



Choosing the right child care can be overwhelming. Not all child care providers are required to follow the rules necessary to be licensed by the state. Parents can go to www.schildcare.org to find these rules, as well as to see if their provider is licensed or registered.

We've created this checklist to help serve as a guide when visiting child care providers to select the best match for you and your child. Does the family child care provider have...

A license or registration that is displayed	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	A written emergency/evacuation plan	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
No more children than allowed by the license or registration (typically 6 or less)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Easily accessible emergency information for the children	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
A Quality Rating of A+, A, B+, B, or C	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Enough space for children	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
  			A posted menu	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Criminal background checks on staff and household members, including fingerprints	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Nutritious meals and snacks	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Staff who are supervising children	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Staff who read to children	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Staff who receive regular ongoing training about child care	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Properly stored and labeled food	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Cribs and other sleep equipment that meet federal standards	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Children who are only in feeding chairs for meals and snacks	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
A working telephone	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Staff who wash children's faces and hands	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Written parental permission to give a child medication	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Staff who wash their hands frequently especially after diapering children	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Properly labeled and stored medication	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Staff who wear gloves to diaper children	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
A welcoming atmosphere for parents	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	A written daily program of developmentally appropriate activities	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Liability insurance or proof that the provider has informed parents that she/he does not have liability insurance	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Happy children at play	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
At least one staff member present with CPR/First Aid certification	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Daily outside physical activity, weather permitting	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
A fire extinguisher and working smoke detector	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	A method to account for all children at all times	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Walls, ceilings, windows, doors, and surfaces that are free from hazards	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	A list of adults who are authorized to pick up the children	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Cleaning products and harmful substances stored out of children's reach	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Linens, blankets, etc. that are washed at least weekly	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Safe and sturdy playground equipment	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Furniture, toys, etc. that are washed if they come in contact with a child's mouth	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Metal playground equipment in the shade	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Little or no TV	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Cushioning material under playground equipment.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	If the provider has pets, they are up to date on vaccines and not dangerous	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>