

## Why is Accredited Care Important?

Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood (MCCYN) fee assistance is an extension of the child care services offered at the various military installations throughout the United States. Qualifying MCCYN Navy Sponsors must be connected to an accredited provider to ensure their child(ren) are receiving community child care of comparable quality to the type of care administered at installation Child Development Center or Family Child Care programs.

Navy Sponsors who are eligible to participate in MCCYN must select a provider with a state child care license, an inspection report dated within the last 12 months, a complete provider fee assistance application, an acceptable employee background check for all staff, and one of the following requirements for accreditation:

## **Child Care Centers**

In order for child care centers to meet MCCYN requirements, they must be accredited by one of the approved national accreditation agencies listed below:

- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- <u>National Accreditation Commission (NAC)</u>
- National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA)
- <u>Council on Accreditation (COA)</u>
- Cognia NCA/SACS/NWAC (formerly AdvancED)
- Child Care Centers pursuing national accreditation through the Self-Study process

\*Please note the agencies listed above are the only approved national accreditations that are accepted for the military fee assistance programs.

## **Family Child Care**

In order for family child care providers to meet MCCYN requirements, they must have achieved one of the following high-quality credentials listed below:

- Child Development Associate (CDA) credential awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition
- Associate's degree or higher in Early Childhood Education or Child Development
- National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) Accreditation

For a list of providers who have at one time participated in the fee assistance program, <u>click here to</u> <u>search for accredited providers</u>.