

## 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.

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | 1. A list of emergency phone numbers.  |
| Yes | No | 2. A written fire/emergency escape plan.   |
| Yes | No | 3. An operable flashlight and radio or television set that does not require electricity. |
| Yes | No | 4. Accessible first-aid supplies.  |
| Yes | No | 5. An operable telephone.  |

### Physical Environment

- |     |    |   |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | 1. Exit doors and windows are not obstructed and are easily opened from the inside.                                       |
| Yes | No | 2. The wiring appears safe; no known hazards exist.   |
| Yes | No | 3. Extension cords are appropriately used and are not used in place of permanent wiring.                                  |
| Yes | No | 4. A fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A:10BC is maintained in the home.  |
| Yes | No | 5. All smoke detectors work and are properly installed on all levels of the home.   |
| Yes | No | 6. All interior doors can be unlocked from the outside and the opening device is readily accessible in case of emergency. |
| Yes | No | 7. The home is clean and free from accumulations of dirt, grease, garbage, peeling paint, vermin and insects.             |
| Yes | No | 8. Outside property is free from debris and safety hazards. Exterior stairs and walkways are free of ice and snow.        |
| Yes | No | 9. When in use, fireplaces, wood burning stoves, and hot surfaces that could cause burns are protected by guards.         |
| Yes | No | 10. The heating system in the home is maintained in good working condition.   |

## Home Safety & Health

- Yes No 1. 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.
- Yes No 2. Chemicals, detergents, and other toxic substances are not stored with food products or accessible in any way that poses a risk to children.
- Yes No 3. Combustible items are properly stored at least 36" from any heating sources.
- Yes No 4. Individual clean bed linens, towels, and wash cloths are provided for each foster child.
- Yes No 5. Food is handled and properly stored to prevent contamination, spoilage, or a threat to the health of children.
- Yes No 6. Medication is not accessible to children based on age and/or identified safety concerns.
- Yes No 7. Schedule II controlled substances are stored in a locked area.  
If there are no Schedule II controlled substances in the home, check here:
- Yes No 8. There is a safe water supply in the home.
- Yes No 9. The water temperature does not exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit in order to prevent scalding.
- Yes No 10. 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.  
If there are no weapons in the home, check here:

## Sleeping Space for Foster Children & Reduction of Risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death

- Yes No 1. The sleeping space for foster children has two exits. If sleeping space for foster children is in an area not normally used for sleeping, describe the alternative sleeping arrangements:  
If a variance has been approved for an alternative sleeping arrangement, check here:
- 
- 

### Will care be provided to infants? Yes No If no, do not complete the items below.

- Yes No 2. 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).
- Yes No 3. 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.
- Yes No 4. If an infant will not be placed to sleep on their back, there is documentation from the infant's physician directing an alternative sleeping position for the infant. The physician directive must be on a form approved by the commissioner.

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | 5. 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. |
| Yes | No | 6. Nothing will be placed in the crib with the infant except for the infant's pacifier.  |
| Yes | No | 7. 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.                           |

**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:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant/License Holder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agency Worker

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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