

| Child Care Strength and Sustainability Index (CCSSI) | | | | | |
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| <p>Directions: The following child care business practices are followed by a sample statement that can be used to determine if the provider currently uses the practice in their child care business. Check 1 of the 3 checkboxes for each item based on the provider's use of the business practice. Rate the priority of the business practice needed. Detail any information about assistance needed or progress made in the Notes section. If the provider is updating their business practices as part of a local program, note the adoption of the business practice for reporting purposes. Some items below are expanded into subsections. The subsections are not a comprehensive list. However, the items may help the provider determine if the business practice is in use or if the business practice is needed.</p> <p>Not Applicable: The business practice is <u>not</u> relevant to the provider's child care business. The provider may not want to adopt this business practice for a variety of reasons. Note the reason in column E.</p> <p>Business Practice Needed: The business practice is <u>not</u> relevant to the provider's child care business. The provider does not currently use the practice, or the provider is not satisfied with the business practice and it needs to be updated.</p> <p>Business Practice In Use: The provider currently applies and is satisfied with the use of the business practice in their child care business.</p> <p>Priority Rating of Business Practice Needed: Providers should rate the priority of the business practice needed as it relates to the goals they would like to achieve for their child care business on a scale of 1-5 (1 = low priority; 5 = high priority).</p> <p>Notes: Providers can detail any relevant notes about each item that may help to inform future assistance efforts, including any reasons a provider marked a practice as "Not Applicable."</p> <p>Business Practice Adopted: The provider incorporates the business practice needed as part of a program tracking provider progress for reporting purposes.</p> <p>**Citation Miller, S. J., Garrity, S., & LaRocca, A. (2025, May). <i>Child Care Strength and Sustainability Index [Unpublished assessment]</i>. Center for Excellence in Early Development at San Diego State University. https://education2.sdsu.edu/ceed/steps</p> | | | | Provider Name: Date of Index Administration: | |
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| 1. Licensing and Operations | | | | | |
| 1.1 Child Care License <i>The provider's child care license is current and up to date.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1.2 CPR and First Aid Certifications <i>The provider's CPR and First Aid certifications are current and up to date.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1.3 Child Enrollment Records <i>The provider's child enrollment records for licensing up to date (i.e. immunizations, physical).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1.4 Business Plan <i>The provider has a business plan (within the last 5 years).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1.5 Active Business Insurance Policies <i>The provider maintains all necessary business insurance policies (liability, home/renters, auto).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1.6 Local Government Business License (not applicable for FCCs in California - SB234) <i>The provider has a business license or business tax certificate.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1.7 Local Government Zoning Permit (not applicable for FCCs in California - SB234) <i>The provider has a zoning permit.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1.8 Employer Identification Number (EIN) The provider has an EIN. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Continuing Education | | | | | |
| 2.1 Professional Development <i>The provider has attended professional development trainings in the last year (providers with employees should answer this question for each staff member).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.1a Professional Development <i>Staff member 1 has attended professional development trainings in the last year.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.1b Professional Development <i>Staff member 2 has attended professional development trainings in the last year.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.1c Professional Development <i>Staff member 3 has attended professional development trainings in the last year.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.1d Professional Development <i>Staff member 4 has attended professional development trainings in the last year.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.2 Postsecondary Education <i>The provider has completed education credits in the last year (providers with employees should answer this question for each staff member).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.2a Postsecondary Education <i>Staff member 1 has completed education credits in the last year.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.2b Postsecondary Education <i>Staff member 2 has completed education credits in the last year.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.2c Postsecondary Education <i>Staff member 3 has completed education credits in the last year.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.2d Postsecondary Education <i>Staff member 4 has completed education credits in the last year.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| 2.3 Child Development Permit (as defined by state government) <i>The provider has a child development permit (i.e. California CDP; CDA credential; providers with employees should answer this question for each staff member).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.3a Child Development Permit (as defined by state government) <i>The Staff member 1 has a child development permit (i.e. California CDP; CDA credential).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.3b Child Development Permit (as defined by state government) <i>The Staff member 2 has a child development permit (i.e. California CDP; CDA credential).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.3c Child Development Permit (as defined by state government) <i>The Staff member 3 has a child development permit (i.e. California CDP; CDA credential).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.3d Child Development Permit (as defined by state government) <i>The Staff member 4 has a child development permit (i.e. California CDP; CDA credential).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.4 Teaching Credential <i>The provider has teaching credentials that are current and up to date (providers with employees should answer this question for each staff member).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.4a Teaching Credential <i>Staff member 1 has teaching credentials that are current and up to date.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.4b Teaching Credential <i>Staff member 2 has teaching credentials that are current and up to date.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.4c Teaching Credential <i>Staff member 3 has teaching credentials that are current and up to date.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.4d Teaching Credential <i>Staff member 4 has teaching credentials that are current and up to date.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Policies & Contracts | | | | | |
