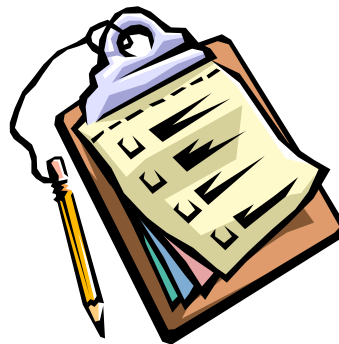


Child Care Checklist for Parents

1. Program Licensed
2. License Posted
3. Within Licensed Capacity
4. Parents Welcome Anytime
5. Records Updated
6. Fire Safe
7. Exits Clear
8. Smoking Restricted
9. Stairs Gated/Railings
10. Emergency Plans Accessible
11. Emergency Numbers Posted
12. First Aid Supplies
13. Working Telephone
14. Sufficient Staff
15. Qualified Staff
16. Good Judgment/Friendly
17. Careful Supervision
18. Positive Discipline
19. Protect From Child Abuse/Neglect
20. No Weapons
21. Facility Clean
22. Sufficient Space Indoors/Outdoors
23. Equipment, Toys/Clean, Safe
24. Choking Items Inaccessible
25. Intact Paint
26. Plentiful Drinking Water
27. Clean Toilets
28. Non-Porous Diaper Area w/Rail
29. Handwashing Facilities
30. Frequent Handwashing
31. Water Warm, Not Scalding
32. Windows Protected
33. Electrical Outlets Covered
34. Sufficient Lighting
35. Poisons Locked
36. Cleaning Supplies Locked
37. Medicines Locked
38. Garbage Covered
39. Pets Vet Checked; Rabies Vaccine
40. Provisions For Napping
41. Pools Fenced 4 feet; Gates Self-locking
42. Bodies of Water; Protected/Fenced
43. No Pinch, Crush Point on Playground
44. Sufficient Shock Absorbing Material Under Playground Equip.
45. Equipment Anchored
46. Kitchen Clean
47. Nutritious Meals, Snacks
48. Infants Held for Feeding
49. Proper Refrigeration, < 45° F
50. Planned Program of Activities
51. Cultural Differences Respected
52. Special Needs Reasonably Accommodated



Parent Guidelines for Choosing a Child Day Care Program

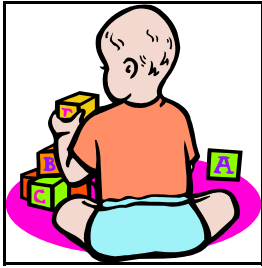


CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Keeping Connecticut Healthy

www.dph.state.ct.us

The Child Day Care Licensing Program of the Community Based Regulation (CBR) Section is responsible for the licensing of child day care programs, and offers these tips on what to look for in a program for your child.



- **Is the program licensed?** You may visit the Department of Public Health's (DPH) web site at www.dph.state.ct.us to verify if a program is licensed. You may also call the DPH at (800) 282-6063 to inquire about substantiated complaints or to file a complaint.
- **Visit the program when children are present prior to enrolling your child; after enrollment, pay an unannounced visit at a time different from your regular schedule.** Parents must be given access to licensed programs during the hours of operation. Observe the routine and do not be afraid to ask questions. Ask to see the program's most recent DPH Inspection report.

- **Are the staff members friendly and qualified?** Do they appear to enjoy their job? How long have they worked at the program? Do the staff treat the children with respect and dignity? Are they actively engaged with the children? Do they speak and work with children gently and appropriately for their ages, levels of development and special needs?
- **Is there adequate staff to provide careful supervision?** No children should be left unsupervised.
- **Is the program clean and safe indoors and outdoors?** Are the toys, equipment and furniture clean, safe and appropriate for your child's age and development? Is the playground free of hazards?
- **Ask the program for parent references.**
- **Is there a planned program of activities that is appropriate for the children at the facility?**
- **Are the children having fun at the program?** Do they look forward to going to the program?
- **Do you feel comfortable with the program?** Can you communicate easily with the director and program staff?
- **Use the Child Care Checklist for Parents to conduct your own inspection of the program.** The Regulations that outline minimum requirements for licensed child day care programs can be found at the web site below.



Child Day Care Licensing Help Desk

(860) 509-8045;
(800) 282-6063;
(800) 439-0437

[www.dph.state.ct.us/
BRS/Day_Care/
day_care](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Day_Care/day_care)