



Child Care Solutions FAQ

Tri-C has partnered with Cuyahoga Job and Family Services, Invest in Children and Starting Point to link students with child care options, early educational resources and child care benefits.



Where do I begin to look for child care?

Starting Point's *The Good Child Care Book* outlines what every parent should know about quality child care. Visit starting-point.org/goodchild.pdf.

How do I know if a child care center, family child care home, preschool or school-age program is qualified?

Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) is a five-star quality rating system administered by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS).

Visit jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/StepUpFamily.stm for more information.

What if I need assistance to pay for child care?

- Cuyahoga Job and Family Services can help you pay a portion of your monthly child care expenses. Learn more at cjfs.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/child-care-assistance-program.aspx.
- Starting Point can assist in finding local scholarship programs or grant funds.

Visit starting-point.org/families_care.html#findchildcare.

- You can also apply for health care, child care, and food and cash benefits through Ohio Benefits. Visit benefits.ohio.gov to get started.

- Cuyahoga Community College has many scholarship opportunities available to Tri-C students. Awards may be considered for childcare, temporary transportation costs, and other situations that may restrict access to education. Visit www.tri-c.edu/scholarships for information on how to apply.

What type of educational child care opportunities are there?

Research shows that children in high-quality pre-K programs make gains in early literacy, pre-reading and early math. Children in pre-K programs interact more positively with peers and adults and are better prepared for kindergarten. Visit cuyahogakids.org to learn more.

If you live in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga or Lake counties, Starting Point can help you find child care resources. Visit starting-point.org and click Search for Child Care Online.

The ODJFS website allows you to search for early care and education programs and view inspection reports online. Visit jfs.ohio.gov/CDC/index.stm.

Ohio Child Care Finder is another resource to help locate quality child care in Ohio.

Visit ohiochildcarefinder.org/find-child-care.



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Child Care Solution **FAQ** (continued)

What options are there for special needs child care?

If you live in Cuyahoga County and have a child with developmental, health, physical, social-emotional or behavioral challenges, Starting Point Special Needs Child Care can help you find a positive child care environment with dedicated teachers and expert support to help your child thrive.

Call Starting Point at 216-575-0061 or 800-880-0971 to learn more, or visit starting-point.org/families_care.html#specialcare.

What services are available if my child is experiencing emotional challenges?

A child's emotional and behavioral health during the early years of life is important. If you are worried about your child's emotional growth or behavior, call

Cuyahoga County Invest in Children Early Childhood Mental Health at 216-881-5507.

What additional resources are available to me and my family?

Cuyahoga County Children and Family Services has an online resource guide to assist you and your family with a variety of services. Visit cfs.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/Resource-Guide.aspx.

You can also get information from United Way by calling 2-1-1 or visiting 211oh.org.

Does Tri-C offer drop-in child care?

The College offers extensive information on qualified local child care resources but does not offer on-site child care or drop-in services. Visit www.tri-c.edu/childcaresolutions to find child care options in your area.



Starting Point

Northeast Ohio resource and referral agency serving Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga and Lake counties. starting-point.org



Together We Thrive

Cuyahoga County Invest in Children

Invest in Children is a communitywide public and private partnership administered by the Cuyahoga County Office of Early Childhood. Its focus is preparing children to enter school ready to learn and in good mental and physical health. investinchildren.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/ECMH.aspx

CUYAHOGA Kids

Cuyahoga Kids

Cuyahoga County's go-to resource for families with young children. Developed by the Cuyahoga County Office of Early Childhood. cuyahogakids.org

www.tri-c.edu/childcaresolutions
216-987-6000 (Press 0)

Cuyahoga
Community
College

