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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/NURSERY
(See “Schools” for Private Pre-High School Information)
Note: This list is not pre-screened. Information is provided by organizations.

Ada S. McKinley Trumbull Park Child Care Center, 10534 S. Oglesby Ave.,
Provides child-care for children aged birth to 5.
headstartearlylearning@adasmckinley.org

Bridgeport Child Development 3053 S. Normal. 312-842-5566. Care for
children ages 2-12 years; fees are based on a sliding scale. NAEYC (National Assoc.
for the Education of Young Children) accredited. 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.

Ellic 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.

Family Focus. 5467 S. University Avenue. 773-643-0452. www.cccsociey.org
In January of 2021, Chicago Child Care Society merged with Family Focus to join
their shared mission to provide early childhood education, youth development, and
family support services in under-resourced communities across northeast Illinois.
kelsey.miklos@family-focus.org

A Child’s Space. 1020 S. Wabash. 312-431-1234. www.achildspace.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.

Cuddle Care Academy. 4800 S. Lake Park Avenue. 773-285-1114. This
childcare program serves children between the ages of 0-5 years. 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.

Educare of Chicago. 5044 S Wabash Ave. 773-924-2334.
www.Educareschools.org/chicago Run by An Ounce of Prevention fund, offers
child care and early education programs for children aged birth – 5 years. Families must meet Head Start income levels to qualify.

**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.firmances.org or email info@firmances.org for further information.

**Ivy Garden ELC.**  625 W 31st Street.  312-225-0154. Early Childhood care. 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.

**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 including such fun activities as music, Kung Fu, yoga, Spanish, art and cooking.

**Little Inspirations. 2 locations: Central** (5480 S Kenwood Ave, Hyde Park Neighborhood Club, 773-817-1274; and East Hyde Park (5548 S Hyde Park Blvd.) 773-891-0029. 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.**  1448 E. 53RD Street (moved from their old location in the 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 2 through 6 years. It is one of the most affordable options in Hyde Park. Full and part-time options are available. littlepeoplecenter56@gmail.com

**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. Parentcoop.org  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. info@parentcoop.org

**Positive Kids, Positive Futures.** 7301 S. Greenwood Ave. 773/255-9076. Care for babies as little as 6 weeks; before and after-school care for 5-12 year-olds. In addition to a Spanish enrichment program, they will provide help accessing any childcare subsidies families might qualify for. www.positivekidsacademy.com

**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.

**Teeny Tiny University.** 6111 S. Cottage Grove. 773-952-7311.
www.Teenytinyuniversity.org, teenytinyuniversity@gmail.com Just come to the neighborhood in 2019, this minority and woman-owned early learning center uses “The Creative Curriculum” by Diane Dodge, and serves children from 6 weeks to 5 years old.

**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 if offered for UChicago families.
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. brighthorizons.com/il/chicago/uchicagostonyisland
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 pre-school through high school schools and educational programs.

*GreatSchools.org*  Find parent reviews, test scores and other data on schools you might be considering for your school-aged child.

*Hyde Park Neighborhood Club*  5480 S. Kenwood. 773-320-3620 or email sdiwan@hpnc.org. Attend one of their frequent info sessions or schedule a one-on-one session. Early Childhood Specialist Dr. Sarah Diwan provides referrals to both group and in-home childcare options, as well as professional development and mentorship to caregivers. HPNC’s Info and Referral Program is funded by a grant from the Childcare Initiative of UChicago and UChicago Medical Center.


*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
PRIVATE SCHOOLS, PreK-12th Grade

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, info@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. They have half and full day options for 3-4 year olds, and before/after school care available.

Cambridge Classical Academy. 4650 S. Dearborn. 773-891-5030. Cambridgeclassicalacademy.com. Cambridge Classical Academy is an independent private school that serves pre-k through grade 8. The school maintains a small student-to-teacher ratio to underpin their commitment to individualized instruction, and consider family engagement a cornerstone of their success.

Chicago Free School, 110 E. Hyde Park Blvd (inside KAM Synagogue), 312-392-0204. 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 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. 2521 Grove Street, Blue Island, IL 708-926-9720. www.CouncilOakMontessori.org Council Oak is an independent Montessori school that serves children from pre-school through eighth grade. Younger children (3-6) are in 1 large class called “the children’s house.” Info@counciloakmontessori.org

Francis W. Parker. 330 West Webster Avenue. 773-353-3000. 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 Jr K-12th.

Hyde Park Day School. 6254 S. Ellis Ave. 773-420-2550. 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.

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 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 12th 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. 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. 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**
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.

**UChicago Workshops on CPS.** Duane Davis, Executive Director of K12 Education Initiatives, provides multiple quarterly workshops for families, staff and faculty. These workshops offer advice and tips on how to apply for Chicago Public Schools, types of school options in the community surrounding the university and beyond, things to look for and ask of school leaders and at open houses and other resources to help families make an informed decision. If you have any questions or would like to set up an individual consultation, please contact him at dbdavis@uchicago.edu.
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES and ORGANIZATIONS

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

Beverly Arts Center. 2407 W. 111th Street. 773-445-3838.  
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.  
Check their website often to find out about their many free story-time and event 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 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 even classes for grown-ups!

