise mitigation measures in order to minimize the noise levels generated by outdoor play areas, and that children's outdoor play only occurs between the hours of 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM;
4. Not located within 1,500 feet of another large family daycare home, as measured following the street, or within 500 feet of another large family daycare home as measured from any property line;
5. Visually incidental and secondary to the residential use of the property;
6. The principal residence of the child care provider; and
7. A minimum of 15,000 square feet in size if the use is located on a flag lot.

Instructions for filing a use permit application may be obtained from the Planning Division. To determine the zoning of a property, you can contact the Planning Division at (650) 947-2750 or go online to view current zoning maps at <http://LosAltosCA.gov/commdev/planning>. To get information on how to obtain a City business license, contact the Finance Dept. at (650) 947-2760.

For more information on obtaining a California state license for Small and Large Family Day Care Homes, call Community Care Licensing at (408) 324-2148 or online at <http://www.cclcd.ca.gov>.