

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL - LICENSING DIVISION

Child Foster Care Home Safety Checklist

Prior to licensure the foster home must be inspected by a licensing agency employee using the home safety checklist from the Commissioner of human services (Minnesota Rules, part 2960.3050, subpart 1)

NAME OF LICENSE HOLDER/PROGRAM

Emergency procedures

The following items must be posted and/or readily accessible in a prominent location in a common area of the home where they can be easily observed by a person responding to an incident.

<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	A list of emergency phone numbers.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	A written fire/emergency escape plan.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	An operable flashlight and radio or television set that does not require electricity.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Accessible first-aid supplies.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	An operable telephone.

Physical environment

<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Exit doors and windows are not obstructed and are easily opened from the inside.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	The wiring appears safe; no known hazards exist.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Extension cords are appropriately used and are not used in place of permanent wiring.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	A fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A:10BC is maintained in the home.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	All smoke detectors work and are properly installed on all levels of the home.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	All interior doors can be unlocked from the outside and the opening device is readily accessible in case of emergency.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	The home is clean and free from accumulations of dirt, grease, garbage, peeling paint, vermin and insects.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Outside property is free from debris and safety hazards. Exterior stairs and walkways are free of ice and snow.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	When in use, fireplaces, wood burning stoves, and hot surfaces that could cause burns are protected by guards.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	The heating system in the home is maintained in good working condition.

Home safety and health

<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Knives, tools, matches, and other potentially hazardous materials are not accessible based on age, and identified safety concerns and behaviors specific to each foster child in care.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Chemicals, detergents, and other toxic substances are not stored with food products or accessible in any way that poses a risk to children.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Combustible items are properly stored at least 36" from any heating sources.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Individual clean bed linens, towels, and wash cloths are provided for each foster child.

<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Food is handled and properly stored to prevent contamination, spoilage, or a threat to the health of children.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Medication is not accessible to children based on age and/or identified safety concerns.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> N/A	Schedule II controlled substances are stored in a locked area.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	There is a safe water supply in the home.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	The water temperature does not exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit in order to prevent scalding.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> N/A	Weapons and ammunition are stored separately in locked areas that are not accessible or visible to foster children. Weapons include firearms and other instruments or devices designed for and capable of producing bodily harm.

Sleeping space for foster children and reduction of risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death

<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	The sleeping space for foster children has two exits.
<p>If sleeping space for foster children is in an area not normally used for sleeping, describe the alternative sleeping arrangements. Has a variance been approved for an alternative sleeping arrangement?</p> 	
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Will care be provided to infants?

If yes, complete the following six questions:

<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	A safe crib is available and used for each infant in care. (Before placing an infant in foster care, the agency must verify that there is a safe crib in the home).
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Infants younger than one year of age in care will be placed to sleep on their back, in a crib, directly on a firm mattress.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	If an infant will not be placed to sleep on their back, there is documentation from the infant's physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant directing an alternative sleeping position for the infant. The directive must be on a form approved by the commissioner.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	The crib's firm mattress has a fitted sheet, appropriate to the mattress size that fits tightly on the mattress, and overlaps the underside of the mattress so it cannot be dislodged by pulling on the corner of the sheet with reasonable effort.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Nothing will be placed in the crib with the infant except for the infant's pacifier. The pacifier must be free from any sort of attachment.
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Minnesota Statutes, section 245A.1435 Reduction of Risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death in Licensed Programs has been reviewed by all caregivers. All caregivers agree to comply with the requirements of this section.

Safety hazards or concerns

If applicable, document obvious safety hazards or concerns and any follow-up required. Include the date each item was corrected for a new application or the date a correction order was issued for an existing license:

	Description of safety hazard or concern and any follow-up
1	
2	

	Description of safety hazard or concern and any follow-up
3	
4	
5	
6	

Signatures

Signature of applicant/license holder

SIGNATURE	DATE
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Signature of agency worker

SIGNATURE	DATE
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Items on this home safety checklist must not be altered or deleted.