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**CHILDCARE IN BATON ROUGE**

**Considerations for Selecting Childcare**

If you require care for your child during business hours (Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM), daycare centers may be a helpful option. Many child care centers have early morning hours and extended afternoon hours. They frequently serve breakfast and lunch. If you are interested in less frequent, or flexible hours (nights or weekends), a nanny or babysitter will be the best option. View the resources below to begin your research.

* Daycare facilities will require parents’ detailed contact information and emergency contact information.
* Daycare will need a child’s medical information and immunization records.
* Daycare will not take a sick child, and your money will not be refunded your child does not attend because of sickness or family vacations.

**Suggestions for Childcare Providers**

Baton Rouge Parents Magazine List of Childcare Facilities

For a summary list visit www.[brparents.com](http://brparents.com/), select “Directories,” then “Businesses.”

The more detailed, BR Parents 2015 Childcare directory will provide descriptions and ratings ([brparents.com/images/PDFs/online%20childcare%20directory.pdf](http://brparents.com/images/PDFs/online%20childcare%20directory.pdf)).

LSU Child Care Center - [**uiswcmsweb.prod.lsu.edu/childcare**](http://uiswcmsweb.prod.lsu.edu/childcare)

4001 Gourrier Lane, BR, 70803 *Phone*: 225-578-7882

Available to children ages six weeks to five years, with priority given to children of full time LSU staff and students. If interested, inquire immediately as the waiting list for enrollment may be long.

Nannies and Babysitters

Individual caregivers are often an affordable option, especially if you require flexible hours. You decide what to pay them, but most will expect $10 to $20 per hour, often more on weekends. Check with the babysitter to make sure they are in the U.S. legally and have the right to work in the U.S. All foreign workers must obtain permission to work legally in the United States.

Nannies and Caregivers Affiliated with LSU

[**care.com/edu/louisiana-state-university-and-agricultural-mechanical-college**](http://care.com/edu/louisiana-state-university-and-agricultural-mechanical-college)

Notes for Nannies and Babysitters

* Leave your phone number with your childcare provider so they can contact you in case of an emergency.
* If you choose to use a babysitter, have lunch or dinner prepared for your children. You know best what your children will eat.
* Give the babysitter a time that you will be back. Call or text them if you are late. The babysitter may have plans to do something after you get back.

**BATON ROUGE SCHOOLS**

**Public Schools**

**East Baton Rouge Parish Public Schools –** [**ebrschools.org**](http://ebrschools.org/)

Children living in East Baton Rouge Parish (EBRP) can attend free public schools, use free school bus transportation, and eat free meals for breakfast and lunch. Uniforms are required and can be purchased at many department local stores such as Walmart, Target, and Old Navy. Visit the school system website at **www.ebrschools.org** for information about school choices, school locations, bus routes, and enrollment information.

The main school system office is located at 5400 south Foster Drive. There is a special office for English Language Learners.

The public school district also sanctions a number of Charter schools within its district. The Louisiana Department of Education also grants charter contracts to schools within the Baton Rouge district. Most are created for a specific focus. The many types of schools makes selecting schools confusing for new residents in Baton Rouge.

Documents required for registration include

* Passport or Visa (child and parent)
* Birth Certificate (if available)
* Proof of address (utility bill, library card, bank statement)
* Drop slip from previous school, if available
* Any record of grades from previous school

**Private and Parochial Schools**

Baton Rouge has a variety of private and parochial (church run) schools throughout the city. Tuition varies by school, but typically ranges from $5500 to $10,000 per child per year. Uniforms are usually required, and meal are usually available for reasonable prices. Some schools provide transportation and some do not.

For a summary list of all private & parochial school options, their rankings, and links to their websites visit [**privateschoolreview.com**](http://privateschoolreview.com/) or [**greatschools.org**](http://greatschools.org/) and search by zip code and number of miles away you are willing to travel.

The Catholic diocese has a large district of schools; for a list of Catholic schools in the Baton Rouge area visit **www.csobr.org**, **s**elect “School Info,” then select “Schools & Locations.” Other Catholic schools are not affiliated with the diocese schools.

**Considerations for Selecting a School**

* How far will we need to travel on a daily basis?
* What will the cost be including tuition, transport, books, food, and clothing?
* Which services are available for students who are not fluent in English?
* Is the school challenging enough, too challenging, or just right?
* Is the school able to provide services for children with learning differences?
* Where do students typically attend after leaving this school?
* How many students are in each classroom and grade?
* Do the halls and classrooms present like a clean, healthy environment?
* Are the news stories about this school positive?
* How do parents of current students feel about the school?
* Was the parent school tour a positive experience?
* Does this school have any online reviews?
* What style of curriculum is being used?
* Do the students have access to a library, playground, music and art classes, and physical education classes?