

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

Foster Home:

Homestudy or Re-Assessment Writer:

Date:

Yes	No	N/A	Will Comply	Comply Date	Worker Initials	
HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS						
☐	☐	☐	☐			Designated spaces for informal living, dining, food preparation and storage, separate rooms for sleeping and bathing
☐	☐	☐	☐			Stable supply of heat provided and maintained to rooms being occupied
☐	☐	☐	☐			Garbage, refuse, and other wastes disposed of in a way that does not constitute a health hazard
☐	☐	☐	☐			Mirrors and other wall attachments fixed securely to walls
☐	☐	☐	☐			Maximum temperature of hot water in bathroom 120 degrees or less
☐	☐	☐	☐			Steps or railings sturdy, appropriately spaced and in good repair
☐	☐	☐	☐			Extension cords in good repair
☐	☐	☐	☐			Electrical outlets covered and not overloaded
☐	☐	☐	☐			Electrical appliances and cords out of young children's reach
☐	☐	☐	☐			Radiators, hot water pipes and fireplaces covered
☐	☐	☐	☐			Exits and stairways gated or secured for infants and young children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Rugs and other moveable floor coverings safely secured
☐	☐	☐	☐			Matches and lighters inaccessible to children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Toys safe, clean, and in good repair
☐	☐	☐	☐			Crib mobiles out of the reach of young children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Pot handles placed toward the back of the stove, out of the reach of young children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Knives, scissors and other sharp instruments kept out of the reach of young children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Windows, screens, and balcony doors in high-rise apartment buildings secured by safety catches
☐	☐	☐	☐			Blind and drape cords constructed without loops and kept out of the reach of young children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Television sets on tables or stands fastened securely
☐	☐	☐	☐			Unused refrigerators/freezers/stoves stored with doors removed
☐	☐	☐	☐			Adequate pest control
MEANS OF COMMUNICATION						
☐	☐	☐	☐			Telephone access available (landline or cell to connect to local 911 in emergency)
☐	☐	☐	☐			List of emergency telephone numbers easily accessible
FIRE SAFETY						
☐	☐	☐	☐			Smoke detectors in working order located on each floor AND in every bedroom in the home.

☐	☐	☐	☐			Carbon monoxide detectors in working order located on each floor of the home.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Written Fire Evacuation Plan established, posted in the home, and regularly reviewed with all family members
☐	☐	☐	☐			Flashlight(s) in working order, easily accessible in emergency
☐	☐	☐	☐			Fire extinguisher(s) on every floor and in working order, not less than 2 ½ lbs., for Class B and C fires (fire extinguisher spray can is not acceptable)
☐	☐	☐	☐			Exits and hallways well lit and uncluttered
☐	☐	☐	☐			Fireplace/woodstoves installed as per specification of the local fire department
☐	☐	☐	☐			Fireplace screens or front guards in use; combustible deposits removed regularly
☐	☐	☐	☐			Stovepipes cleaned regularly

SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

Yes	No	N/A	Will Comply	Comply Date	Worker Initials	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Infant cribs in compliance with government safety standards
☐	☐	☐	☐			Discussed safe baby sleep for caregivers of infants
☐	☐	☐	☐			Separate bed for each child that includes mattress, box springs, and bedframe (bunk beds and platform beds are also acceptable)
☐	☐	☐	☐			Bedrooms occupied by children do NOT have external door locks
☐	☐	☐	☐			Bedrooms occupied by children have a window
☐	☐	☐	☐			Clothing storage space available for child's personal belongings
☐	☐	☐	☐			No bedroom is in a building detached from the home, an unfinished attic or unfinished basement, or a stairway hall

WEAPONS

Yes	No	N/A	Will Comply	Comply Date	Worker Initials	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Weapons of any variety; including firearms, air rifles, bows and arrows, hunting knives and slingshots are made inoperable and locked in a secure gun cabinet or other secure storage facility, not having glass enclosures or doors, when not in use and are inaccessible to children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Ammunition will be stored and locked in separate location from firearms (i.e. not in same safe or cabinet as firearms)

MEDICINES AND HAZARDOUS WEAPONS

Yes	No	N/A	Will Comply	Comply Date	Worker Initials	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Medications, including prescriptions, over-the counter medications, and supplements and any other potentially hazardous pharmaceutical substances must be locked and inaccessible to children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Other potentially hazardous household substances (e.g. bleach, cleaning fluids, pesticides, and hazardous detergents such as laundry pods) are secured in locked cabinet, cupboard, or other locked container and inaccessible to children

SPECIFIC SAFETY PRECAUTIONS						
Yes	No	N/A	Will Comply	Comply Date	Worker Initials	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Inform and instruct child about potential danger of certain types of farm equipment, structures, and livestock (where applicable)
☐	☐	☐	☐			Inform and instruct child about water safety and potential danger of specific water hazards i.e. wells, water troughs, lakes, rivers, reservoirs, culverts, tubs, ponds, swimming pools, Jacuzzi tubs.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Swimming pools on property are secured with a fence, a locked gate, and a pool safety alarm as required by city/county/state regulations. (refer to Water Hazard/Pool Safety Assessment tool at: https://www.fenceanddeckconnection.com/docs/BOCA_Codes.pdf)
☐	☐	☐	☐			Swimming pools must be equipped with a lifesaving device such as a ring buoy.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Internet adult sites, adult videos, and other such adult materials are inaccessible to children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Precautions in place to protect children from second-hand smoke
PETS						
Yes	No	N/A	Will Comply	Comply Date	Worker Initials	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Pets are vaccinated in accordance with state and local laws (including vaccinations and frequency required)
☐	☐	☐	☐			In or on the premises of foster home are kept in a safe and sanitary manner in accordance with state and local laws
☐	☐	☐	☐			Potentially dangerous situations involving animals discussed and understood
AUTOMOBILE SAFETY						
Yes	No	N/A	Will Comply	Comply Date	Worker Initials	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Automobile in safe operating condition
☐	☐	☐	☐			Valid Driver's License for each person driving children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Equipped with child safety seats for infants/young children
☐	☐	☐	☐			Equipped with booster seats for children, ages 4-8 who are less than 4'9" in height
☐	☐	☐	☐			Equipped with safety seat belts for each person
☐	☐	☐	☐			All safety seats and belts meet standard safety regulations
☐	☐	☐	☐			Foster parent is licensed driver and copy of license is on file in foster home record
☐	☐	☐	☐			Foster parents has arranged with other adults with valid license for transportation of child
WATER SOURCE						
Yes	No	N/A	Will Comply	Comply Date	Worker Initials	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Municipal water system

☐	☐	☐	☐			Well Water – Date of Last Test (must be less than 1 year): Results:
NON-COMPLIANCE						
Comment on areas of non-compliance, reasons for non-compliance, and describe a safety plan addressing supervision and compliance within the timeframe guidelines noted on this checklist.						

Foster Parent Signature

Print Name

Date

Foster Parent Signature

Print Name

Date

Agency Homestudy Writer's or Foster Home
Support Person's Signature

Print Name

Date