Please note— the Covid-19 crisis has disrupted most area organizations. This guide will be updated as soon as a more general reopening occurs.

2019-2020

Parent Resource Guide

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PLEASE NOTE THAT THE UNIVERSITY DOES NOT ENDORSE OR PROMOTE ANY SPECIFIC COMPANY, OR VENDOR. ALL OF THE ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS GUIDE ARE OFFERED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.
EARLY CHILD CARE

(See “Schools” for Private Pre-School Information)

Note: This list is not pre-screened. Information is provided by organizations.

Ada S. Mckinley Maggie Drummond Mem. Dcc. 4301 S. Wabash Ave. 773-373-8200. Provides child care for children aged 2-6 years. Email info@adasmckinley.org

Baby Ph.D. Offices in Hyde Park Neighborhood Club, 5480 S. Kenwood. 773-643-4062x15 or email director Sarah Diwan at baby.phdccc@hpnclub.org. Visit http://hpnclub.org and see their “programs” page for further information.

This network provides personalized referrals to their in-home caregivers, as well as professional development and mentorship to the caregivers. The current list of childcare professionals is primarily made up of parents who are graduate students, faculty, and staff of the University of Chicago, the University of Chicago Hospitals, and other local educational institutions (i.e. McCormick Theological Seminary, etc.). Tuition at Baby Ph.D. ranges from $280-450/week. Admission to Baby Ph.D. is determined on a space available basis. Baby Ph.D. participates in the University of Chicago Childcare Initiative.

Bridgeport Child Development 514 W. 31st St. 312-949-4015. Care for children ages 2-12 years; fees are based on a sliding scale. NAEYC (National Assoc. for the Education of Young Children) accredited. www.onehopechilddevelopment.org

Busy Bumble Bee Academy 6450 S. Cottage Grove. 773-643-9346. Provides care for infants and toddlers, and also after-school programs for school-aged kids between the ages of 6 weeks – 12 years.

Centers for New Horizons. 4301 S. Cottage Grove. 773-373-5700. www.cnh.org, Effie Ellie ELC. This child care center in Bronzeville offers early education for children between the ages of 2 weeks and 5 years. The language and math-rich curriculum focuses on helping children explore their cultural legacy, build self-confidence, and develop social skills. Centers for New Horizons participates in the University of Chicago Child Care Initiative and is NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) certified. Email info@cnh.org for further information.

Chicago Child Care Society. 5467 S. University Avenue. 773-643-0452. www.cccsociety.org This center offers early education for children between the ages of 2
and 5, and costs $1040/month. Chicago Child Care Society participates in the UC Child Care Initiative and is NAEYC accredited. Email info@cccsociety.org

**A Child’s Space.** 1020 S. Wabash. 312-431-1234. www.achildsspace.com  This private South Loop nursery offers care for children between the ages of 6 weeks through 6 years with a focus on discovery-based learning. Costs start at $1,500/month. Part-time and full-time care available.

**Chinese American Service League Child Development Ctr.** 2141 S Tan Court. 312-791-0418. The CASL provides several types of childcare: an NAEYC accredited Chinese/bilingual preschool for 2-5 year olds, a drop-in family center, ESL classes and a School Age Center with after-school enrichment activities. www.caslservice.org

**Cuddle Care Academy.** 4800 S. Lake Park Avenue. 773-285-1114. This childcare program serves children between the ages of 0-5 years. Costs depend on age, and range from $190-$250/week. Half and full-day programs are available. Childcare includes monthly field trips, computers, a Cordon Bleu chef, structured curriculum and foreign language instruction. Call for a morning tour.

**Detour 2 Discovery Day School.** 2001 S. Wabash Avenue. 312-949-2273. www.detour2discovery.com . This nursery accepts children between the ages of 8 weeks to 5 years. There are full-time and part-time options, and costs range from $740-1850/month.


**Evelyn’s Playhouse.** 5311 S. Cornell Avenue. 773-493-2474. Director Evelyn Treash has 20+ years caring for Hyde Park children. Care is for children 6 weeks to 4 years old, Monday through Friday 7:45 am to 6:00 pm with breakfast, lunch, and snack included.

**Firman Community Services Early Childhood Learning Center, West.** 37 West 47th St. 773-373-3400 for eligibility unit. Provides childcare for children 2-5 years, with an emphasis on school readiness. Childcare subsidies are available for some families. www.firmancs.org or email info@firmancs.org for further information.
Ivygardenlearning.com

*KinderCare Learning Center, South Loop.* 1501 S. State Street. 312-913-1557.
www.kindercare.com This childcare program serves children between the ages of 6 weeks through 5 years and is NAEYC accredited. Costs range from $282-$410/week.

*La Grande Famille.* 4541 S. Lake Park Ave. 773/952-4922. www.lagrandefamille.net
Email: la_grande_famille@yahoo.com This in-home learning center with 10 years experience is located in Kenwood and has a preschool curriculum which is academic and music-based. Available hours are 7:30am – 5:30pm.

*Little Inspirations.* 5480 S Kenwood Ave. 773-817-1274. Care for very young children (6 weeks)-5 years; they describe their philosophy as “purposeful, intentional play.” Visit www.little-inspirations.com for information.

*Little People Learning Center, Inc.* 5650 S. Woodlawn (First Unitarian Church). 773-955-9942. This pre-school has been in Hyde Park for 20+ years. Little People provides care for children between the ages of 6 weeks through 6 years. It is one of the most affordable options in Hyde Park. Full and part-time options are available.

*Loop Learning Center.* 2001 S. Michigan Ave. 312-225-8828 Care for children 6 weeks – 5 years old with after-school care for bigger kids. They accept Illinois Action for Children payments and are NAEYC accredited. Email looplearningcenter@gmail.com or visit www.looplearningcenter.com

*Parent Cooperative for Early Learning.* 5300 S. Shore Drive. 773-684-6363.
www.parentcoop.squarespace.com A private preschool for children between the ages of 15 months through 5 years. NAEYC accredited school includes enrichment activities such as music, Spanish, swimming and field trips. Potty training help is available. They also offer part time options and sibling discounts.