| 3.1 Provider/Client Contract <i>The provider is satisfied with their contract for enrolling families into their program.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.1a Provider Days Off <i>The provider has policies for families for provider PTO and sick days.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.1b Emergency Response <i>The provider has emergency response policies.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.1c Payment <i>The contract outlines clear policies for terms of payment (i.e. collecting copayments and family fees).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.1d Fees <i>The provider has fee policies in place such as activity fees, late payment fees, early drop-off/late pickup fees?.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.1e Termination <i>The contract outlines clear policies for contract termination.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.2 Family Handbook <i>The provider is satisfied with the policies and regulations in their family/client handbook.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.3 Family Orientation <i>The provider offers an orientation or time for new families to review provider policies.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4 Employee Policies <i>The provider has policies for employees and they are satisfied with those policies.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4a Position Descriptions <i>All employees have position descriptions outlined in the employee contract or manual.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4b Staff Orientation <i>The provider offers an orientation for any new employees.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4c Employee Manual <i>The provider has an employee manual.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4d Wages <i>Assistants or employees are paid at least minimum wage.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4e Salary Scale <i>The provider has an updated salary scale.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4f Benefits: Paid Time Off <i>The provider has policies for PTO.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4g Benefits: Health Insurance <i>The provider offers health insurance.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4h Benefits: Dental Insurance <i>The provider offers dental insurance.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4i Benefits: Vision Insurance <i>The provider offers vision insurance.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4j Benefits: Life Insurance <i>The provider offers life insurance.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4k Benefits: Retirement <i>The provider offers a retirement plan to employees.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.4l Benefits: Discounted Child Care <i>The provider offers staff discounted child care.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.5 Employee Orientation <i>Does the provider offers an orientation for new employees to review provider policies.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Recordkeeping | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.1 Complete Child Enrollment Records <i>The provider has a system to maintain and store records for each child required for licensing (i.e. immunizations, physical).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.2 System for Tracking Business Expenses <i>The provider has a system for tracking and storing receipts for business expenses.</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.3 System for Tracking Hours <i>The provider has a system for tracking hours of care for children and hours conducting business activities (for tax purposes).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.3a System for Tracking Hours Caring for Children <i>The provider has a system for tracking hours caring for children (for tax purposes).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.3b System for Tracking Hours Conducting Business Activities <i>The provider has a system for tracking hours conducting business activities (for tax purposes).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.4 Technology Use for Operating Business (i.e., Child Care Management System - CCMS) <i>The provider utilizes technology and automation to operate their business (i.e., Care Connect, Bright Wheel).</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| 4.4a CCMS: Attendance <i>The provider uses CCMS to record child attendance.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.4b CCMS: Family Engagement <i>The provider uses CCMS to send notices, pictures, updates to families.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.4c CCMS: Timekeeping <i>The provider uses CCMS to record time spent on their business.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.4d CCMS: Billing <i>The provider uses CCMS for billing.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.4e CCMS: Fee Collection <i>The provider uses CCMS to track fee collection.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.4f CCMS: Payroll <i>The provider uses CCMS for payroll.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.4g CCMS: Child Recordkeeping <i>The provider uses CCMS for child enrollment and recordkeeping purposes.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.4h CCMS: Staff Recordkeeping <i>The provider uses CCMS for staff recordkeeping.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.4i CCMS: Automated Enrollment <i>The provider uses CCMS enrollment.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.5 Payment Receipt for Tuition and Fees <i>The provider supplies receipts for payment of tuition and fees to each family.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.6 End of Year Statement for Tuition and Fees <i>The provider supplies an end of year statement of tuition and fees to each family.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Financial Management | | | | | |
| 5.1 Business Bank Account <i>The provider has a business bank account exclusively for their FCC business.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.2 Business Savings <i>The provider has financial reserves or a savings account for their business.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.3 Retirement Account <i>The provider has a savings account or account for retirement.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.4 Filed Income Taxes as Business <i>The provider filed income taxes for their business last year.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.5 Business Use of Home <i>The provider accurately reported the business use of home with a calculated time-space percentage on last year's income taxes.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.6 Operating Budget <i>The provider has a current operating budget for tracking monthly revenue and expenses.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.7 Cost of Care and Rates <i>The provider's rates reflect the cost of care per child. The provider has increased rates in the last 3 years.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.8 Subsidy Participation <i>The provider accepts children on subsidy.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| | | | | | Notes: Use this space to detail what type of assistance is needed or the status of the business practice. If a provider does not want to adopt a business practice, please list the reason. | Business Practice Adopted During Program |
| Not Applicable | Business Practice Needed | Business Practice In Use | Priority Rating of Business Practice Needed 1=low priority 5=high priority | | | |
