

**American Academy of Pediatrics** (AAP; [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org))—AAP administers the federal Healthy Child Care America campaign and the Child Care Health Partnership, and serves as the National Center on Health for the federal Head Start program. The AAP also administers the Bright Futures program ([www.brightfutures.aap.org](http://www.brightfutures.aap.org)), a national initiative designed to promote health and help prevent diseases within families and communities. Bright Futures' principles and guidelines are designed to target settings where children spend time, such as pediatric practices and ECE programs.

**Child Care Aware of America** (Child Care Aware; [www.childcareaware.org](http://www.childcareaware.org)) Formerly known as National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NACCRRA)—Nonprofit organization dedicated to providing training and technical assistance to local and state Child Care Resource and Referral agencies (CCR&Rs). Child Care Aware has online courses for providers on nutrition (healthy food menu planning and choices for young children) and physical activity (physical activity and development and outdoor play). Child Care Aware operates a national, voluntary certification system for CCR&Rs; maintains a national toll-free information line and website for families available in English and Spanish; and advocates nationally for quality early care and education.

**Child Care Technical Assistance Network** (CCTAN; see Appendix B or [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ta/cctan.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ta/cctan.htm))—CCTAN partners provide technical assistance to improve the quality of early care and education and school-age care, helping states, territories, and tribes to reach their Child Care and Development Fund program goals.

**Early Care and Education Consortium** (ECEC; <http://ececonsortium.org/>)—Nonprofit alliance of national, regional, and independent providers of child care and early learning and development programs for young children. ECEC supports strategies and advocates legislation that promotes the development and funding of high-quality early care and education. Directly or through advocacy grants, ECEC has convened partners, drafted legislation, busied parents and teachers to statehouses, trained providers on how to lobby, and pressed for increased funding.

**Food Research and Action Center** (FRAC; [www.frac.org](http://www.frac.org))—Nonprofit organization uses comprehensive national, state, and local strategies to improve public policies and public-private partnerships to eradicate hunger and undernutrition in the United States. FRAC develops tools and resources related to the CACFP program, including a CACFP wellness toolkit.

**National Association for Family Child Care** (NAFCC; <http://nafcc.org/>)—Nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting quality ECE by strengthening the profession of family child care. NAFCC seeks to strengthen support systems for individual family ECE providers; promotes a professional accreditation program; delivers effective training programs to family ECE providers; and advocates for family ECE providers.

**National Association for Regulatory Administration** (NARA; [www.naralicensing.org](http://www.naralicensing.org))—International professional organization dedicated to promoting excellence in human care regulation and licensing. NARA represents all human care licensing, including adult residential and assisted living, adult day care, ECE, child welfare, and program licensing for services related to mental illness, developmental disabilities, and abuse of drugs or alcohol.

**National Association for the Education of Young Children** (NAEYC; [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org))—Nonprofit association sets and monitors standards for high-quality early childhood education programs and accredits programs that meet these standards.

**National Association of Child Care Professionals** (NACCP; [www.naccp.org](http://www.naccp.org))—Professional association for ECE directors with the goal to improve, enhance, and strengthen the credibility of ECE providers through services such as training and benefits such as accreditation. NACCP focuses on the management of ECE facilities.

**National Center for Children in Poverty** (NCCP; [http://nccp.org/profiles/early\\_childhood.html](http://nccp.org/profiles/early_childhood.html))—Compiles annual Early Childhood Profiles that highlight states' policy choices that promote health, education, and strong families alongside other contextual data related to the well-being of young children. Profiles include a section on early care and education that highlights state choices to promote access to care and quality.

**National Child Care Association** (NCCA; [www.nccanet.org](http://www.nccanet.org))—National trade organization serves private, licensed ECE centers and homes through state chapters. They provide training and support for private ECE providers as well as annual meetings.

**National Early Childhood Program Accreditation Commission, Inc.** (NECPA; [www.necpa.net](http://www.necpa.net))—Nonprofit association sets and monitors standards for high-quality early childhood education programs and accredits programs that meet these standards.

**National Head Start Association** (NHSA; [www.nhsa.org/](http://www.nhsa.org/))—Private, nonprofit membership organization representing Head Start children, staff, and programs in the United States.

**National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants** ([www.nti.unc.edu](http://www.nti.unc.edu))—National train-the-trainer program prepares child health and ECE professionals to train child care health consultants (CCHCs) in their state, territory, or community.

**National Women's Law Center** ([www.nwlc.org/](http://www.nwlc.org/))—Nonprofit association works to expand the possibilities for women and girls by getting new laws on the books and enforced, litigating ground-breaking cases, and educating the public about ways to make laws and public policies work for women and their families. Focuses on education, employment, family and economic security, and health and reproductive rights—with special attention given to the needs of low-income women and their families.

**Service Employees International Union** (SEIU; <http://www.seiu.org/>)—Union for early learning professionals across the country advocates and lobbies for quality ECE and more resources for ECE providers.

**ZERO TO THREE National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families** (Zero To Three; [www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org))—National nonprofit organization supports the healthy development and well-being of infants, toddlers, and their families through a range of activities that inform, educate, and support the adults who influence very young children's lives.