*Positive Kids, Positive Futures.* They will provide help accessing any childcare subsidies families might qualify for.

*Precious Little One’s Learning Center, Inc.* 221 E. 51st Street. 773/285-9902. Care for children 6 weeks-5 years old.
**Sonnets Academy.** 5548 S. Hyde Park Blvd, 773-891-0029. www.Sonnetsacademy.com/hydepark. This preschool features an indoor play area in a unique rotunda room for larger group activities and projects. For outdoor activities, they make frequent visits to Bixler and Harold Washington Park, and to the nearby Museum of Science and Industry.

**Tiny Scholars Academy.** 1167 E. 63rd St. info@tinyscholarsacademy.org Provides child care for children 6 weeks-5 years of age. TSA says their “goal is to offer every child a jumpstart to success by concentrating on early literacy, science, math, developmental appropriate practice hands on educational activities, and building close and secure relationships.” Visit www.tinyscholarsacademy.org

**University of Chicago Child Development Center, Drexel.** 5610 S. Drexel Ave. 773-256-0000. This center is run by Bright Horizons, and serves children 6 weeks-5 years. It is conveniently located for university and hospital employees. A discount is offered for Uchicago families. www.child-care-preschool.brighthorizons.com/IL/Chicago/uchicagodrexel/

**University of Chicago Child Development Center, Stony Island.** 5824 S. Stony Island Blvd. 773-947-2570. Also run by Bright Horizons, the beautiful new green building is right next to the new Laboratory School Elementary location. Uchicago discount available.

**CHILD CARE/SCHOOL REFERRAL SERVICES**

**Action for Children.** 312-823-1100 www.actforchildren.org. Action for Children provides a child care resource and referral service that offers unique support for working parents. A database helps parents explore child care options for children from 6 weeks to 12 years old. Action for Children also provides information about child care assistance programs and child care tax credits.

**Alternative Schools Network.** www.asnchicago.org Provides a directory of preschool through high school schools and educational programs.

**Baby Ph.D.** amclean@hpncblub.org Offers assistance with navigating local childcare options and holds monthly meetings with home-based childcare providers present.
**GreatSchools.org**  Find parent reviews, test scores and other data on schools you might be considering for your school-aged child.

**Sittercity.com**  is America’s largest, most easily accessible database for babysitters and nannies. The website offers 100,000 caregivers for 20 major markets.

**Childcarecenter.us**  currently provides a total of 119,348 licensed childcare centers and 157,105 home daycare providers. Find providers in your zip code; or use the map below to browse by state, county, city, etc.

**Sunshine Illinois Accountability Project** can be found at: www.sunshine.illinois.gov and provides information by zip codes. This site contains licensing compliance information on current State licensed Day Care Providers, and school report cards.

**Uchicago Human Resources** provides referrals through the company: Perspectives for all “university employee families.” Visit http://humanresources.uchicago.edu/lifework/life/child/referral.shtml

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**PRIVATE SCHOOLS, PreK-12**

**Akiba Schecter Jewish Day School.**  5235 South Cornell. 773-493-8880.  www.akibaschechter.org  This private school educates children from pre-k through eighth grade.  Pre-school and kindergarten are play-based, and open to children of any faith.

**The Ancona School.**  4770 S. Dorchester Ave. 773-924-2356.  www.anconaschool.org  Ancona is an independent Montessori school that serves children from pre-school through eighth grade.  They have been part of the community for 25+ years, and offer small class sizes and have accreditations by many independent and Montessori school associations.  Some financial aid is available.

**Cambridge Classical Academy** 4622 S King Drive, 773-891 5130.  https://cambridgeclassicalacademy.org/  Cambridge Classical Academy is an independent, private school that serves grades pre-K (age 3) to 8th grade.  The school maintains an intentionally small student-to-teacher ratio to underpin our commitment to individualized instruction.  Family engagement is the cornerstone of our school’s success.  The teachers partner with our families to develop an instructional blueprint for each student’s academic and developmental roadmaps.
**Chicago Free School**, 110 E. Hyde Park Blvd (inside KAM Synagogue), 312-392-0204. [www.chicagofreeschool.org](http://www.chicagofreeschool.org) The Chicago Free School is a democratic community of learners where students make choices to author their own educations. The philosophy believes learning should be hands-on, exploratory, and connected to the wider world. They serve children from age 3 through 8th grade and offer sliding-scale tuition.

**Chicago Jewish Day School (CJDS).** 3730 N. California. 773-271-2700. [www.chicagojewishdayschool.org](http://www.chicagojewishdayschool.org) CJDS is a multidenominational Jewish day school located on the north side of the city for children from Junior Kindergarten to 8th grade.

**Council Oak School Montessori.** 11030 South Longwood Drive. 773-779-7606. [www.CouncilOakMontessori.org](http://www.CouncilOakMontessori.org) Council Oak is an independent Montessori school that serves children from pre-school through eighth grade. It is in the Morgan Park neighborhood. Info@counciloakmontessori.org

**Francis W. Parker.** 330 West Webster Avenue. 773-353-3000. [www.fwparker.org](http://www.fwparker.org) Parker offers a “compelling educational experience, encompassing the intellectual, emotional, social, physical and moral development of the individual student in the context of community life” to children from junior kindergarten through twelfth.


**Hyde Park Day School.** 6254 S. Ellis Ave. 773-420-2550. [www.hydeparkday.org](http://www.hydeparkday.org) Since January 2000, the full day school program has offered a specialized, educational curriculum for students, ages 6-15, with moderate to severe learning disabilities and who have average to above average intelligence. They recently opened a beautiful, expanded building on 63rd street.

**K.A.M. Isaiah Religious School.** 110 E. Hyde Park Blvd. KAM offers a school program for Jewish children from kindergarten through tenth grade. Speak to Email kamii@kamii.org or call 773-924-1234 for further information on admissions.

