

# RESOURCE 1: Are You Ready to Start a Family Child Care Home?

This resource is meant to help you think about the reasons why you want to open a family child care home and if it is the right choice for you. There are personal considerations for you and your family as well as professional considerations for you to think about as you start your journey.

## Personal Considerations

	Yes	No	Not Sure
Do you have a passion for helping children and their families?			
Do you enjoy being with young children and have the patience to care for them for many hours each day?			
Are you able to manage conflict successfully if it arises with staff and/or families?			
Are you able to get along with multiple types of families and children, even if their parenting style or culture are different than yours?			
Do you have the physical and emotional strength to run a child care business?			
If you have children or other people in your life who need you during child care hours of operation, have you identified someone to care for them if they become sick or need something?			
Do you have a positive attitude, even when challenges arise?			
Does your family support your decision?			
If your children are old enough, have you talked to them about the possibility of having a child care business in your home?			
If you are considering using your home as the child care business, have you thought about which areas of your home you would use?			
If you use your own home and have children of your own, will your children have their own space separate from the child care program when needed?			
Does your family support your decision? If you use your own home and have your own children, do you have a space where your children's belongings, such as special toys and equipment, can be stored away from the toys that belong to the child care?			

## Professional Considerations

	Yes	No	Not Sure
Are you a self-starter?			
Do you have the required education needed in your state or local area to operate a family child care home?			
Do you have the knowledge and previous experience to run a family child care home?			
Do you know where to go to for training or help in running your family child care home?			
Are you comfortable working with licensing requirements and government regulations?			
Do you have the time to learn the necessary skills or are you willing to hire people with different skill sets that you need to have a successful family child care home?			
Are you able to plan and organize well? Think about having multiple children in your home all day, planning schedules and activities, and ensuring families receive timely communication from you.			
Are you comfortable with the potential legal, professional and personal risks associated with starting a new business?			
Have you undertaken similar responsibilities that have demonstrated you have the motivation and determination needed to make your business successful?			
Do you have access to funds you may need to start your business?			
Are you aware of the required amount of business and professional liability insurance you need for your child care program?			



If you checked “Yes” to all of these items, you are ready to continue exploring the next steps in starting your child care business!



If you checked “No” or “Not Sure” to some of the items, reach out to your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency for help.