



Department of Defense Child Development Programs At-A-Glance



The Department of Defense (DoD) Child Development System is the largest employer sponsored program in the country

- Child Development Programs serve approximately 200,000 children (newborn to age 12) daily
- Programs include full-day, part-day, and hourly child care, part-day preschools, and before and after school programs for school-age children
- Extended hour care that includes nights, weekends, and care for shift workers is also offered
- Programs operate across the United States and in locations world-wide
- 98% of military child development programs are nationally accredited compared to 8 – 10% in the community



DoD Child Development System of Care delivers services through 900 child development and school age program facilities including:

- Child Development Centers
- School-Age Program facilities
- Family Child Care Homes
- Group Homes operating 24 hours/day

DoD Child Development programs are governed by the Military Child Care Act of 1989, codified in 1996 in Public Law 104-106, § 1791 - 1798

Hallmarks of DoD Child Development Programs include:

- Holistic and systemic approach
- Comprehensive and uniform standards
- Rigorous oversight
- Staff training and compensation linked to training competencies
- Program accreditation
- Quality care extends from the very youngest children through school-age youth

For More Information:
www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil