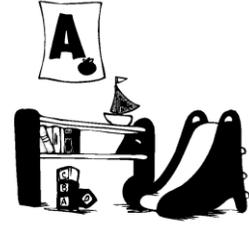


Risk Control for Childcare Professionals

DAYCARE SAFETY LIST

Does your home or center live up to these standards?

- It has running water, soap and paper towels.
- You wash baby toys daily and disinfect them twice a week
- You diaper children at changing table, never in an area where children play.
- You have covered all electrical outlets with protective caps and store all potentially dangerous products, including medicines and cleaning supplies, in their original, labeled containers in locked cabinets.
- The home or center has working smoke detectors, and fire extinguishers are easily accessible,
- You clean daily, including disinfecting bathroom fixtures, removing trash and cleaning kitchen area.
- You provide play equipment that is in good repair and clean, with no sharp edges, rusty nails, etc.
- You have at least one staff person on duty at all times who knows the Heimlich maneuver and is certified in emergency pediatric first-aid and CPR for infants and children.
- You store all perishable foods and lunches from home in the refrigerator at temperatures low enough to prevent spoilage. You keep other foods in containers on shelves at least six inches above the floor.



In addition to these guidelines, you:

- Conduct periodic fire drills.
- Give parents written procedure guidelines if their child becomes ill or is injured while in day care and instructed about when to keep a sick child home.
- Make sure the kitchen area is closed off.
- Make sure stairwells are closed off from children yet are easily accessible for emergency evacuation.
- Make sure windows have guards that prevent them from being opened more than 5 inches.
- Require children and caregivers to wash their hands before and after handling food, using the bathroom, and changing diapers.
- Keep small, easy to swallow objects completely out of reach.
- Provide toys and play equipment that are age appropriate.
- Sanitize the diaper changing area after each use and store dirty diapers in sealed, plastic lined bins.
- Fence off swimming and wading pools, ponds, and decorative fountains
- Fence or otherwise enclose the outside play area
- Use certified car seats on field trips.