Home-Based Provider FAQs

What is the NSECE?
The National Survey of Early Care and Education is the only study aimed at better understanding the people and programs throughout the country that take care of America’s children and the services that they provide. The study was first conducted in 2012 and we need to collect up-to-date information to properly inform policies and practices to support early care and education providers.

Who is NORC at the University of Chicago?
NORC at the University of Chicago (NORC) is conducting this study. NORC is an independent, non-partisan research institution that helps federal agencies, decision-makers, and nonprofits make better decisions through data and analysis. For more information about us, please visit www.norc.org.

How can I learn more about the NSECE and how the 2012 survey data has been used?
More information about the NSECE 2012 data and findings can be found at: http://nsece.norc.org.

How was I selected for this survey?
You have been selected for this study from a list of early education and child care providers in your area. We are eager to hear about what motivates you to provide these services, or if you are no longer providing child care, when and why did you stop providing care. Completing this survey will allow us to better understand how accessible child care is in your area. You represent many others across the nation and cannot be replaced!

Your answers will give the nation’s policy makers, practitioners, and parents a better understanding of our nation’s early care and education.

How long does the survey take?
The survey takes about 40 minutes to complete.

Questions this study will help to answer:
• Who is caring for and teaching America’s children when they are not with their parents?
• What are the features of early care and education (ECE) available to families?
• Do providers rely on any public funds, and if so, how are these related to the care offered?
• How can policies better support the ECE workforce?
How do I know my information will be kept safe and private?

All NORC staff, including interviewers, must sign a pledge to protect your information. If this pledge is broken an employee can lose his/her job and face legal action. Answers that could identify you or your program in any way are separated from your other responses. Survey findings are put into summary reports that contain no names or other identifying information. Your name or any identifying information will never be released to the public.

How do you protect my answers?

Your answers are used for research purposes only. All information that you provide will be kept private to the fullest extent provided by the law. If you have questions about your rights as a study participant, you may call the NORC Institutional Review Board Administrator at 1-877-309-0542.

How do I know this is legitimate?

Visit us online at http://nsece.norc.org. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget has approved this survey (0970-0391). Without this number we could not conduct this survey.

If you have any other questions, call us toll-free at 1-800-487-4609 or by email at nsece-prov@norc.org.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB number for this information collection is 0970-0391 and the expiration date is 10/31/2019. Please send comments regarding the time required for this survey or any other aspect of the described information collection to: NORC at the University of Chicago, 55 E Monroe St, Ste 3000, Chicago, IL, 60603, Attention: A. Rupa Datta.