**Latin School of Chicago.** 59 West North Boulevard. 312-582-6000. [www.latinschool.org](http://www.latinschool.org) Latin is co-educational private school that encourages students to love to learn, try their hardest, develop relationships and find balance in their lives. Latin serves children from junior kindergarten through twelfth grade.
Morgan Park Academy. 2153 West 111th Street. 773-881-6700.  
www.morganparkacademy.org  Morgan Park Academy encourages its students to lead lives of purpose, to learn to work hard, to strive for excellence, and to appreciate the diversity that exists in this world. Morgan Park Academy serves children from pre k-12.

Near North Montessori School. 1434 West Division Street. 773-384-1434.  
www.nnms.org  Near North Montessori is an independent Montessori school that serves children from pre-school through eighth grade. Additional programs include before and after school as well as a camp the summer.

Old St Mary's School. 1474 South Michigan Avenue. 312-386-1560.  
www.osmschool.com  Old St. Mary's is a parochial school that serves children from pre-k through first grade.

St Philip Neri School. 2110 East 72nd Street. 773-288-1138 www.spnschoolchicago.org  
St. Philip Neri is a Catholic parochial schools that serves children from pre-school through eighth grade.

St. Thomas the Apostle School. 5467 S. Woodlawn Avenue. 773-677-1142.  
www.stapostleschool.com  St. Thomas the Apostle is a parochial school that serves children from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Additionally, before and after school programs are offered.

University of Chicago Laboratory Schools. 1362 E. 59th Street. (Historic Campus for older grades) and 5800 South Stony Island Ave. (New campus for younger children.) 773-702-9450. www.ucls.uchicago.edu  The Laboratory Schools offer a rigorous academic program that focuses on character development and the development of critical thinking skills. The Laboratory School serves children from nursery through twelfth grade. Discounts are available for university staff/faculty.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PreK -12
Children are initially registered in their neighborhood school, based on home address. However, it is also possible to apply for admission to other schools. Some slots are offered based on applications and student test scores, and others are on a lottery system. The general website for the entire district is CPS.edu. Here are some pages of particular interest:

**Chicago Public Schools (C.P.S.)** Search the on-line directory to find a school of interest. [http://cps.edu/Pages/AboutOurSchools.aspx](http://cps.edu/Pages/AboutOurSchools.aspx) This location shows neighborhood school boundaries, and also has links to school “report cards” which give student demographics, test scores, and parent survey results. Some limited charter school information is also available.

**Chicago Public Schools Pre-school Programs. Early Learning Hotline:** 312/229-1690.  [http://cps.edu/schools/earlychildhood/Pages/EarlyChildhood.aspx](http://cps.edu/schools/earlychildhood/Pages/EarlyChildhood.aspx)

Information about both free pre-school and fee-based programs in the public school system.

**CPS Office of Academic Enhancement**
[http://cps.edu/AccessAndEnrollment/Pages/OAE.aspx](http://cps.edu/AccessAndEnrollment/Pages/OAE.aspx)

773-553-2060. This location on the general CPS site explains admission process for CPS magnet, charter, gifted or selective enrollment schools. You also use their online application for any school other than your neighborhood school.

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**CULTURAL ACTIVITIES and ORGANIZATIONS**

**57th Street Books.** 1301 East 57th Street. 773/684-1300.  [www.semcoop.indiebound.com](http://www.semcoop.indiebound.com) Free story times every Wednesday and Saturday at 10:30am, and Spanish stories on Thursdays at 10:30. In addition, check in-store signs and website for information on various author events.

**Bessie Coleman Branch Library.** 731 E. 63rd Street. 312-747-7760

**Beverly Arts Center.** 2407 W. 111th Street. 773-445-3838.  [www.beverlyartcenter.org](http://www.beverlyartcenter.org) Center has exhibits and classes in arts, computers, music, theatre and dance for kids 3+

**The Blackstone Branch Library.** 4904 S. Lake Park Avenue. 312-747-0511. Call to fund out about their many free story-time options.
Chicago Children’s Choir/Hyde Park Neighborhood Choir. Meets at First Unitarian and University Churches. 312-849-8300 ext. 122. www.ccchoir.org The choir includes children ages 8 to 16 years of age and performs around the city and region. Contact hydepark@ccchoir.org

ETA Creative Arts. 7558 S. South Chicago Avenue. 773-752-3955. www.etacreativearts.org ETA’s mission statement: “ETA seeks to be a major cultural resource institution for the preservation, perpetuation, and promulgation of the African American aesthetic in the City of Chicago, the state of Illinois, and the Nation.” ETA has adult classes, a Youth Performance workshop, summer arts camp, school partnerships, and school and classroom based programs.

Experimental Station. 6100 S. Blackstone. 773-241-6044. www.experimentalstation.org The Experimental Station is “working to build independent cultural infrastructure on the South Side by fostering a dynamic ecology of innovative educational and cultural programs, small business enterprises and community initiatives.” They host occasional cultural events and house Blackstone Bicycle Works and a farmer’s market.

Global Explorers. 4437 N Maplewood. www.globalexplorerskids.org 773-491-2723. Global Explorers is dedicated to providing children with the opportunity to explore the diversity of the world’s peoples through classes and workshops, family field trips and events brought to your school or facility.

Hyde Park Art Center. 5020 S. Cornell. 773-324-5520. www.hydeparkart.org In addition to housing several art exhibits, Hyde Park Art Center offers creative arts and media classes for preschool through teenage children (and many for adults, as well.) Classes include origami, clay, stenciling, drawing and photography. HYAC also sponsors free “Second Sunday” family art days several times per year—check website for dates.

