



The Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP) is a proven quality improvement project that delivers recruitment, training, and support for license-exempt caregivers (also known as family, friends and neighbors), prospective and licensed family child care providers throughout California.

Background

History & Purpose

Child care resource and referral (R&R) programs first implemented CCIP in 1985; by 2002, CCIP had expanded to all 58 counties in California. The project builds home-based child care (new and additional child care spaces) and improves the quality of care through:

- Assessment + analysis of child care supply and demand
- Recruitment of home-based child care providers
- Technical assistance (family child care application assistance and pre-licensing visits, health & safety requirements, etc.)
- Facilitation of educational opportunities (playgroups, caregiver cafes, training, and conferences)

Infant/Toddler Focus

The majority of California's infants and toddlers are cared for in home-based settings. CCIP places an emphasis on the recruitment and support of home-based care providers due to the limited availability of infant and toddler spaces and the unique strengths that home-based child care providers bring to their work.

Curriculum & Training Content

CCIP curriculum has three components, and is multilingual, strength-based, culturally relevant, and trauma-informed. Grounded in Health and Safety best practices, the California Department of Education (CDE) [Infant & Toddler \(I/T\)](#) and [Preschool](#) Foundations and [I/T](#) and [Preschool](#) Frameworks and the [California Early Childhood Educator \(ECE\) Competencies](#), they are:

- *Health & Safety*: trainings that align with the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) topic areas
- *Growing, Learning and Caring*: a license-exempt, two-generation play-based curriculum for playgroups
- *CCIP Modules*: training based on California's 12 ECE Competencies and sound family child care business practices.

The curriculum allows CCIP participants to meet CDE's [CA Career Lattice Educational Requirements](#), Level 2 with 16 hours of Health & Safety training and 45 hours of training (state-approved or R&R agency training).



