

# Religious Exempt Child Care Facilities

Section 402.316, Florida Statutes

## **A child care facility may claim Religious Exemption from licensure if:**

- ❖ It is an integral part of a church or parochial schools conducting regularly scheduled classes, courses of study or educational programs.
- ❖ It is accredited by, or by a member of, an organization that publishes and requires compliance with its standards for health, safety and sanitation.
- ❖ It meets background screening requirements in ss. 402.305, 402.3055, and 435.04, Florida Statutes.

Religious exempt child care facilities must submit an affidavit annually to the Department of Children and Families stating all child care personnel have worked at the facility on a continuing basis since initial screening or have complied with screening requirements. This form is the Religious Exemption Statement (CF-FSP 5215) and may be obtained at [www.myflorida.com/childcare](http://www.myflorida.com/childcare).

A child care program may not operate and care for children until these requirements have been met.

Please contact the licensing office in your area for further information on religious exemption and recognized religious exempt accrediting organizations.



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