Hyde Park School of Dance. 5650 S. Woodlawn Avenue (Unitarian Church.) 773-493-8498. www.hydeparkdance.org Creative movement classes for 3 year olds, pre-ballet classes for 4 to 6 year olds and ballet instruction for ages 7 and up. Non-ballet classes are also available—and there are classes for grown-ups, too!

piano and guitar beginning at age 3. Offers “Twinkle Stars” introductory music and movement classes for children 2-5. Classes are either at Augustana Church or Logan Center, 915 E. 60th St. Email hpsi@hydeparksuzeiki.org

**Hyde Park Youth Symphony.** 915 E 60th St (Logan Center). 773-217-8387.  
www.thephys.net  Community-based organization providing a high quality arts experience to children on the south side of Chicago. Also provides music programs and performances for elementary students. Email ed@thephys.org for further information.

**The Kid’s Table.** Wicker Park & Lakeview Locations. 773-235-COOK (773-235-2665).  
www.kids-table.com  Offers cooking classes for parents, kids and teens, birthday parties and a retail store.

**Little Black Pearl.** 1060 E. 47th Street. 773-285-1211.  
www.blackpearl.org  The mission of Little Black Pearl is to create opportunities for youth and adults to deepen their creative involvement through the arts, cultivate their entrepreneurial skills and use the arts as a means for economic empowerment and community transformation. Offers youth and adult classes.

**Logan Center.** 915 E. 60th Street. 773-702-2787. The beautiful Reva & David Logan Center for the Arts is a hub for a wide variety of arts programming, by both UC and the wider community. There are many performances and activities for families—some free. Check www.arts.uchicago.edu  and choose “explore” frequently for current offerings.

**M.A.D.D. Rhythms Inc. (Making a Difference with Dance)** 773-604-1899.  
www.maddrhythms.com  MADD offers tap dancing classes for adults and children at their new home in the Harold Washington Cultural Center in Bronzeville, and at Big City Swing in the Near Westside neighborhood. MADD’s teen and adult dance troupe perform throughout Chicago; see their website for dates and locations.  
bril@maddrhythms.com

**Marsha’s Music Together.** 5480 S. Kenwood Ave. (Hyde Park Neighborhood Club)  
773/288-3815. irene@marshasmusic.com. Founder Marsha Melsheimer has delighted Hyde Park kids for 17 years. Marsha’s Music Together provides music education for children (from birth to elementary age). Check their website  
http://marshasmusic.yourvirtuoso.com  for tuition prices and class times.

**Merit School of Music.** 38 South Peoria Street. 312-786-9428.  
www.meritmusic.org
Offers music instruction to youth (early childhood-high school) and removes economic barriers that might otherwise prevent children from participating in music.

**Mayfair Academy of Fine Arts.**  8701 S. Bennett Ave  773-768-8701.  
www.mayfairacademy.net  School for the performing arts and music established in 1959.  
Dance classes for ages 3-adult.

**Music Teachers of Hyde Park.**  www.mthp.org provides a listing of music teachers offering private music lessons, along with info about instructor and student recitals.

**Muntu Dance Theatre Chicago.**  1809 E 71st St, Ste 203.  773-241-6080.  
www.muntu.com  The Chicago-based Muntu Dance Theatre performs authentic and progressive interpretations of contemporary and ancient African and African-American dance, music, and folklore. Youths and adults can participate in weekly drop-in classes for just $10 or $15.  sekou@muntu.com

**Old Town School of Music.**  Locations at 4544 North Lincoln Avenue and 909 West Armitage.  773-728-6000.  www.oldtownschool.org  Offers a variety of classes for adults and children in music, dance, theatre and other areas. The “Wiggleworms” class is a particular favorite for very young children.

**Revival Theater**  1160 E. 55th St.  www.the-revival.com  This new live improv theater in Hyde Park has classes for kids of all ages, and the occasional children’s theater performance.  classes@the-revival.com

**Rockefeller Memorial Chapel,**  5850 S. Woodlawn.  773-702-2100.  
www.rockefeller.uchicago.edu/  In addition to Sunday services and regular meditation classes, the Chapel presents many free concerts and series featuring their choir, organ and carillon (bells.)  Intrepid explorers can even climb the bell tower and sit with the Carillon player for their daily noon concerts.

**Russell Talbert Dance Studio.**  125 E. 26th Street.  773-485-5868.  
www.rtdancestudio.org  The Center offers instruction in multiple forms of dance to students ages 5 through adult.

**61st Street Farmer’s Market.**  61st street, from Dorchester to Blackstone.  Saturdays,
May-Dec., 9-2. This flourishing farmer’s market also features family activities, music, stories and chef demonstrations. Visit www.experimentalstation.org/farmers-market for schedule. LINK cards are accepted, and purchases are matched up to $25. A smaller market operates indoors at Experimental Station in the winter and early spring.

**South Shore Cultural Center.** 7059 South Shore Drive. 773-256-0149. The South Shore Cultural Center offers programs for youth, professional performances, exhibits, educational and cultural activities for the community. Classes for youth and adults. There’s a beach, golf and tennis courts, a pool and gardens on the grounds.

**MUSEUMS**

*Chicago’s many museums are a great educational and recreational activity for families. However, admission can be expensive (free museums are noted.) If you will be using a museum frequently, you may want to consider purchasing a membership as a cost-saving measure. Many museums also offer (sometimes unpublished) discounts for educators or students, and free or reduced price days, (especially in Sept and Feb) so check their websites or ask. The Chicago Public Library has a program called “Museum Passports” that lets you borrow a free admission pass for 4 to a museum. These passes are very popular, so speak to the librarian about when you have the best chance of getting the museum of your choice. If you have a LINK or WIC card, you can qualify for deeply discounted “Museums for All” fares.*

**Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum.** 1300 S. Lake Shore Drive. 312-922-7827 (STAR). www.adlerplanetarium.org

**Art Institute of Chicago.** 111 S. Michigan Ave. 312-443-3600. www.artic.edu The art institute has many activities for children of various ages, and children’s admission (up to age 17) is always free with a paying adult.

**Bronzeville Children’s Museum.** 9301 S. Stony Island Blvd. 773-721-9301. www.bronzevillechildrensmuseum.com The first and only African American children’s museum in the country.