| 5.9 Private Pay <i>The provider accepts private pay tuition.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.10 No Outstanding Tuition Payments and Fees <i>The provider's payments owed for child care are up to date (no more than 30+ days past due).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.11 High Credit Score Rating <i>The provider's credit score is rated "good" (670 or higher).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.12 Business Credit Card <i>The provider has a business credit card exclusively for their FCC business.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Networks and Provider Programs | | | | | | |
| 6.1 CACFP Participation <i>The provider is enrolled in CACFP.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6.2 Quality Rating Improvement System Participation <i>The provider is enrolled in the state's QRIS.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6.4 Head Start Participation <i>The provider participates in Early Head Start or Head Start.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6.5 FCC Network Membership <i>The provider is a member of any FCC networks.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6.6 FCC Union Membership <i>The provider is a member of the local FCC union.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6.7 Workforce Registry Membership <i>The provider joined their state's Workforce Registry.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Business Growth and Promotion | | | | | | |
| 7.1 Increase License Capacity <i>The provider is satisfied with their license capacity (i.e. if the provider wants to change from a small to a large license, mark as Business Practice Needed).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.2 Maximize Desired Enrollment Capacity <i>The provider is satisfied with enrollment capacity (i.e. if the provider wants to enroll more children, mark as Business Practice Needed).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.3 Marketing Tools for Advertising <i>The provider utilizes marketing tools for advertising (i.e. business cards, flyers, stickers, etc.).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.4 Business Website <i>The provider has a website and the website is current and up to date.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.5 Social Media <i>The provider utilizes social media to promote their child care.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.6 Internet Search Engine Registration <i>The provider is registered with search engines (i.e. Google My Business).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.7 Digital Placement Services <i>The provider uses digital placement services.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.8 Regularly Updates Program File with Referral Programs <i>The provider updates their child care program file with referral programs.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Child Care Strength and Sustainability Index (CCSS) | | | | Provider Name: Date of Index Administration: | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| <p>Directions:The following child care business practices are followed by a sample statement that can be used to determine if the provider currently uses the practice in their child care business. Check 1 of the 3 checkboxes for each item based on the provider's use of the business practice. Rate the priority of the business practice needed. Detail any information about assistance needed or progress made in the Notes section. If the provider is updating their business practices as part of a local program, note the adoption of the business practice for reporting purposes. Some items below are expanded into subsections. The subsections are not a comprehensive list. However, the items may help the provider determine if the business practice is in use or if the business practice is needed.</p> <p>Not Applicable: The business practice is <u>not</u> relevant to the provider's child care business. The provider may not want to adopt this business practice for a variety of reasons. Note the reason in column E.</p> <p>Business Practice Needed: The business practice is <u>relevant</u> to the provider's child care business. The provider does not currently use the practice, or the provider is not satisfied with the business practice and it needs to be updated.</p> <p>Business Practice In Use: The provider currently applies and is satisfied with the use the business practice in their child care business.</p> <p>Priority Rating of Business Practice Needed: Providers should rate the priority of the business practice needed as it relates to the goals they would like to achieve for their child care business on a scale of 1-5 (1 = low priority; 5 = high priority).</p> <p>Notes: Providers can detail any relevant notes about each item that may help to inform future assistance efforts, including any reasons a provider marked a practice as "Not Applicable."</p> <p>Business Practice Adopted: The provider incorporates the business practice needed as part of a program tracking provider progress for reporting purposes.</p> <p>**Citation Miller, S. J., Garrity, S., & LaRocca, A. (2025, May). <i>Child Care Strength and Sustainability Index [Unpublished assessment]</i>. Center for Excellence in Early Development at San Diego State University. https://education2.sdsu.edu/ceed/steps</p> | | | | <p>Not Applicable</p> <p>Business Practice Needed</p> <p>Business Practice In Use</p> <p>Priority Rating of Business Practice Needed 1=low priority 5=high priority</p> <p>Notes: Use this space to detail what type of assistance is needed or the status of the business practice. If a provider does not want to adopt a business practice, please list the reason.</p> <p>Business Practice Adopted During Program</p> | | |
| 7.9 Enrollment Waitlist <i>The provider maintains a waitlist for enrollment.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.10 Business Loan <i>The provider has a business loan to improve or grow their business.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.11 Additional Capital Funding Sources <i>The provider receives additional capital funding for their business (i.e. grants, stipends).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.12 Business Infrastructure or Resources <i>The provider is satisfied with their business infrastructure and resources (i.e. indoor or outdoor physical space, learning materials).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.13 Staffing Levels <i>The provider is satisfied with the number of staff they have for their child care business.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8.0 Communication | | | | | | |
| 8.1 Regular Communication with Families <i>The provider uses communication tools to disperse information to families (i.e. newsletters, emails).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8.2 Automates Communication with Business Software <i>The provider uses Child Care Management Software (CCMS) for their business to communicate with families (i.e. CareConnect, Brighwheel, Playground, etc.).</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8.3 Community or Family Resources <i>The provider communicates community resources to families.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8.4 Family Feedback <i>The provider has a system for collecting feedback from families and informs how the feedback will be used.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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