

Jim Doyle  
GovernorKaren E. Timberlake  
Secretary

**State of Wisconsin**  
Department of Health and Family Services

June 24, 2008

TO: Licensed Family Child Care Centers  
Licensed Group Child Care Centers  
Licensed Day Camps

**BRL Memo 2008-04**

FROM: Jill D. Chase, Director  
Bureau of Regulation and Licensing

RE: Licensed Child Care Search

I am pleased to announce the launch of the Licensed Child Care Search website on June 30, 2008. Wisconsin joins a growing number of other states offering regulatory information through the internet to assist consumers in finding the best possible child care arrangement for their family. This new site [www.dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed/search](http://www.dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed/search) will provide information for consumers on the location and regulatory history of the almost 6,000 licensed child care centers in Wisconsin. You can also begin at [www.dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dcf.wisconsin.gov) and follow the child care links to get to the website.

This service is a key initiative of the Department of Children and Families, the new state agency that begins on July 1, 2008. One of the goals of the new department is to assure that families have access to quality early care and education programs. The information obtained from the Licensed Child Care Search will help consumers locate and learn more about licensed child care centers in their area. Consumers can search for a licensed child care by county, city, zip code or facility name, and find out the facility's licensing information including compliance history and enforcement actions for the past two years. Previously, this information was only available by contacting a department office by phone or mail.

The compliance history that will appear on the website includes the results of monitoring conducted by licensing specialists. Summary statements for rule violations will be listed. These are the same summary statements that are written on the CFS-294 Statement of Noncompliance that you receive. The compliance history will also show licensing inspection results when no rule violations were observed. In addition, enforcement actions, such as orders and forfeitures, will also appear.

In addition to the licensing information on child care centers, there is a link on the website to Frequently Asked Questions about Child Care Search, which has questions and answers that will help further explain the information provided.

I encourage you to visit the new website. If you have any questions about it, or the information provided, please contact the licensing specialist or regional office serving your facility. You may also contact the Bureau of Regulation and Licensing for assistance at (608) 266-9314.