**Brookfield Zoo.** 1st Ave. And 31st Street, Brookfield, IL. 708-688-8000. www.brookfieldzoo.org
**Chicago Architecture Center.** 111 E. Wacker Ave. 312-922-3432.  
[www.architecture.org](http://www.architecture.org) In Fall 2018, they open their new, expanded Center on Wacker. They also offer paid architectural tours by bus, boat and foot, and occasional family workshop.

**Chicago Children’s Museum.** 700E. Grand Ave. 312-527-1000. This large children’s museum is in Navy Pier, which also houses a treasure trove of fun activities  

**Chicago Cultural Center.** 78 E. Washington St. 312-744-6630.  
[www.chicagoculturalcenter.org](http://www.chicagoculturalcenter.org) Admission is free. Various art exhibits and free performances are held here, and the glorious refurbished Library alone makes it worth a trip.

**Chicago History Museum.** 1601 N. Clark St. 312-642-4600.  
[www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org) Admission is free for Illinois kids under 18, and for everyone Tuesday p.m.

**City Gallery at the Historic Water Tower.** 806 N. Michigan Ave.  

**DuSable Museum of African American History.** 740 E. 56th Place. 773-947-0600.  
[www.dusablemuseum.org](http://www.dusablemuseum.org) The only major independent institution in Chicago established to preserve and interpret the historical experiences and achievements of African Americans. Kids 5 and under are free, and it’s free for everyone on Tuesdays.

**Field Museum.** 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive. 312-922-9410.  
[www.fieldmuseum.org](http://www.fieldmuseum.org) The museum offers a variety of family programming.

**Frank Lloyd Wright Robie House.** 5757 S. Woodlawn Avenue.  
[www.gowright.org](http://www.gowright.org)  
[calflwright.org](http://calflwright.org) 312-994-4000 Tickets can be bought for guided tours.

**Garfield Park Conservatory.** 300 N. Central Park Ave. 312-746-5100.  
[www.garfield-conservatory.org](http://www.garfield-conservatory.org) Admission is free. Check website for special events and family programming.

**Glessner and Clarke House Museum.**  
[www.glessnerhouse.org](http://www.glessnerhouse.org) The city’s oldest
surviving building located in Chicago’s Women’s Park and Gardens. Free Wednesdays.

**Hull House Museum.** 800 S. Halsted Street. 312-413-5353.  
[www.hullhousemuseum.org](http://www.hullhousemuseum.org) Teaches kids Chicago history, and how one person can make a difference. Admission is a suggested donation.

**Illinois Holocaust Museum.** 9603 Woods Dr. Skokie, IL. 847-967-4800.  
[www.ilholocaustmuseum.org](http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org)

**Lincoln Park Zoo.** 2001 N. Clark St. 312-742-2000.  
[www.lpzoo.com](http://www.lpzoo.com) Admission is free, but there is a parking charge.

**National Museum of Mexican Art.** 1852 W. 19th Street. 312-738-1503.  
[www.nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org](http://www.nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org) The National Museum of Mexican Art is the nation’s largest Latino arts institute. Admission is free.

**Museum of Science and Industry.** 57th and Lake Shore Drive. 773-684-1414.  
[www.msichicago.org](http://www.msichicago.org). There are live science demos throughout the museum, and young children can happily spend many hours in the downstairs Idea Center.

**Museum of Contemporary Art.** 220 E. Chicago Ave. 312-280-2660.  
[www.mcachicago.org](http://www.mcachicago.org) Kids 18 and under visit free, and it’s free for everyone on Tuesdays.

**Oriental Institute.** 1155 E. 58th Street. 773-702-9514.  
[www.oi.uchicago.edu](http://www.oi.uchicago.edu) The museum offers special family events. A schedule can be found on the website. Additionally, the museum offers self-guided activities for families. The Family Activity Card directs parents and children to search for and then make discoveries about specific artifacts on view in the museum. Admission is a suggested donation.

[www.naturemuseum.org](http://www.naturemuseum.org)

**Pullman Historical District & Visitor Center.** 112 Street and Cottage Grove. 773-795-8901.  
[www.pullmanil.org](http://www.pullmanil.org) Houses historical artifacts from tycoon George Pullman’s home and model town.
**Smart Museum of Art.** 5550 S. Greenwood. 773-702-0200. www.smartmuseum.uchicago.edu The Smart Museum of Art is a small museum with frequently changing exhibits. They offer a fun gallery guide activity, summer art days, and occasional family events during the school year. Check out the SmartKids link on their site for additional activities. Admission is free.

**Shedd Aquarium.** 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive. 312-939-2438. www.sheddaquarium.org Tickets are expensive, but they have many free days for Chicago residents.

**Spertus Museum.** 618 S. Michigan Ave. 312-322-1700. www.spertus.edu Explores Jewish learning and culture. Admission is free.


**SPORTS AND RECREATION** (includes after school programs)

@rtifice 6450 S. Stony Island Ave, artificechicago@gmail.com UChicago grad students and faculty created this community tech center in the Woodlawn neighborhood that teaches youth 10 and up how to create websites, make video games, build robots, repair computers, and more. The drop-in center is free, and is open Tuesday and Thursday from 4 to 6 PM. They also have Robotics clubs at Ray Elementary and Hyde Park Neighborhood Club. The Ray club is $75 a quarter, and the HPNC club is part of membership.

**Soccer, Region 751.** www.ayso751.org This league offers soccer practices and games in Hyde Park for children ages 4 and up.

**LA Fitness.** 5224 S. Lake Park. 773-924-9889, and 5235 S Harper Ave (773) 358-4228. www.lafitness.com Memberships include access to classes, pool and tennis courts, and allow you to visit other LA Fitness sites around the city. Childcare is available while you work out, for an extra fee.

