

Residential Child Care Licensing Environmental Health Checklist

This checklist is provided to specific foster family homes for the purpose of complying with Texas Health and Human Services Commission environmental health safety evaluation requirements.

Directions: This form can be used by a local health authority or by agency staff. For more information, email RCCLstan@hsc.state.tx.us.

Facility Name	Facility Address	Area Code and Phone No.
Items evaluated		Yes No N/A
1. Home and grounds are kept clean and free of hazards to children.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Kitchen and all food preparation, appropriate food storage, and food serving areas are kept clean and sanitary.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Perishable food is refrigerated or safely stored in other ways.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Home has an adequate supply of water that meets the standards for drinking water of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). If a private well is used, DSHS or a local health department must be consulted if any problems arise.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
5. Home has an adequate, safe sewage disposal system. If a private sewage disposal system is used, DSHS or a local health department must be consulted if any problems arise.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
6. Plumbing appears to be in good working condition.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
7. Home has hot and cold running water. The hot water heater should not be above 120 degrees F (49 degrees C).		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
8. There is at least one toilet, lavatory, and bathtub or shower inside the home.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
9. Bathrooms are kept clean.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
10. Soap and toilet paper are available in the bathrooms at all times.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
11. Each child has a clean towel available, or paper towels are available.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
12. Garbage is removed at least once a week.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
13. Garbage is kept in metal or plastic containers with tight fitting lids in an area away from the children.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
14. The home is kept free of insects, mice and rats.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
15. The yard is well drained, with no standing water.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
16. The yard is kept free of garbage and trash.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
17. The house is adequately ventilated and free from bad odors.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
18. Windows and outside doors used for ventilation are screened.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
19. Cleaning supplies, insect sprays, medicines, and other materials that can harm young children are in original containers and kept where infants, toddlers and children (for whom these items might present an unusual danger) cannot reach them.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
20. Accessible electric outlets in rooms used by infants, toddlers and children (for whom these outlets might present an unusual danger) are safety outlets or have child-proof covers.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
21. Flat screen TVs and electric fans are securely mounted where infants, toddlers or children (for whom these items might present an unusual danger) cannot reach them, or have guards which keep children from touching the fan blades.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
22. Outdoor steps are not slippery. Porches, railings, playhouses, and other wooden structures do not have splinters.		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Items evaluated	Yes	No	N/A
23. Indoor floors and steps are not slippery, and are kept dry when children are using them. Wood surfaces and objects do not have splinters.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. Glass doors are marked at a child's eye level to prevent accidents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. Weapons, firearms, explosive material, projectiles are stored in accordance with Texas Administrative Code §749.2961.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26. Stairways are safe from tripping hazards and are well lit. Banisters and railings are secure.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. Beds used by children in care have mattress protectors.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
28. Outdoor recreation equipment must be safe, clean and maintained appropriately.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

Signature _____	Title:	Date:
Printed Name:	Area Code and Phone No. :	Expiration Date: