



Program Synopsis

The mission of the Norfolk Home-based Childcare Network (HCN) is to protect the personal safety and well-being of children and families by providing professional licensure, standardized training, guidance, and support for new and existing providers of home-based care. The HCN offers training, resources, and professional development opportunities. The network is an invaluable resource for those who are starting, continuing, or expanding childcare business.

Important Dates

Cohort 1 Recruitment: July 30-September 20, 2021

Orientation I: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 6:30-8:30 pm

The Slover Library

235 E. Plume Street, Norfolk, Virginia

6 Components

- 1. Regulatory Framework- Licensure and Certification*

2. *External and Internal Communication*
3. *Funding and Partnerships **
4. *Business and Personal Development*
5. *Continuity and Support*
6. *Monitoring and Recertification*

FAQs

1. How do I get more information?

If you are ready to take the next step in the application process, please begin by contacting the Norfolk HCN for steps to apply for an Initial Family Day Home License. The Norfolk Home-Based Childcare Network appreciates your efforts to provide childcare to Norfolk families.

Roniko Richardson, roniko.richardson@norfolk.gov, 757-705-4378

2. How do I get started?

The first step is identifying whether home-based childcare is a good fit for you and your family. How do you know if providing childcare is a good fit for you?

- *Do you have a passion for the quality care and education of children?*
- *Do you have the ability to provide a safe environment?*
- *Are you in great physical and emotional health?*
- *Do you possess an understanding of children's developmental needs?*
- *Are you able to be patient with children and their families?*
- *Do you have strong communication skills with staff, children, and their families?*
- *Do you have the ability to understand good business practices?*
- *Do you possess strong organization skills?*
- *Do you possess at least a high school diploma or equivalent and 3 months of childcare experience?*
- *Are you prepared to meet the ongoing training requirements for licensure?*
- *Have you or any household member been convicted of a barrier crime?*

- *Are you and your household members ready to welcome state inspectors, children, parents, and other visitors into your home during business hours, sometimes unannounced?*
- *Are you and your household members ready to modify areas of your home inside and outside to create a safe environment for children in your care?*
- *Are you aware of the personal and financial costs involved to start-up and maintain a family day home?*
- *Are you aware of your responsibilities as a mandated reporter of child abuse and neglect?*

3. How do I register for training?

If you are ready to take the next step in the application process, please begin by contacting the Norfolk HCN for steps to apply for an Initial Family Day Home License. The Norfolk Home-Based Childcare Network appreciates your efforts to provide childcare to Norfolk families.

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4. How long does the training last? What are the components of the training?

The HCN training consists of both scheduled live modules and self-paced online components. Each provider's pace and ability to complete the modules will determine the length of the program. In general, the training lasts between 4 and 8 months. Training components include first aid, youth development, sexual predator prevention, business development, and other modules. More information may be obtained by contacting:

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5. How long does the program take to complete?

Each provider's pace and ability to complete the modules will determine the length of the program. In general, the training lasts between 4 and 8 months.

6. Will I have a license at the end of the program?

Participants will qualify for (and formally apply for) both a Norfolk business license and a Commonwealth of Virginia license to provide home-based childcare during their enrollment in the program. The City of Norfolk Office of the Treasurer and The Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) will determine approval.