**Chicago Park District.** www.chicagoparkdistrict.com Chicago has one of the largest Public Parks systems in the country. They offer a huge array of summer camps and low-cost classes in a variety of areas, as well as many free family events. Check their website for park locations and information about classes and special programs. Seasonal offerings include a pool with a water slide at the Washington Park location, and a skating rink on the Midway.
Enso Yoga and Martial Arts Studio. 412 S. Wells. 312-427-3676. www.ensokarate.com  Yoga and martial arts instruction for children as young as 4. Or you can try their family class, and learn along with your child!


Hello Baby. 600 E. 61st Street. 773-280-5613. www.hellobabychgo.org  Free Woodlawn community playspace for little ones 3 and under also offers some baby enrichment classes.

Hyde Park Jewish Community Center (JCC). 5200 S. Hyde Park Blvd. 773-753-3080. www.jccchicago.org  Serves more than 33,000 individuals and families through its parent/child classes, enrichment and vacation day programs, summer camp, sports and recreation leagues, adult classes and family events.

Hyde Park/Kenwood Baseball. www.hplegends.org  This league offers T-Ball, Pee Wee and Little League for boys and girls. info@hplegends.org

Hyde Park Neighborhood Club. 5480 S. Kenwood. 773-643-4062. www.hpnclub.org  Provides recreational and extra-curricular programs for toddlers through teens, including a tot-lot, before and after school care, summer camps, music and dance lessons, and sports instruction. Fees range quite a bit, and include a punch card system. Children’s classes are included with entry.

Ivy Garden After School Center, LLC. 625 W 31st Street. 312-225-0154. After school programs for children 6-14 years old.

Lil’ Kickers. www.lilkickers.com  Lil’ Kickers is a year round non-competitive, introductory soccer and movement skills program for boys and girls ages 18 months to 9 years old.

Maggie Daley Park  337 East Randolph Street  http://maggiedaleypark.com  Right next to Millennium Park, the new Maggie Daley Park needs a listing of its own. The park features many play structures (divided by recommended age) a skating ribbon, climbing wall and minature golf, along with family programming all year. The park is free—some activities have low cost rental equipment.
**METROsquash** 6100 S. Cottage Grove Ave., 773/241-5150. [www.metrosquash.org](http://www.metrosquash.org)

METROsquash uses the sport of squash as a hook to engage 5th-12th grade students using the combination of squash and academic instruction along with mentoring, cultural enrichment, and community service to help students put their best foot forward. They meet at least three days a week after school with one-on-one mentoring and weekend activities. The program is free. Come visit their beautiful new building.

**Millennium Park.** 201 E. Randolph St. 312-742-2963. [www.millenniumpark.org](http://www.millenniumpark.org)

Along with public art exhibits and extensive gardens, Millennium Park offers free concerts and family programs, especially in the summer months. Playing in the fountain is also a kid-pleaser.

**South Side YMCA.** 6330 Stony Island Avenue. 773-947-0700. [www.ymcachicago.org/southside](http://www.ymcachicago.org/southside)

YMCA programs include child care, Sears Family Nights, a summer day camp, “Schools Day Out” camp, youth swim lessons and sports programs for kids. The YMCA also has an indoor pool, family swim time and mini-golf course. They offer a membership discount for university families.

**University of Chicago Swim School.** Ratners Athletic Center, 5530 S. Ellis. 773-702-1234. [www athletics.uchicago.edu/aquatics/community/swim-school](http://www athletics.uchicago.edu/aquatics/community/swim-school)

Swimming instruction offered by the University of Chicago Swim Team coaches and members of the Men’s and Women’s Varsity Swimming Teams. $75/child. Ages 3 through adult. [ucswimschool@uchicago.edu](mailto:ucswimschool@uchicago.edu)

**RESOURCES FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS**

**University of Chicago Hospitals.** 5841 S. Maryland, [uchicagomedicine.org/conditions-services/pregnancy-childbirth](http://uchicagomedicine.org/conditions-services/pregnancy-childbirth)

Tour the new Family Birth Center, which includes both md and midwife practice options and prenatal classes.

“At the Family Birth Center, we offer a customized birth experience in the comfort and privacy of our nurturing environment. Our team of experts supports pregnant women and their partners and families with compassion and respect through pregnancy, childbirth, bonding, breastfeeding and healing.”

**Swedish Covenant Hospitals.** 5145 N. California Ave. 773-878-7787. Swedish Covenant offers a family birthing center, midwives, and childbirth classes. [www.schosp.org](http://www.schosp.org)
Birthways-Labor Support and Postpartum Doula Services. 3717 N. Ravenswood. 888-506-0607. www.birthwaysinc.com This is Chicago’s oldest and largest community of labor support and postpartum doulas. Services include childbirth education, breastfeeding support, parenting support and classes for expectant parents. Birthways has a new Parent Resource Center that offers classes on a variety of topics including infant sign language and cloth diapering.

Rush University Medical Center. 1650 W. Harrison. 312-942-2336. www.rush.edu Resources at Rush include birth center tours, breastfeeding classes, cesarean birth classes, childbirth education, infant/child CPR classes, prenatal classes and therapeutic massage.

Northwestern Memorial Hospital Prentice Women’s Hospital. 250 E. Superior. 312-926-2000. www.nmh.org Resources include new mom support groups and a variety of classes.

PARENT GROUPS AND RESOURCES

Fussy Baby Network. http://www.erikson.edu/fussybaby/ Hotline: 888-431-BABY (2229). This network, run by the Erikson Institute, offers parents of fussy babies assistance and support through the hotline, clinics at the University of Chicago Children’s Hospital, home visits and parent support groups.

Chicago Kids.com. This website has an exhaustive list of family friendly activities going on in the city, along with some good discount deals. You can sign up for their newsletter, or submit an event.

Hyde Park Parent Support Network. www.hydeparkpsn.org Parent Support Network (PSN) is a volunteer-run organization for parents of babies and young children from Hyde Park and surrounding neighborhoods. PSN offers a playroom in the First Unitarian Church at 5650 S. Woodlawn. The group’s message board provides a forum for asking parenting questions, sharing child-related information, and exchanging baby items. Examples of past PSN activities include holiday parties, weekly art projects, a field trip to a local fire station, and a monthly book club. There’s a sliding scale for membership dues.

