



Additional Quality Indicators

The following is suggested supplemental information to the Health and Safety Checklist provided to parents to assist them in identifying quality health and safety practices in Registered Family Child Care Homes.

Please be sure to talk to your provider about these quality indicators.

Supervision

- Operator should watch and direct children's activities (both indoors and outdoors).
- Operator should be capable of responding to the emergencies and needs of children at *all* times.
- Children placed in an isolation area due to illness should be within sight and hearing of the operator and closely monitored.

Transportation

- Operator should carry a working cell phone when away from the landline.
- Operator should have a first aid kit and emergency contact phone numbers readily accessible when away from the home.

Emergency Information and Procedures

- Operator should have a first aid kit.
- Operator should have multiple entrances and exits that are easily accessible in case of an emergency.
- Operator should maintain important medical and allergy (food or other) information for each child.

Environment

- Operator should keep all areas and surfaces of the home that are accessible to children, clean and sanitary, free of hazards and toxic substances, in an orderly condition, and in good repair at all times (both indoors and outdoors, including the furnishings, equipment, and plumbing).
- Operator should maintain proper ventilation and temperature in the home at all times for the safety and comfort of the children.
- Operator should have fencing that is a minimum of 4 feet high for the outdoor play area when the property borders roads or streets that are open to travel by the public.
- Operator should ensure that rodents and insects are exterminated, however, *not* when rooms are occupied by children.
- Operator should keep the outdoor play area free of debris and check regularly for ants and other harmful insects.





Pools and Other Water Hazards

- Operator should ensure that in-ground swimming pools and above-ground swimming pools that are more than one foot deep have either a fence or barrier that is a minimum of 4 feet in height on all four sides, or an operable pool alarm.
- Operator should ensure that all doors or gates surrounding the pool fence or barrier, as well as, exterior doors leading to the pool, are locked during times children are in care.
- Water safety courses are *recommended* for persons responsible for the supervision of children during pool activities.
- Operator should ensure that at least one person who is a certified lifeguard or equivalent be present during water activities away from the home, such as field trips to the beach or lake.

Sanitation

- Operators, substitutes, and children should wash their hands with soap and running water, drying thoroughly, immediately following personal hygiene procedures for themselves, or when assisting others (including diapering) and after outdoor play.
- Operator or substitute should NEVER wash their hands in a sink that is used for food service preparation or food clean up, after changing a diaper or helping a child go to the bathroom.

Rest and Nap Time

- Operator should provide children with safe and sanitary bedding to include individual beds, cots, cribs, playpens, mattresses or floor mats. Floor mats should be 1 inch thick and covered with an impermeable surface.
- Operators should provide children under 1 year of age with their own crib, port-a-crib or playpen with sides.
- Operators should ensure that young infants not capable of rolling over on their own, are positioned on their back on a firm surface to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

Nutrition

- Operator should have fresh drinking water available to children at all times.
- Operator, if choosing to supply food, should provide meals and snacks that are of a quantity and quality that meets the daily nutritional needs of the children as shown in the USDA Food Guide Pyramid for Young Children.

Additional information regarding child care, registration and licensure of family child care homes, as well as, training opportunities may be found at the following:

<http://www.myflorida.com/childcare/information>



This tear off section is to be maintained by the operator of the Family Child Care Home. Copies should be made available upon request of the licensing authority.

On, ___/___/___, I _____ received a completed copy of the
Name of Parent or Legal Guardian (Print)

Health and Safety Checklist for Registered Family Child Care Homes from my provider.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Name of Child