



# INFORMATION FOR Daycare Facilities ECDC 20.19

PERMITTING & DEVELOPMENT  
PLANNING  
DIVISION  
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A daycare facility may require permits and/or approvals by other agencies. Applicants must obtain all required state licenses and comply with all state licensing requirements.

## DEFINITIONS

According to Section 21.20.010 of the Edmonds Community Development Code (ECDC), the following definitions apply to the various daycare facilities allowed in the different zone districts:

**Family Daycare Home:** A residence used for the care of children under the age of 12 located in the family dwelling of the person or persons under whose direct care the child or children are placed, accommodating 12 or fewer children, such numbers to include those members of the resident family who are under the age of 12 years old and are cared for within the day-care facility. This definition applies regardless of whether the care is provided for compensation.

**Daycare Center:** A building or portion thereof used for the care of children under the age of 12 located in a facility which accommodates 13 or more children regardless of whether such services are provided for compensation.

**Adult Care:** The definitions of family day care home and day care center shall also include facilities designed for the care of disabled persons, and persons over the age of 65 years during normal working hours ("adult care"). The expansion of the definition is intended to permit neighborhood oriented facilities which provide services to the disabled and elderly while their adult children or other family care givers are at work. This definition shall be applied in a way which permits day care facilities for adult care to operate under the same terms and conditions as day care facilities for children. This definition shall not include facilities such as halfway houses, treatment centers, counseling centers, or other businesses which offer medical services, treatment or counseling to the disabled; these business uses shall be located only in the appropriate commercial zones.

## CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

The various zoning districts throughout the City of Edmonds have regulations for permitted primary and secondary uses as well as primary and secondary uses requiring a Conditional Use Permit. Several of the zoning districts require a Conditional Use Permit for daycare centers. If you are interested in establishing a daycare facility, please confirm with a Planner whether the zoning designation of the property would require a Conditional Use Permit for the daycare facility. You may also refer to the City's Conditional Use Permit handout (#P19) for information on the criteria of approval for a Conditional Use Permit as well as the application submittal requirements and review process.

### Business License

All daycare facilities must obtain a City business license through the Washington State Department of Revenue ([dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov)).

### Change of Use / Compliance Permit

A change of use and/or compliance permit may be required to establish a daycare facility. Please contact the Building Division for requirements on change of use and compliance permits.

### Structural Modifications and Signs

Any signs, exterior changes, structural additions or other physical improvements must obtain all applicable permits and/or approvals, including but not limited to building permits and design review.

**Note:** This information should not be used as a substitute for City codes and regulations. The Edmonds Community Development Code (ECDC) may be viewed at [www.edmondswa.gov](http://www.edmondswa.gov). The applicant is responsible for ensuring compliance with the fees and regulations that are applicable at the time of submittal. If you have a specific question about a certain aspect of your project, please contact the Planning Division at 121 Fifth Avenue North, (425) 771-0220. Please note that other local, state, and/or federal permits or approvals may be required.