Kids In Danger. www.kidsindanger.org This local organization tracks child product recalls, distributes information on unsafe products (including those ‘hand me downs’ that may have been recalled but the information about them is no longer up.) It was founded by two GSB faculty members.
MOCHA. www.mochallergies.org Mothers of Children Having Allergies is a group of parents of children with food allergies, sharing information, and supporting each other.

Mocha Moms. Mocha Moms is a support group for stay-at-home mothers of color. For information, visit their website at www.mochamoms.org

Student Parent Group. Registered Student Organization sponsored by UChicagoGRAD supports students and their families. Join the student parent listserv https://lists.uchicago.edu/web/info/studentparents

The University of Chicago Family Resource Center. 773-795-5437. 950 E. 61st Street, 1st Floor https://grad.uchicago.edu/life-at-uchicago/family-resources/ The Center is administered by Uchicago Grad. A drop-in Center is open from 9 am to 5 pm weekdays during the academic year, and 10-4 Saturday. (Summer hours are 10-4, Mon-Fri) The FRC welcomes graduate student parents affiliated with the University of Chicago, as well as faculty, staff and alumni families. The Center’s mission is to create a welcoming space where families from the university community can access resources, information and supportive programming and services. FRC offers a spacious playroom and many free or low-cost classes and activities, and even a grad student writing group (our staff watches your child while you write!) Membership is free. For more information or to register your family for activities and classes, contact director Lizanne Phalen at lizannep@uchicago.edu. Lizanne also administers a childcare grant program.

upparent.com This fun Chicago-area website has all sorts of activity information and ideas—along with a well-maintained special events calendar. Most of their content is parent submitted, and you can also sign up for their newsletter.

EDUCATION RESOURCES

ACLS Medical Training – Safety Resource. Use this website as a resource for learning how to best protect your children and keep them safe. You can also take classes. aclsmedicaltraining.com/

Chicago Public Library. www.chipublib.org Use this site to find library branches and activities, but also to find the location and request particular publications, and even to view primary source documents online.

Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference Schools and Education Committee. www.hypedpark.org The Committee is heavily involved with promoting,
growing and helping Local School Councils (LSC). The general HYKCC newsletter is also a good source of information about community events.

**Hyde Park Historical Society.** 5529 S. Lake Park Ave. 773-493-1893. www.hydeparkhistory.org The historical society has weekend visiting hours, and access to their archives. They also have a newsletter, and host several talks and events. They are happy to help older children with history papers, and even sponsor some contests and a scholarship.

**LMAIS (Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools) **www.lmais.org
Many of the Chicago area independent schools are a part of this organization. The website provides information about these schools.

**Kumon.** 1525 E. 55th Street, Ste. 202. www.kumon.com Kumon offers after school reading and math programs to help children master fundamental skills. Call or email eahme1@ikumon.com 773-955-7010 to set up an appointment.


**TRANSPORTATION**

**Checker Cab.** 312-CHECKER (243-2537) www.checkertaxichicago.com book online, by phone or by text

**Yellow Cab.** 312-TAXICAB (829-4222) or book online or by text www.yellowcabchicago.com

**AMTRAK.** 800-USA-RAIL. 225 S. Canal St. www.amtrak.com One child aged 2-12 is half price with each full-fare adult rider. (Children under 2 free.)

**Zip Car.** If you only need to drive once in a while, consider signing up for this car sharing program. There are many locations in and around Hyde Park, and they give a special disocunt to Uchicago community. www.zipcar.com/uofc

**Greyhound Bus.** 312-408-5821. 630 W. Harrison St. www.greyhound.com
**Megabus.** [Megabus.com](http://Megabus.com) Goes to many Midwest locations, and has pickup locations at Midway Airport and in the south loop.

**Metra.** [www.metrarail.com](http://www.metrarail.com) Metra runs several commuter train lines, with many stations in East Hyde Park. Metra Electric goes to the loop. Children under 12 are free on weekends and holidays, and otherwise half price.

**Omega Airport Shuttle.** 773-734-6688. [www.omegashuttle.com](http://www.omegashuttle.com) This is a shuttle that picks up in Hyde Park and travels to the airports. You can now book a trip online. Be sure to note estimated travel times to airport.

**Ride Shares.** These rideshare companies have changed how we travel, and are definitely an option in Chicago. Download their apps on your phone, and you can choose to do a shared ride for extra savings. [Uber.com](http://Uber.com) or [Lyft.com](http://Lyft.com)

**RTA Trip planner** [tripsweb.rta.chicago.com](http://tripsweb.rta.chicago.com) This is a very useful site that allows you to plan a trip using Metra, CTA and PACE busses and trains. Or you could call for help at (312) 836-7000

**University of Chicago Bus Routes.** [www.safetysecurity.uchicago.edu/transportation](http://www.safetysecurity.uchicago.edu/transportation) During the academic year, CTA bus routes 171, 170 and 172 are free to anyone with University ID, as is rte 192 to the loop. There is also a free Hospital Shuttle Service that goes south to remote parking lots, and a Nightride shuttle after 5. (The free shuttles are available to anyone, regardless of whether you have a Uchicago ID) Check website for routes and schedules.