**Hyde Park Suzuki Institute.** 5480 S. Kenwood (HPNC) 773-643-1388. www.hydeparksuzuki.org. Musical instruction for children in the violin, viola, cello, 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@hydeparksuzuki.org

**Hyde Park Youth Symphony.** 915 E 60th St (Logan Center). 773-217-8387. www.thehpys.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@thehpys.org for further information.


**Kenwood School of Ballet** 1100 E. Hyde Park Blvd (inside KAM Synagogue), 773/368-4058, admin@kenwoodballet.com. They may be called a ballet school, but they also have classes in musical theater dance, hip hop, modern dance and aerobatics. Students as young as 2 and through high school. kenwoodballet.com/

**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—some free. Check www.arts.uchicago.edu and choose “explore” frequently for 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. bril@maddrhythms.com

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.


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

My Very Own Library. This UChicago Program is a literacy initiative that provides access to books and learning resources for students in public elementary schools. They partner with Scholastic, a publishing, education and media company, as well as local nonprofits to provide students with educational programming and book fairs at no cost to the students or schools. They also host frequent author-read story times, some virtual and others in person. myveryownlibrary.uchicago.edu

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. Since the pandemic, they offer many classes online, as well.

Revival Theater 1160 E. 55th St. www.the-revival.com This (relatively) 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.) Enjoy free Tuesday 4 pm “Tea and Pipes” performances. 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. And If you have a LINK or WIC card, you can qualify for deeply discounted “Museums for All” fares.

**Art Institute of Chicago.** 111 S. Michigan Ave. 312-443-3600.  [www.artic.edu](http://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.


**Brookfield Zoo.** 1st Ave. And 31st Street, Brookfield, IL. 708-688-8000.  [www.brookfieldzoo.org](http://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. In addition to the museum, they offer paid architectural tours by bus, boat and foot, and the 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  [www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org](http://www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org)

**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.


**DuSable Museum of African American History.** 740 E. 56th Place. 773-947-0600.  [www.dusablermuseum.org](http://www.dusablermuseum.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 Sundays.

**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.orgcal.flwright.org](http://www.gowright.orgcal.flwright.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.


**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.lpzo.com](http://www.lpzo.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. 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 occasional family events during the school year. Admission is free.

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


SPORTS AND RECREATION (includes after school programs)

AYSO Soccer, Region 751. www.aysoregion751.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 a different fun class or activity each day of the week.

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!

**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.hpklegends.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. They are also the home to many partner organizations for youngsters. For HPCP hosted events, costs recently changed to a pay-what-you-can model, with a chart for suggested donation. Children’s daily classes & activities are included with Tot Lot 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.

**Kenwood School of Ballet** 1100 E. Hyde Park Blvd (inside KAM Synagogue), 773/368-4058, admin@kenwoodballet.com. They may be called a ballet school, but they also have classes in musical theater dance, hip hop, modern dance and aerobics. Students as young as 2 and through high school. kenwoodballet.com/

**Maggie Daley Park** 337 East Randolph Street 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 miniature 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  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.
**Millennium Park.** 201 E. Randolph St. 312-742-2963. www.millenniumpark.org Along with public art exhibits and extensive gardens, Millennium Park offers free concerts and family programs, especially in the summer months. In warm months, playing in the fountain is a kid-pleaser.

**South Side YMCA.** 6330 Stony Island Avenue. 773-947-0700. 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 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

**RESOURCES FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS**

**University of Chicago Hospitals.** 5841 S. Maryland, 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 & respect through pregnancy, birth, bonding, breastfeeding & 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

**Birthways-Labor Support and Postpartum Doula Services.** 3717 N. Ravenswood. 888-506-0607. www.birthwayssinc.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.

Child Safety Guide. www.samndan.com/child-safety/ A law office put together and shared this useful site, with “Tips to Keep Kids Safe at Home, School, Outdoors & Travel.”

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 10 am to 5 pm weekdays during the academic year, and 10-4 Saturday. (Summer hours are shorter) 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. 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 for PhD students.

**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/](aclsmedicaltraining.com/)

**Chicago Public Library.** [www.chipublib.org](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.hydepark.org](www.hydepark.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](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](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](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 (800-872-7245) Chicago Union Station, 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 discount to UChicago community. www.zipcar.com/uofc

**Greyhound Bus.** 312-408-5821. 630 W. Harrison St. www.greyhound.com

**Megabus.** Megabus.com Goes to many Wisconsin and Minnesota, and has pickup locations at Midway Airport and in the south loop.

**Metra.** 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. Pandemic subsidies mean cheaper train tickets currently.

**Omega Airport Shuttle.** 773-734-6688. 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 or Lyft.com

**RTA Trip planner** 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

**Transloc.** This app includes all the UChicago routes: the free shuttle busses and the university-sponsored CTA bus routes (170, 171, 172 & 192.) These CTA busses are free with university id.
University of Chicago Bus Routes. safety-security.uchicago.edu/transportation 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, or download Transloc, above.

HEALTH CARE


Attune Therapy, Inc. 1525 E. 55th Street, 773-575-0818. 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 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

**Sounding Board**—students, post docs and alumni can make an appointment with a mental health professional to discuss optimizing work/life balance and satisfaction, either in-person or remote sessions available. Sponsored by UChicago Grad. grad.uchicago.edu/academic-support/sounding-board/

**Student Counseling and Service (SCS).** 5555 S. Woodlawn Ave. 773-702-9800. 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.

*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.