The City of Palmer works closely with the State of Alaska, Division of Child Care Licensing, and the State of Alaska Fire Marshal’s office to ensure that current and future child care businesses are licensed, inspected, and located in the correct zoning districts in the city of Palmer.

Our brochure has been assembled to assist you in determining the correct location or zoning district for your child care business.

**Child Care Activities**

**Palmer Municipal Code Zoning, 17.08 Definitions:**

**17.08.037 Babysitting.** “Babysitting” means providing care and supervision of children in a dwelling for compensation on an occasional basis. Babysitting is a home occupation.

**17.08.078 Child care facility.** “Child care facility” means a facility wherein care, supervision, education and/or special needs care is provided for more than six children.

**17.08.113 Day care.** “Day care” means providing care and supervision services for compensation between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.

**17.08218 Home child care.** “Home child care” means providing care and supervision for compensation for not more than six children total. Home child care is a home occupation.

**17.08.222 Home special needs care.** “Home special needs care” means providing special needs care for not more than five people for compensation in a dwelling. Home special needs care is a home occupation.

**17.08.368 Preschool.** “Preschool” means providing day care with or without educational services for children not yet attending elementary school; includes nursery school and kindergarten.

**17.08.423 Special needs day care facility.** “Special needs day care facility” means a facility wherein special needs day care is provided for more than five people.

**17.08.220 Home occupation.** “Home occupation” means an accessory use customarily conducted within a dwelling by the residents thereof, which is clearly secondary to the use of the dwelling for living purposes and does not change the character thereof or have any exterior evidence of such secondary use other than a nameplate or sign not to exceed four square feet in area.

For more information concerning city zoning regulations pertaining to your child care business, please contact our office.

**City of Palmer Community Development**

**645 E. Cope Industrial Way**

**Palmer, Alaska 99645-6748**

**Telephone: 907-761-1306 * Fax: 907-745-5443**

[www.palmerak.org](http://www.palmerak.org)
## Child Care Business Types and Zoning Districts Within Palmer’s City Limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>R-1 Single Family Residential</th>
<th>R-2 Low Density Residential</th>
<th>R-3 Medium Density Residential</th>
<th>R-4 High Density Residential</th>
<th>R-1E Single Family Residential Estate</th>
<th>AG Agricultural</th>
<th>C-L Commercial Limited</th>
<th>C-G Commercial General</th>
<th>P Public Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Babysitting</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Facility (6 or more children)</td>
<td>CUP 2,3</td>
<td>P 2</td>
<td>P 2</td>
<td>P 2</td>
<td>CUP 2,3</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Care</td>
<td>CUP 3</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>CUP 2,3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Child Care (maximum of 6 children)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Special Needs Care (maximum of 5 individuals)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P 2</td>
<td>P 2</td>
<td>P 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Needs Day Care Facility (5 or more individuals)</td>
<td>CUP</td>
<td>CUP</td>
<td>CUP</td>
<td>CUP</td>
<td>CUP 3</td>
<td>CUP</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:**
- **P** = Permitted use
- **CUP** = Conditional Use Permit required
- **N/A** = Not allowed
- **2** = Operating as a day care only
- **3** = No part of any building is located nearer than 30 feet from an adjoining lot or street line

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**ALL BUSINESSES OPERATING IN PALMER are required to have a CITY BUSINESS LICENSE.**

An application form for this license is available online at [www.palmerak.org](http://www.palmerak.org), or you may contact City of Palmer Finance Department at 761-1324 for more information.

⭐ Home Child Care facilities need to complete a Home Occupation Registration form which is also available on the website.