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**HEALTH CARE**

**ACCESS Booker Family Health Center.** [https://www.achn.net](https://www.achn.net) 654 E. 47th Street. 773-624-4800.

**Anne & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital. 225 E. Chicago Ave.** 800-543-7362. [www.luriechildrens.org](http://www.luriechildrens.org)

**Attune Therapy, Inc.** 1525 E. 55th Street, 773-575-0818. [www.attunetherapyinc.com](http://www.attunetherapyinc.com) Attune Therapy, Inc. is a pediatric therapy clinic housed in the beautiful Deco Arts Building in Hyde Park since its inception in 2002. Attune's clinicians specialize in working with toddlers, children, and adolescents with sensory processing/regulatory disorders, autism, and other diagnoses. The clinic currently offers individualized occupational therapy and speech therapy as well as play-based social groups that meet weekly. Attune
also offers several technology-based therapies that strengthen core capacities and complement treatment, including Interactive Metronome, Therapeutic Listening, iLs focus system, and the Safe and Sound Protocol. Attune Therapy, Inc. is an “in-network” provider with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of IL. For more information about Attune Therapy’s services or to schedule a consultation, contact Clinic Manager, Angie Goudschaal, at 773-575-0818 or at agoudschaal@gmail.com.

**Comer Children’s Hospital at the U of C.** 5721 S. Maryland Avenue. 773-702-1000 or 888-824-0200. www.uchicagokids.hospital.org Offers many pediatric specialties, including emergency care for kids up to age 17 (entrance to ER is at 5730 S. Drexel Ave.)

**CVS Minute Clinic** 1228 E 53rd St, Chicago, (773) 752-1425. These clinics are in many CVS stories, and care for many common issues, and accept most insurance. In addition to diagnosing and treating illnesses, injuries and skin conditions, they provide wellness services including vaccinations, physicals, screenings and monitoring for chronic conditions for adults and children 18 months and over. For a complete list of what we offer, including service availability and any restrictions, visit cvs.com/minuteclinic/services

**Friend Family Health Center (University of Chicago Hospital).** 800 East 55th Street. 773-702-0660. www.friendfhc.org

**La Rabida Children’s Hospital.** 6501 S. Promontory Drive. 773-363-6700. www.larabida.org This hospital focuses on treating children with chronic conditions.


**Northwestern Memorial Hospital.** 251 E. Huron. 312-926-2000. www.nmh.org

**Planned Parenthood/Chicago Area.** www.plannedparenthood.org There are many clinics throughout the Chicago area; use the site to search by zip code. Planned Parenthood offers education, family planning, low cost medical services and advocacy.

**Student Health Services (SHS).** 860 E. 59th St., Suite R100 (Goldblatt Pavillion Entrance.) 773-702-4156. www.healthcare.uchicago.edu Student Health Services are located in the University of Chicago Medical Center and are designed to serve the health care needs of University of Chicago students. You will find medical staff and faculty who
are dedicated to providing outstanding health care.

**University of Chicago Primary Care Group.** Duchussois Center for Advanced Medicine (DCAM), 5758 S. Maryland Ave., Ste. 3C 773-702-6840.

**Walgreens Take Care Clinic.** 1554 E. 55th St. 773-667-1177. [www.walgreens.com](http://www.walgreens.com) Clinics inside Walgreens stores offer basic kid’s physicals and vaccinations at low cost, in addition of miscellaneous other basic medical services. Appointments are not necessary; see website for clinic hours.

**MENTAL HEALTH and WELLNESS SERVICES**

**Fitness Classes at Ratner (Ratner Athletic Center Membership is free for students, and available to staff, faculty, families and alumni at various competitive rates.)**

- **Fit Chicago Classes**—a variety of group fitness classes, free for students at available for a small fee to other Athletic Center members; visit athletics.uchicago.edu
- **Introduction to Fitness**—throughout the quarter; overs safe and effective use of fitness equipment, and is free for members. Email Clare at barryc@uchicago.edu

**Mediation Practice.** Use the “get involved” link at spirit.uchicago.edu/ to see the current offerings, which include:

- **20 Minutes Still**—Weekdays at 8 a.m.: 20 minute morning meditation at Rockefeller Chapel
- **Breathing Room**—Thursdays from 3-5 p.m. in Ida Noyes 034 (basement): quiet meditation space, with rotating stress management resources and light refreshments
- **Mindfulness**—4 week series introducing mindfulness meditation techniques; visit wellness.uchicago.edu

**Refresh Program**—7 week online program for undergraduates and graduate students; skills and support to achieve better quality sleep. Register at wellness.uchicago.edu/refresh

**Student Counseling and Service (SCS).** 5555 S. Woodlawn Ave. 773-702-9800. [wellness.uchicago.edu/mental-health](http://wellness.uchicago.edu/mental-health) The Student Counseling and Service (SCS) provides mental health care to University of Chicago students, their partners, and their dependents. The services offered includes assessment, crisis intervention, short-term psychotherapy with individuals (including children) and couples, brief group therapy,
medication management, academic skills counseling, and referral services. All services begin with an intake appointment in order to determine the nature of the problem and the kinds of services appropriate to address it. For parents with concerns about their children or family matters, this may be an extended evaluation during which the SCS therapist explores the parents' and child's concerns with the goal of acquiring a thorough understanding of the difficulties and developing a plan to address them. SCRS also runs a couple of ongoing walk-in programs aimed at academic performance: ASAP and Let’s Talk

Yoga Classes

- Twenty Minutes of Still Twenty minutes of quiet at Rockefeller before the start of classes, every weekday of the autumn, winter, and spring quarters at 8 am.

- Beginner and Intermediate Yoga at Ratner. Several classes. Visit: athletics.uchicago.edu/recreation/index

HOUSING

*University of Chicago Residential Services.* 773-753-2218. rp.uchicago.edu; residential@uchicago.edu This office will help you find University-owned rental housing, which is priced below market value. If you see a property you like on their site, you pay a nonrefundable $200 application fee to hold the unit.

*UChicago Employer-Assisted Housing Program.* 773/834-1456 www.uchicago.edu/features/20080714_EAHPI/ Find information on purchasing or renting area housing, including employer-assisted-housing program grants and loans. Qualified staff and faculty can get up to 10,000 in a forgiveable loan for an area housing purchase, or up to $2400 in rent reimbursement for target area properties.

*Mac Properties, Chicago Apartments.* 1364 E. 53rd Street. 773-825-6651. Macapartments.com MacProperties is one of the main landlords in Hyde Park, with many rental units available.